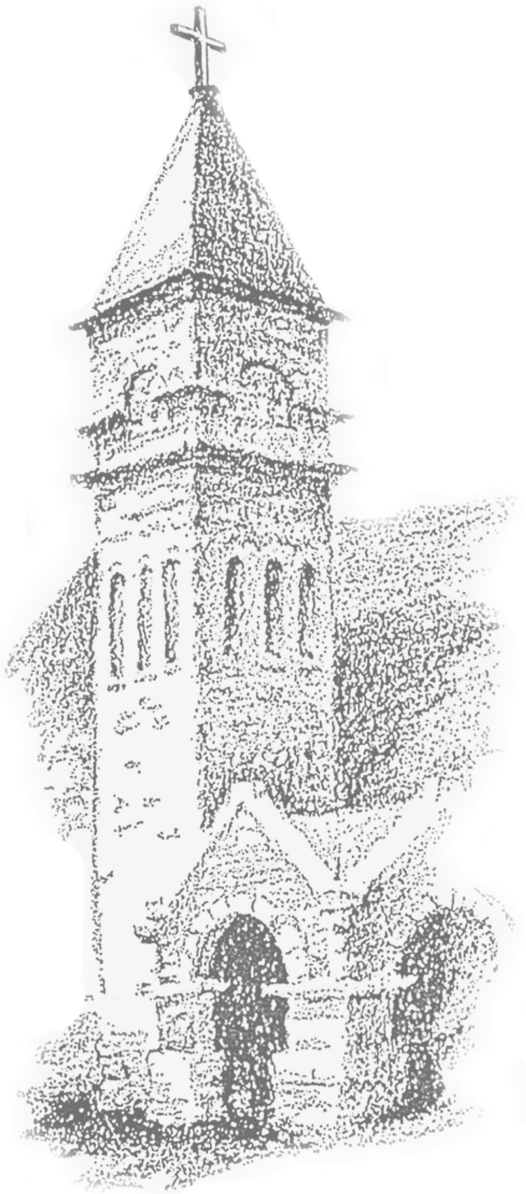


# Worship



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**NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 30, 2023**



**9:30 A.M.**

## Gathering in Praise

(\*) Denotes to stand, if able.

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Dr. Kim Leon

Prelude

*How Long O Lord How Long*  
by Brittany Born & Matthew Carpenter

Travis McFarlane

Litany of Praise (the people read the **bold**)

Paige Freed

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

**It is a small seed, but has some surprises in store for us.**

When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.

**Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.**

God's transforming love begins in small ways to enter our hearts.

**Lord, plant those amazing seeds of transforming love in us that they  
may grow into deeds of service to others in your name. AMEN.**

\*Hymn #66

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

\*Invocation (the people read the **bold**)

Paige Freed

Let us pray. **Lord of mustard seeds and yeast, we come to you this  
day, seeking your Word and will for us. Make us people who care  
deeply about the well-being of others. Give us courage to be yeast  
for the rising of hope and peace throughout the world. Open our  
hearts to your redeeming love, for we ask this in Christ's Name.  
AMEN.**

\*Gloria Patri # 35

## Proclaiming the Word

The Children's Moment

Hayley Batterson

(see the "notes" section of the bulletin for Children's Worship information)

The Prayers of the People

Scripture: Matthew 13:31-33; 44-52 (NT p. 14-15)

Dr. Leon

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God!**

Special Music

*It is Enough*  
by Felix Mendelssohn

Henry Braeske

It is enough! O Lord, now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers!

I desire to live no longer; now let me die, for my days are but vanity!

I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts,

For the children of Israel have broken Thy covenant, and thrown down Thine altars,

And slain all Thy prophets, slain them with the sword.

I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts,  
And I, even I, only am left: and they seek my life to take it away! It is enough!  
It is enough. O Lord, now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers!  
Now let me die, Lord, take away my life!

Sermon

*Trickster God*

Dr. Leon

## Response of Great Thanksgiving

Invitation to Discipleship

Dr. Leon

\*Hymn #491

*As Grain on Scattered Hillsides*

Invitation to Stewardship

Dr. Leon

Offertory Music

\*The Doxology #46

Invitation to the Table

Dr. Leon

Communion Hymn #122

*Comfort, Comfort You My People*

Prayer for Offerings

Jessica Humble

Words of Institution

Prayer for Communion and Lord's Prayer

Eric Seaman

**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 this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Our time of communion is open to all followers of Christ, regardless of denominational affiliation. Pass the trays to the middle of the pew, then back to the deacon. Hold the elements in the cups for unison partaking at the minister's invitation. **Gluten Free** and **Pre-Packaged** Communion can be found in the Narthex.*

Receiving the Bread and Cup

## Departing in Service and Joy

Benediction

Dr. Leon

\*Recessional #354 (v. 1)

*Seek Ye First*

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!**

Postlude

*Our Father, Who Art in Heaven*  
by Felix Mendelssohn

Rochelle Parker

# Prayers of the Congregation

***Prayers for Support, Hope, and Healing:*** Debbie Schultz

A longer prayer list of ongoing requests is on the yellow sheets in the Narthex. Requests for prayer may be submitted via the yellow cards in the Narthex, e-mailed or called into the church office.

