

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of GOD in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16 -18

Today, Dear Lord we lift up Lois to you. May you stay with her family as they grieve for her, while knowing she is now in your loving hands.

We ask you to be with everyone who was affected by the recent tornado and all others affected by natural disasters. We also ask you to be with those who are living with war, crime, bullying, and addiction caused by hate. We ask you to show each of them that you know where they are in life and love them. We ask for prayers for Dori who has not been feeling well. Be with her and the medical staff who help to understand what is going on. Give her a quiet mind. We ask you to be with Betty while she is in Boston with her daughter. Tend to them both so they can know your strength and lean on it during this very busy and trying time. We also ask for traveling mercies for Betty as she makes her way back home soon. We ask you to continue to guide First Christian Church in the direction we should be going. Let us read Ezekiel 37 1-14 in a new light. Let us use this example of GOD breathing new life into "dry dead bones" as a symbol of the new life GOD is breathing into First Christian Church. We know that GOD can do anything. It says, "I will put my Spirit in you and you will live." This will be an example to those in our community of GOD's love. We ask you to help guide us as we continue to breathe, learning how to be your servants so that we can show GOD's glory to all. Amen

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 9th: Worship at 10:30 am; Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 16th: Worship at 10:30 am

Sunday, April 23rd: Worship at 10:30 am

Prayer requests can be made by calling the church office, during church service, writing a note and placing in offering plate, or speaking to any member of the worship committee



First Christian Church *(Disciples of Christ)*

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The Disciples' Confession states that "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God ... **Lord and Savior of the world.**"

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

April 2, 2023; 10:30 am

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Preparing our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Hymn *Love God, Love your Neighbor* See Insert

Lighting of the Christ Candle Doria Onstott

Morning Prayer Pastor Tracey Cox

*Hymn *Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest* See Insert

***Call to Worship Psalm 31:9-16**

One voice: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

Many voices: For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.

One voice: I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

Many voices: I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become a broken vessel.

One voice: For I hear the whispering of many - terror all around! As they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

Many voices: But I trust in you, O Lord, I say "You are my GOD."

One voice: My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Many voices: Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

*Glory Be to the Father No. 35

Sharing of Joys and Concerns Pastor Tracey Cox

Prayer of Intercession Pastor Tracey Cox

Offering Doria Onstott

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Offertory Blessing Pastor Tracey Cox

Scripture Reference Matthew 21:1-11, Isaiah 50:4-9a, Philippians 2:5-11 Bryon Keck

Sermon Pastor Tracey Cox

Call to Discipleship / Request for Blessings

During our communion hymn anyone is welcome to come forward to join in Christian ministry, join this congregation, or to confess your love of Christ. Individuals or families are welcome to come forward if you wish to reaffirm your commitment to Christ or wish to celebrate an achievement or receive a blessing or prayer.

Communion Hymn *We Have Been Redeemed* See Insert

*Lord's Prayer said together *ALL*
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation. But, deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

The Lord's Supper

Reading of the Identity Statement Together

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

Prayer Diana Onstott
Distributing the Bread and Cup Doria Onstott
Words of Institution Pastor Tracey
Sharing of the Bread and Cup Pastor Tracey
Prayerful Silent Reflection

*Hymn *Palm Sunday* See Insert

*Benediction Pastor Tracey Cox