

**Welcome, Visitors!** If you are visiting today, we are pleased that you chose to worship with us. Here, at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), we take Communion each Sunday. Anyone who is a follower of Christ is invited to partake. If you are interested in membership or learning more about our church, please speak with Rev. Michael following the service.

**Children in Worship**

Children are always welcome to participate in Worship. We offer childcare for infants to 3 year olds in the Nursery while parents attend Worship and Sunday School. As an alternative to Sanctuary Worship, we offer Worship and Wonder, an experience designed to give children the opportunity to hear Bible stories and learn the Gospel at their own level. Children ages 3 through 2nd grade are welcome to join us following the "Children's Blessing."

If you haven't checked out our website and social media pages, we'd love to connect with you in that way:

Website: [www.fccowb.org](http://www.fccowb.org)  
 Facebook: FCCOwensboro  
 Instagram: @fccowb



**Online Giving**

Online giving is available for tithes and offerings. To submit your gift, visit [www.fccowb.org/give](http://www.fccowb.org/give) or text "FCCOWB" to 73256. You may also scan the QR code on the left!

**Staff**

Sr. Minister.....Rev. J. Chris Michael  
 Financial Manager.....Kristin Callis  
 Administrative Assistant .....Krista Tischer  
 Information Technology..... Curtis Hannah  
 Director of Education & Youth Activities .....Meaghan Murphy  
 Choir Director.....Mike Tichenor  
 Pianist.....Ann Jeannette Pierce  
 Nursery Attendants.....Elee Roach  
 Sherry Rhoads

Contact Us:  
 Church Office 270-684-8879  
 Church Email: [krista@fccowb.org](mailto:krista@fccowb.org)  
 Web Address: [www.fccowb.org](http://www.fccowb.org)

**This week at First Christian Church (DOC)**

*CR- Choir Room; C- Conference Room; F-Fellowship Hall;  
 FHL-Fa-Ho-Lo Room; S-Sanctuary*

**Sunday, September 17**  
 9:00 a.m. Worship Service (S)  
 10:00 a.m. Fellowship (F)  
 10:20 a.m. Sunday School  
 3:00-7:00 Church Picnic

**Monday, September 18**

**Tuesday, September 19**  
 5:30 p.m. Board Meeting

**Wednesday, September 20**  
 6:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship (Panera)  
 6:00 p.m. Youth Groups (F)  
 6:00 p.m. Choir Practice (CR)

**Thursday, September 21**  
 1:30 p.m. Refugee Pantry

**Friday, September 22**  
**Church Office Closed**

**Saturday, September 23**

**Announcements**

Church Picnic is tonight from 3:00-7:00p.m. at Legion Park! Meal will begin at 5:00. FCC will provide meats and drinks, please bring a dish to feed 8-10 people. All friends and family welcome!

Board Meeting is on Tuesday, September 19th at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary at FCC.

FCC T-shirt/sweatshirt order has been opened again and will extend through September 22. If you are interested in purchasing, please reach out to Meaghan Murphy.

New Sunday School class for college students will begin in October. Vangie Evans will be leading! If you are interested or know someone who might be, please email Vangie at [vgevans2020@gmail.com](mailto:vgevans2020@gmail.com)



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
 700 J. R. Miller Blvd.  
 Owensboro, KY 42303  
 270-684-8879 [www.fccowb.org](http://www.fccowb.org)



Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
 September 17, 2023

**SEEKING THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

Welcome Rev. Chris Michael

Bringing of the Light

Bell of Mindfulness

(Please use this time for quiet reflection.)

Prelude Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano

"The God of Abraham Praise"

Hebrew Melody

arr. Larry Shackley

\*Call to Worship Clay Ford

One: The voice of God is heard in all the world.

**All: In troubled lands, where people hunger and fear, it speaks of compassionate action.**

One: The voice of God is heard in the church.

**All: In encouragement of each other, in support of wider church, it speaks of community.**

One: The voice of God is heard within each one of us.

**All: It speaks of acceptance, it speaks of forgiveness, it speaks of peace, it speaks of hope.**

One: It speaks now; it will never be silent!

**All: Let us listen to God's voice.****\*Hymn 25****"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (vs 1, 2, & 5)**\*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Clay Ford  
(using "debts" and "debtors")

First Scripture Reading Clay Ford

Psalm 105:1-5

One: The Word of God for the people of God

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Blessing Rev. Chris Michael

Children ages 3 through 2nd grade are invited forward for a

blessing, then will be escorted to Worship and Wonder

(Located at the end of the first floor education wing.)

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Chris Michael

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

Choir Music

"Come As You Are" Mike Tichenor, Director

arr. Larson

Second Scripture Reading Rev. Chris Michael

Matthew 18:21-35

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Chris Michael

"The Problem With Forgiveness"

Invitation to Discipleship

**\*Hymn 352 "Spirit Song" (all)****OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD**

Preparation for the Offering Rev. Chris Michael

Offertory Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano

"Higher Ground"

Charles Gabriel

arr. John Turner

\*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts (Page 46)

\*Dedication Prayer

**RENEWING THE COVENANT IN THE LORD'S SUPPER***We are one in Christ, let everyone share in this communion**without regard for denominational affiliation.**You are invited to partake the cup and bread after your prayers.*

Invitation to Communion Doug &amp; Brenda Hoyt

Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion Music Ann Jeannette Pierce, Piano

"I Surrender All"

Winfield Weeden

Arr. Heather Sorenson

**GOING IN PEACE TO LOVE AND TO SERVE**

\*Benediction Rev. Chris Michael

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

\*Please stand, if you are able.

**Scripture Reading****First Reading- Psalm 105:1-5**1 O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises to him;

tell of all his wonderful works.

3 Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

4 Seek the Lord and his strength;

seek his presence continually.

5 Remember the wonderful works he has done,

his miracles, and the judgements he has uttered,

**Second Reading- Matthew 18:21-35**21 Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member  
of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As  
many as seven times?' 22 Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times,  
but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'23 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared  
to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten  
thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could notpay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife  
and children and all his possessions, and payment to bemade. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying,  
'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 Andout of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and  
forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out,came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred  
denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what youowe.' 29 Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with  
him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But herefused; then he went and threw him into prison until he  
should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow-slaves saw what hadhappened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and  
reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then hislord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I  
forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had  
mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over tobe tortured until he should pay his entire debt. 35 So my  
heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not

forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'