***The Chancel Flowers*** are given by **the Fred Mottaz Family** in memory of **Ellen Mottaz**.

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**Our Mission:** *To know God and follow Jesus Christ*

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## Serving Today

**Office Receptionist:** Don Mosby

**Welcome Station:** Cliff & Meg Judy

**Flower Arranging/Delivery:** Fred Mottaz & Barb Rothenberger

**Communion Prep:** Stacy, Ryan, & Jodie Silverwood

**Greeters:** Stacy Silverwood (N. Door), Elizabeth Mottaz (S. Door),  
Bud Batterson (Atrium), Chuck Scott (Portico)

**AV Team:** Tiger Li & Dan Backues

**Liturgist:** Paige Freed

**Elders:** Jessica Humble, Eric Seaman, Allie Schomaker (Balcony)

**Deacons:** The Potthast Team

**Children's Worship:** Holly Gieseke

**Offering Counters:** Cindy & Doug Smith and Jean Juba



# This Week in the Life of the Church

*\*YFH refers to Yonker Fellowship Hall*

## **Sunday, July 30**

*Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Kim Leon*

- Summer Worship Service, 9:30am

## **Tuesday, August 1**

*Bell Choir Returns from Summer Break!*

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:00pm, 3rd Floor

## **Wednesday, August 2**

*Chancel Choir Returns from Summer Break!*

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Floor

## **Sunday, August 6**

- Summer Worship Service, 9:30am
  - Memorial Service for Audrey Shock, 11:00am, Sanctuary
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## **Register for Vacation Bible School! - August 13-17**

First Christian Church welcomes kids and families from across the city to join us for Vacation Bible School from August 13-17 for a time of music, games, crafts, storytelling, and fun! We'll begin each evening with a dinner (5:30 pm), then move on to our programming at 6 pm. VBS will conclude each evening at 8 PM. **Please register by**

**August 7 online** at <http://bit.ly/changemakersvbs>

or by scanning the QR code with your smart phone camera. There's also a sign-up sheet in the Church Office. Contact **Rev. Topher Endress** or **Jessica Humble** if you have any questions or for more information!



## **Sign Up to Volunteer for Vacation Bible School**

Brenda Mosby is looking for volunteers to help bake cookies and make dinner for Vacation Bible School. If cooking or baking is your spiritual gift (or you just want to help out), consider signing up in the Narthex!

## **Feasibility Study Survey - Due August 7**

Every church member and regular attendee is encouraged to complete an online or paper survey as part of the Feasibility Study for a possible Capital Campaign. Go to the FCC website to take the online survey, or you can find paper surveys available in the Narthex. Your input will be so helpful in this process!

# WELCOME

**Welcome Visitors!** We are glad you are with us. Please take a moment to visit our website, [firstchristian.org](http://firstchristian.org) to find out more about the ministry and mission of First Christian Church. Feel free to say hello to a host at the *Welcome Station* in the Narthex following worship and receive a folder of church-related information.

**During Worship:** Afghans, large print hymnals and children's bulletins with crayons are available from a greeter or are found on the shelf in the Narthex. Hearing devices are available in the AV booth in the back of the sanctuary. Please talk to the AV Team if you need assistance.

**Children:** A nursery is located on the 2nd floor of the Education Building for infants through Kindergarten-aged children. Our nursery is staffed from 9:15am until pickup following the service.

**Children's Worship:** Following the Children's Moment in 9:30 worship, children in Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to go with leaders to the 3rd floor of the Education Bldg. for their own worship time followed by constructive craft, reading and play time. Parents need to pick up children from the 3rd floor following worship.

**Christian Education:** Christian Education for all ages is held in the 9:30 hour on Sunday mornings from Labor Day - early May. Children (grades K-5) and youth (grades 6-12) will meet on the third floor of the Education Building.



## First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

101 N. Tenth Street, Columbia, Missouri

573-449-7265

[fcc@firstchristian.org](mailto:fcc@firstchristian.org)

[www.firstchristian.org](http://www.firstchristian.org)

Facebook: "First Christian Church-Disciples of Christ Columbia, Missouri"

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister, [brad@firstchristian.org](mailto:brad@firstchristian.org)

Rev. Dr. Topher Endress, Associate Minister, [topher@firstchristian.org](mailto:topher@firstchristian.org)

Topher Otake, Director of Music Ministry, [totake@firstchristian.org](mailto:totake@firstchristian.org)

Carter Kinkead, Business Manager, [businessmanager@firstchristian.org](mailto:businessmanager@firstchristian.org)

Maria Clark, Weekend Custodian

Travis McFarlane, Early Worship Service Musician

Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist

Erin Perry, Office Manager