

First Christian Church of Decatur



Season of Pentecost

Sunday, October 4, 2020 at 10:30am

Worship Theme: World Communion Sunday

We Gather to Connect with God and One Another

10.25AM – Organ Prelude

Kathy Westbrook

10.30AM – Welcome and Introductions

Rev. Dr James Brewer-Calvert

Opening Hymn

“Gather Us In”

284

*Here in this place, the new light is streaming,
shadows of doubt are vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in; our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young—our lives are a mystery;
we are the old, who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in the rich and the haughty;
gather us in the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Here we receive new life in the waters;
here we receive the bread of new birth;
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*Not just in buildings, small and confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the God present, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

World Communion Sunday Call to Worship (By: Loren McGrail)

One: God of our grandmothers and mothers, of Eve and Sarah, Miriam and Hanna, Mary and Martha, Mother Mary and Mary of Magdala, of Lois and Eunice, we come to your table today, in this season of repentance of leaves turning color, of pomegranates bursting with seeds to celebrate your love poured out for us our trust rekindled

Many: **You call us to stand at your watchtowers to wait for Your vision. You call us to put on our aprons and serve You first.**

One: Lord of the open and expanding table, we come to give up our appetites for power, our thirst for revenge, our addictions to despair, our shame about suffering. We come empty handed, hands out to receive You.

Many: Lord of the open and expanding table, we come to partake of your body broken, your spirit living in this bread. We come to drink from the cup of blessing, your blood given for us.

One: Lord of the Feast, we remember today our ancestors in faith, our Jewish and Christian grandfathers and fathers, our Jewish and Christian grandmothers and mothers. We come to celebrate our heritage, the ties that bind us, generation to generation, one to each other.

Unison: Lord of today and tomorrow, we live between memory and hope for your Beloved Community here on earth as it is in heaven. Lord, feed us, rekindle Your light in us to be your faithful servants, your seeds of transformation. Amen!

Song of Praise

Dona Nobis Pacem (Latin for "Grant us peace")

297

Dona nobis pacem, pacem.

Dona nobis pacem.

Dona nobis pacem.

Dona nobis pacem.

Dona nobis pacem.

Dona nobis pacem.

We Celebrate Our Unity as the Body of Christ

Lessons from the Holy Scriptures

John 17: 1-5, 20-26

Rev. Dr James Brewer-Calvert

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Abba, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people,^[a] to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Creator, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

²⁰ "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Abba, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us,^[b] so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Abba, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ "Righteous Creator, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Footnotes

John 17:2 Greek *flesh*

John 17:21 Other ancient authorities read *be one in us*

One: This is the word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

*Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.*

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

*Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]*

*Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]*

Invitation to Faithful Stewardship and the Lord's Table

Pastor Paul Turner
Gentle Spirit Christian Church

Prayer for the Bread and Cup

Rev. Dr James Brewer-Calvert

(Christ invites you to partake of Holy Communion. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us. You may partake of the Bread as it is passed and hold the Cup, or you may hold both elements so that we may partake of Holy Communion together.)

Words of Institution

I Corinthians 11:23-26

One: For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said,

Many: "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

One: In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,

Many: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

One: For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Unison Prayer of Commission

God our help: We thank you for this supper, shared in the spirit with your son Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts in Him and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you have served us.

The Lord's Prayer

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 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.

Anthem

"In Remembrance of Me" Arranger, Ragan Courtney; Composer, Buryl Red;
Trio—William Garner, tenor, Melinda Mauter, Violist (soloist)
Allison Woolridge, Soprano; Accompanied by Kathy Westbrook

*In remembrance of me eat this bread.
In remembrance of me drink this wine.
In remembrance of me pray for the time
When God's own will is done*

*In remembrance of me heal the sick.
In remembrance of me feed the poor.
In remembrance of me open the door
And let your neighbor in, let him in*

*Take, eat, and be comforted;
Drink and remember too.
That this is my body and precious blood
Shed for you, shed for you*

*In remembrance of me search for truth.
In remembrance of me always love.
In remembrance of me don't look above
But in your heart look for God
Do this in remembrance of me.*

We Celebrate Professions of Faith in Christ

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Listen for the Word of God.

Lesson from Holy Scripture:

Romans 6: 1-11

Pastor Paul Turner

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

One: This is the word of the Lord

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

One: Lift up your hearts

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us pray.

Prayer for the Blessing of the Water and the Candidate

Rev. Dr James Brewer-Calvert

The Confession of Faith, Immersion and Blessing

Candidate for Baptism: Lucie Lane

Meditation

Rev. Dr James Brewer-Calvert

We Are Led Out by the Spirit

Hymn of Going Forth

"See Ye First"

354

*Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And God's righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu Alleluia*

*Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek and ye shall find,
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu Alleluia*

Benediction

Pastor Paul Turner

ONLINE GIVING

First Christian Church of Decatur is a spiritual community that transcends physical distance. In this unprecedented time, online giving is a way that the community can be supported.

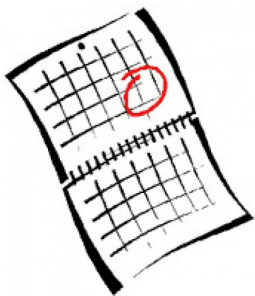


As we often say in worship at the Invitation to Faithful Stewardship, "Those in need, please take; those with abundance, please give." If and when you find yourself in need, please let us know so we might be of assistance. You matter to your Church, which is the Body of Christ. The missions of our church are imperative to nurture a hurt and hurting world.

For those of us who would like to give out of gratitude for all the Lord is doing for us click the following link: <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/4142>

You can create an account or download the Online Giving app. Please send us an email on: fccdecatur@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Blessings and peace!



Mark your Calendar

October 4 - World Communion Sunday

October 5 - Christmas Tree Sale Committee meeting, 7pm

October 5 - Junk in the Trunk Committee meeting, 7pm

October 7 - Elders meeting, 7pm

October 17 - Junk in the Trunk event, 9.30am

October 19-25 - Walk With Purpose