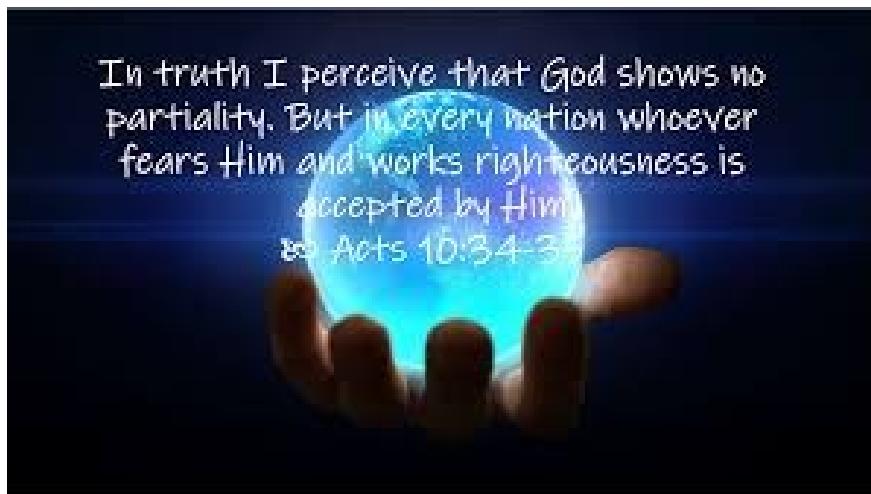


FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
(Disciples of Christ)
January 11, 2026
10:50 am



Acts 10:34-43



Welcome to First Christian Church

We pray that through this hour together
all of us might be strengthened in our Christian faith.

We hope that you will come and worship with us again!

"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God." (Isa. 40.28)

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Fort Worth, Texas

January 11, 2026

Tolling of the Bells

Corinne Knorr

Prelude

"Voluntary on Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Keith Critcher, organist

Tune by John Hughes; Arranged by Douglas Wagner

Joys and Concerns

Tom Plumbley

Bringing the Light of God: Acolytes Process

Jan Shelton, pianist

*Call to Worship

[adapted]

Tom Plumbley

One: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings; ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Many: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name. Let us worship the Lord in holy splendor.

*Hymn of Praise

"I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry"

No. 75

The Gospel

Matthew 25:31-45

Darryl Bihm

The Pastoral Prayer and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.

Stewardship Meditation

Brenda Crawford

The Offertory

"Well Done, My Faithful Servant"

Chancel Choir

Words and Music by Joseph M. Martin

"O Lord, You give us everything we treasure, You give us every talent we possess.

And all that we invest in Your kingdom, we know that You will bless.

We bring our gifts and talents to Your altar and listen to Your Spirit as we pray.

We are listening so whenever we are true to Your calling, we can almost hear You say:

"Well done, well done, my good and faithful servant.

Well done, well done, feel the pleasure of Your Lord.

Well done, share the joy of the Lord, your God. My good and faithful one, well done."

"Beloved ones, I see your faithfulness, do not be discouraged, do not worry about success.

I will surely come to bless. I will bless you far beyond your earthly blessings.

Look forward to the glory of the day when you come and stand before your heavenly mansion,

You'll rejoice and hear Me say, "Well done, well done, my good and faithful servant.

Well done, well done, feel the pleasure of Your Lord.

Well done, share the joy of the Lord, your God. My good and faithful one, well done."

The Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Prayer of Thanksgiving		Brenda Crawford
Communion Hymn	"When You Do This, Remember Me"	No. 400
Words of Institution		Tom Plumbley
Prayer for the Bread and the Cup		Darryl Bihm
Communion Music	"The Prayer" By Carol Sager and David Foster	Corinne Knorr & Aaron Styles, duet
Call for the Children	"Jesus Loves Me" (Chorus)	
The Children's Time		Tom Plumbley
The Call to Hear Scripture		
One: Hear a Word from the Lord.		
Many: Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.		
The Earliest Church	Acts 10:34-43	NT. Pg.129
Sermon	"Open Wide the Doors"	Tom Plumbley
*Invitation Hymn	"In This Very Room"	No. 295
A Liturgy of Farewell	[see insert]	Christy Drechsel, Executive Regional Minister Norma Savage, President of the Congregation
Pension Fund Presentation	Thomas McCracken, Assistant VP of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church	
Benediction		Tom Plumbley
Postlude	"Grand Choeur" No. 2 Alfred Hollins	Keith Critcher, organist

Prayer Requests

Troy Miller (Jones friend)
John Disch (Reed friend)
Justin Woods (McNew family)
George Warner (Istook friend)
Olivia Johnson (Peoples family)
Diane Scalling Pegg (Pegg family)
the Hajee family (Reed friends)
the Wedel family (Reed friends)
Maria Balderas (Balderas family)



In honor of Tom Plumbley's retirement

*Today's Chancel flowers are presented
by the Entire Congregation and
executed by the Executive committee.*

Designed by Joe Don Conger

Litany for Ending a Ministry

Executive Regional Minister

Regional Exec: A church family is constantly changing. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, and new opportunities. It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings. In 2001, Tom began serving this congregation after being called as Senior Minister. Today we share the time of farewell with Rev. Plumbley who is leaving this congregation to begin a new chapter in his ministry.

