

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Welcome and thank you for joining us in worship.

**Please stand if able*

THEME: *Our Journey . . . to Illumination and Light*

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

GATHERING MUSIC Jill Hulse

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Pam Taylor

SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS Pam Taylor

*CALL TO WORSHIP Pam Taylor

L/ In the shadows of unfruitful works we sat blinded:

P/ but in the light all becomes visible.

L/ Let us awake and rise from the dead and Christ will give us light.

P/ For the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

L/ Rejoice, people of God for now you are light in the Lord.

P/ Let us walk as children of light!

(based on Ephesians 5:8-14)

*GATHERING HYMN "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart" **No 15**

GATHERING PRAYER Pastor Bob

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE COMMUNITY HEARS AND RESPONDS TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (Page 871) John 9:1-17, 24-41

(The following will be sung at three points during the reading :)

**Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.**

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Words & Tune: Bob Cull © 1976 CCM Music, copyright administered by
Maranatha! Music, CCLI # 11399828

LENTEN REFLECTION Pastor Bob

ANTHEM "This Little Light of Mine" Greenhouse Kids
"I Am the Light of the World" Chancel Choir

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY Pastor Bob

THE COMMUNITY SHARES IN CHRIST'S LIFE

*HYMN "A Hymn of Joy" **No. 404**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION Pastor Bob

TABLE PRAYER OVER THE BREAD AND CUP Jim Taylor

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts/debtors") Jim Taylor

BREAKING OF THE BREAD Pastor Bob

SHARING OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to come forward to receive Holy Communion.
Please deposit the cups in the basket before returning to your seat.

If you are unable to come forward, raise your hand and
the elements will be brought to you.

An offering tray is available for your convenience.

COMMUNION MUSIC Jill Hulse

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING "Accept, O God, the Gifts We Bring"

**Accept, O God, the gifts we bring of spirit and of clay,
transform them into blessings on those we serve today.
Rekindle deep within us all a passion to fulfill
the ministry disciples have, empower'd to do your will.**

(Chalice Hymnal #379)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (in unison) Jim Taylor

**O God, for whom we long. Many seek to live in the gloom
of injustice, and in the shadows meant to preserve a self-
centered, status quo. Yet we yearn for your illumination of
our hearts, and sight for our souls. Help us receive! Help
us believe! Help us give! All in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

THE COMMUNITY DEPARTS FOR MINISTRY AND SERVICE

BENEDICTION Pastor Bob

*HYMN "Open My Eyes That I May See" **No 586**

*DEPARTING MUSIC Jill Hulse

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Scriptures to read and reflect upon this week:

Today (19) – Psalm 23
Mon. (20) – Ezekiel 37:1-10
Tues. (21) – Ezekiel 37:11-14
Wed. (22) – Romans 8:6-11
Thurs. (23) – John 11:1-16
Fri. (24) – John 11:17-27
Sat. (25) – John 11:28-44
Sun. (26) – Psalm 130

Scripture for Next Sunday – John 11:1-45

PRAYER LIST UPDATES

Kari Lavenz for the deaths of both her grandparents, her grandfather passed away on Monday, March 13, 2023 and her grandmother passed March 14, 2023

Vern Sund for the death of his cousin Mel Sund last Friday.

Vern Sund is having some medical issues

UPPER MIDWEST REGIONAL PRAYER CALENDAR

Christian Church in the Southwest—includes congregations in Texas and New Mexico

First Christian Church, Pastor, Alex Kindred, Muscatine, IA

First Christian Church, Panora, IA

Pastors: Garry Hesser, Jay Hillestad, John Caughron

(To have someone added to the Prayer List, please call the church office by Thursday at 10 AM, talk to the Lay Leader prior to worship or use the Communication Card. The complete Weekly Prayer List is emailed on Mondays to the Prayer Chain. To receive the Prayer Chain email, please notify the office or note it on the communication card.)

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Large print bulletins and hymnals located by sanctuary doors

Hearing assistance equipment in sanctuary sound room

Restrooms located in upstairs hallway by the elevator

FIND US ONLINE

www.CedarFallsDisciples.org

email: firstchristian@cfu.net

Facebook: First Christian Church of Cedar Falls



*"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."*



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

1302 West 11th Street

Cedar Falls, Iowa

319-266-5959

www.CedarFallsDisciples.org

March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday of Rejoicing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Flowers are in celebration of Alyce Jenkins' birthday on Wednesday, March 22.