Minister: I thank First Christian Church for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last 24 years. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted and for the good things we have been able to accomplish together.

All: **We receive your gratitude and accept the fact that you now leave to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

Vows of Release

Regional Exec: Do you, the members and friends of First Christian Church, release Rev. Plumbley from his pastoral duties?

All: **We do, with the help of God.**

Regional Exec: Do you offer your encouragement for Tom's ministry in the next phase of his life?

All: **We do, with the help of God.**

Regional Exec: Do you, Rev. Plumbley, release this congregation from turning to you and depending on you as a minister?

Minister: I do, with the help of God.

Regional Exec: Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here and for the relationship this congregation will develop with those who will come to serve after you?

Minister: I do, with the help of God

Prayer

Regional Exec: Let us pray. O God, for remembered times when we, together, have shared the life of faith, we express our sincere gratitude. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Tom in worship, in learning, in service, and in Christian living. We pray that he/she/they will be aware of your Spirit's guidance as he/she/they steps into the fullness of the call you put on her life.

All: ***God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other, in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen***



MINISTERIAL STAFF

Tom Plumbley	Senior Minister
Keith Critcher	Minister of Music
Jan Shelton	Director of Music for Children & Youth
Mary Mason	Director of Burnside Handbell Choir

REGULAR SUNDAY EVENTS:

Adult Sunday School - Faith Keepers meet in the Philathea Room - 9:30 am

Loyal Fellowship meet in Anderson Hall - 9:30 am

Children's Sunday School - Disciple Road Classrooms

Crossroads Kids Age 3 to Kindergarten - 9:30 am - *Lesson: David and the Giant*

Youth Sunday School after The Children's Moment in Worship Service:

Group A: 1st - 5th grade - *Study: Feeding of the 5,000*

Group B: 6th - 12th grade - *Study: Feeding of the 5,000*

Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 10:15 am

Junior Choir - Kinder - 2nd grade - 9:45 - 10:15

Choristers - 3rd - 9th grade - 10:15 - 10:45

Cherub Choir - Preschool - 11:30 - 12:00

Prayer Shawl Ministry - Noon - 2:30 pm in Anderson Hall

(1st Sunday of the month) Elders Meeting in the Philathea Room - 8:45 am

TODAY: Tom Plumbley - Last Worship Service

Retirement Reception in Anderson Hall

LOOKING AHEAD

January 18 - Board Meeting

January 20 - DWM Meeting

January 25 - Birthday Luncheon

February 07 - Men's Breakfast

Hearing assistance and large print hymnals are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Tapes or manuscripts of today's sermon are available by calling the church office.

Nursery is provided downstairs near the Taylor Street entrance. Infants - Kindergarten.

Children remaining in worship, activity bags are available at the back of the sanctuary.



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75 I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry

Unison

D7 G D G D G D

1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 3. When you heard the won - der of the word I was
 5. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 7. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

G D G D G D

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

G D G C D7 G *Fine*

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

C G

2. I was there when you were but a child, with a
 4. If you find some - one to share your time and you
 6. When the eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in and you

Am D G *PS C*

faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

G A7 D

wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.



400 When You Do This, Remember Me

D Em F#m D G Em7

1. You my friend, a stran-ger once, do now be-long to
 2. Now my Lord is al-so yours, my peo-ple are your
 3. All your sor-rows shall be mine, your joy shall be my
 4. So let us re-new our faith, re-mem-ber-ing our

A D G A7 Bm F#m Em Bm Em7

heaven. Once far a-way, you are brought home in -
 own; em-braced to - geth-er in God's arms, I en -
 joy; in - debt - ed to God's love in Christ, we
 Lord; to our strong hope we will hold fast, un -

D G Em7 A Bm A D G A D

to God's fam - i - ly. "When you do this, re-mem-ber me."
 fold you now in mine. "When you do this, re-mem-ber me."
 die and reign with him. "When you do this, re-mem-ber me."
 shak-en to the end. "When you do this, re-mem-ber me."

WORDS: Alexander Campbell (19th century); adapt. David L. Edwards, 1988

MUSIC: David L. Edwards, 1988; arr. Jane Marshall, 1993



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In This Very Room

1. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for one like me,
2. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for all of us,
3. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for all the world,

and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for one like me;
and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for all of us;
and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for all the world;

and there's quite e-nough hope, and

quite e-nough pow'r to chase a-way an-y gloom, for

Je-sus, Lord Je-sus, is in this ver-y room.