Board Meeting will be Tuesday, March 21 at 6:00 PM. Please plan to attend if you are a member of the board.

Lenten Book Study – The study is *“Entering the Passion of Jesus”* by Amy-Jill Levine on Monday mornings at 10:00 AM during Lent.

Each Tuesday through Lent, St. Tim's United Methodist Church will have a short musical offering at 12:15 PM. This musicale will continue through Holy Week on April 4.

Agnus Dei Lenten Program "Saved by Grace through Faith."
A Lenten program of inspiring music, readings and meditations on God's grace. See poster in the narthex for various dates and locations it is offered during Lent or contact Linda Morgan for more information.

Easter Lilies may be purchased through the church for \$11.00 or bring your own. Signup on the narthex sheet or contact the office. Payment for the plants may be placed, clearly marked in the offering or mailed to the church office.

Lexi is getting married!!!! You're invited to a bridal shower celebrating Lexi Hahn and Sam Munsell on Sunday, Mar. 26 from 2-4 PM in the church library.

Camp Information has been posted in the narthex. Please let the office know if your child will be attending camp this year.

General Assembly is gathering this summer in Louisville from July 29 to August 1. This is a great opportunity to experience amazing worship, enrich your faith and learn more about your church. For more information, check with Pastor Bob.

Next Sunday's **Lenten Offering** item is liquid hand or bar bath soap.

Emergency Food Pantry (Thursdays, 4:00 - 6:00 PM) is in need of bargains and financial assistance

Spirit Dates March 20 & April 17

FIRST CHRISTIAN STAFF

MINISTERS: EVERY MEMBER

PASTOR: Rev. Bob Fread

OFFICE: M-Th. 9AM – 1 PM

CELL & TEXT: 319-830-2150

EMAIL: bob.fread@cedarfallsdisciples.org

ACCOMPANIST: Jill Hulse

IT/AV MANAGER: Dakota Hulse

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Tami Kofron

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Linda Morgan

FINANCE RECORDER: Linda Smith

CHURCH SECRETARY: Diane Bowman

SUNDAY SERVANTS

GREETER: CJ Latham

LAY LEADER: Pam Taylor

READERS: Kathy Redding, Linda Morgan,
Pastor Bob

COUNTERS: Naila Graper/Pam Taylor

ELDER: Jim Taylor

COMMUNION PREPARATION: Open

OPPORTUNITIES

Week of March 19, 2023

SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship

MONDAY 10:00 AM Lenten Bible Study

10:00 AM News Articles Due

TUESDAY 9:00 AM First Quilters

6:00 PM Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY 4:00 PM Growing Disciples

5:15 PM First Family Night Meal

6:00 PM Greenhouse/Youth

6:15 PM Praise Team

THURSDAY 4-6 PM Emergency Pantry

5:30 PM Chancel Choir

6:30 PM First Ringers

SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship

2:00 PM Lexi Hahn Shower

5-8 PM Fellowship Hall Reserved (Scouts)



First Family Night - Wed, March 22

Growing Disciples: Jesus Heals the Blind Man

Meal: Tator Tot Casserole & green beans

Greenhouse: Jesus Prays in the Garden

Youth: Working on Video

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Nº 15 “Rejoice, You Pure in Heart”

1. Rejoice, you pure in heart;
lift praises to the sky;
your festive banner wave with joy,
the cross of Christ raise high!

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

2. Bright youth and snow-crowned age,
strong souls and spirits meek,
raise high your free, exulting song,
God’s wondrous praises speak.
3. With voice as full and strong
as ocean’s surging praise,
send forth the hymns the saints have loved,
the psalms of ancient days.
4. Yes, on through life’s long path,
still singing as you go,
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe.
5. Praise God who rules all worlds;
the risen Christ adore.
Praise God the Spirit, Holy Fire,
one God for evermore!

Nº 404 “A Hymn of Joy We Sing”

1. A hymn of joy we sing around your table, Lord;
again our grateful tribute bring, our solemn vows record
2. Here do we see your face, and feel your presence here;
so may the savor of your grace in word and life appear.
3. In self forgetting love be our communion shown,
until we join the church above, and know as we are known.

Nº 586 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

1. Open my eyes that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Refrain: Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit Divine

2. Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Refrain: Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit Divine

3. Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children, thus to share.

Refrain: Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine