

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

(Disciples of Christ)

September 27, 2026

10:50 AM

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Discovering Joy

 DATE	 SCRIPTURE READINGS	 SERMON	 SPECIAL EVENTS
9/13	 Psalm 126 Philippians 1:1-18a	<i>Joy in Faith</i>	
9/20	 Micah 6:6-8 Philippians 2:1-18	<i>Joy in Humility</i>	 Board Meeting
9/27	 Psalm 16 Philippians 3:1-14	<i>Joy in Jesus</i>	 Birthday Lunch & Bagging the Beans
10/4	 Psalm 100 Philippians 4:4-13	<i>Joy in All Things</i>	 World Communion Sunday

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!
PHILIPPIANS 4:4



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!

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Fort Worth, Texas
September 27, 2026

Tolling of the Bells		Corinne Knorr, bell tree
Prelude	"Fanfare on Come, Thou Almighty King" TUNE: ITALIAN HYMN; Setting by Gordon Young	Keith Critcher, organist
Welcome and Announcements		Greg Smith
Day of Discovery - Update		Jeri Lewis
Bringing the Light of God		Jan Shelton, pianist
Choral Introit	"Now Let Us All Praise God"	Keith Critcher, organist
*Call to Worship		Greg Smith
One: The psalmist declares, "I have set the Lord always before me."		
Many: We turn our hearts toward Jesus, the center of our faith.		
One: Paul counted everything else as loss compared with knowing Christ.		
Many: May knowing Jesus become our deepest joy.		
One: We have not arrived, but we are still pressing forward.		
Many: We follow where Jesus leads, trusting the journey. One:		
One: Let us worship the One who calls us forward.		
Many: Let us rejoice in the joy of knowing Christ.		
*Hymn of Praise	"When Morning Gilds the Skies" TUNE: LAUDES DOMINI	No. 100
Scripture Reading	Psalm 16 Old Testament pg. 495-496	Lynn Wiseman
Pastoral Prayer		Greg Smith
Lord's Prayer	<i>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.</i>	
Prayer Response	"Praise Him! Praise Him!"	No. 93, Stanza 1 & Refrain
Stewardship Meditation		Charles Everly
Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory Choral Anthem	"He Keeps Me Singing" Arranged by Joel Raney	Cancel Choir & Handbell Choir
*Doxology	<i>"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</i>	

**The congregation is invited to rise in body or spirit.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving		Charles Everly
Communion Hymn	"In Memory of the Savior's Love" SALZBURG	No. 405
Words of Institution		Greg Smith
Prayer for the Bread and the Cup		Lynn Wiseman
Communion Music	"O Love" Words by George Matheson; Music by Elaine Hagenberg	Chancel Choir
<i>"O Love, O Love, O Love that will not let me go; O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee! I give Thee back the life I owe that in Thy ocean depths its flow may richer fuller be.</i> <i>O Joy, O Joy, O Joy, that seeks me through the pain; O Joy, I cannot close my heart to Thee I trace the rainbow through the rain and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be!</i> <i>O Love! O Love! That will not let me go (O Love); I rest my weary soul in Thee! I give Thee back the life I owe, and in Thy ocean depths its flow shall richer fuller be that morn shall tearless be O Love, O Love, O Love that will not let me go."</i>		
Call for the Children	"Jesus Loves Me" <i>"Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so; Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so."</i>	
Children's Moment		Greg Smith
Call to Hear Scripture		
One:	Hear a Word from the Lord	
Many:	Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening	
Scripture Reading	Philippians 3:1-14 New Testament Pg. 198	Greg Smith
Sermon	"Joy in Jesus"	
*Invitation Hymn	"Higher Ground"	Insert
Closing Remarks		Greg Smith
*Choral Benediction	"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"	Choristers & Cherub Choir Jan Shelton, director
Choristers and Cherub Choir: I have decided to follow Jesus, (3 times) No turning back, no turning back. Congregation: Will you decide now to follow Jesus, (3 times) No turning back, no turning back.		
Postlude	"Glorious is Thy Name, O Lord" by B. B. McKinney; Arranged by Keith Critcher	Keith Critcher, organist

Prayer Requests

Pat Bierly (Recer friend)
The Family of Camilla Stephens



MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Greg Smith - Interim Minister
Keith Critcher - Minister of Music

CHURCH STAFF

Jan Shelton - Director of Music for Children & Youth
Mary Mason - Director of Burnside Handbell Choir
Trisha Bell - Church Administrator
Carey Williams - Financial Secretary
Rickey Sneed - Custodian

REGULAR SUNDAY EVENTS

Adult Sunday School - Faith Keepers meet in the Philathea Room - 9:15 am

Children's Sunday School - Disciple Road Classrooms

Crossroads Kids Age 3 to Kindergarten - 9:30 am - *Lesson: Noah*

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

Group A: 1st - 5th grade - Group B: 6th - 12th grade - *Study: How the Bible Came to Be*

Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 10:15 am

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

Choristers - 3rd - 12th grade - 10:15 - 10:45 am

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

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

(1st Sunday of the month) Elders Meeting in the Philathea Room - 8:40 am

TODAY: September 27 - Birthday Lunch & Bagging the Beans - After worship service

THIS WEEK: September 30 - Burnside Handbell Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7:15 pm

LOOKING AHEAD: October 03 - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 am
October 04 - World Communion Sunday

- ♦ Hearing assistance devices, large print hymnals, and manuscripts of the sermon are available at the back of the sanctuary.
- ♦ 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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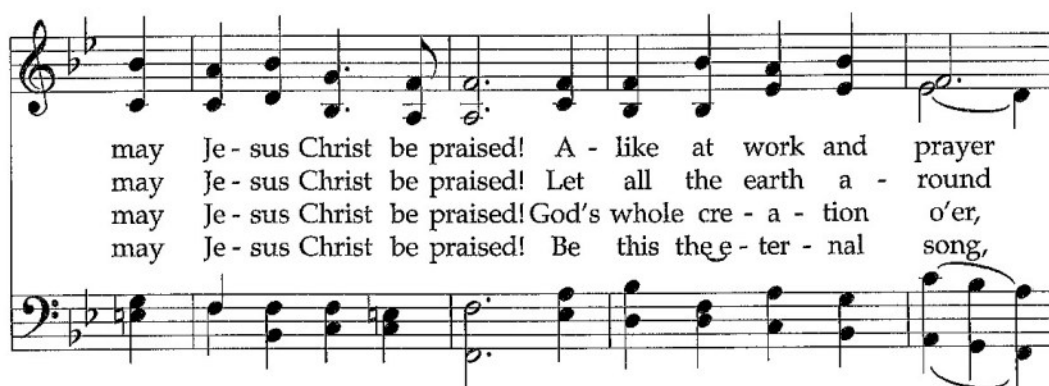


100

When Morning Gilds the Skies



1. When morn ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,
2. Dis - cord - ant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find,
3. Sing, suns and stars of space, sing, all that see his face;
4. Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine;



may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song,



to Je - sus I re - pair; may Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound, may Je - sus Christ be praised!
both now and ev - er - more: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

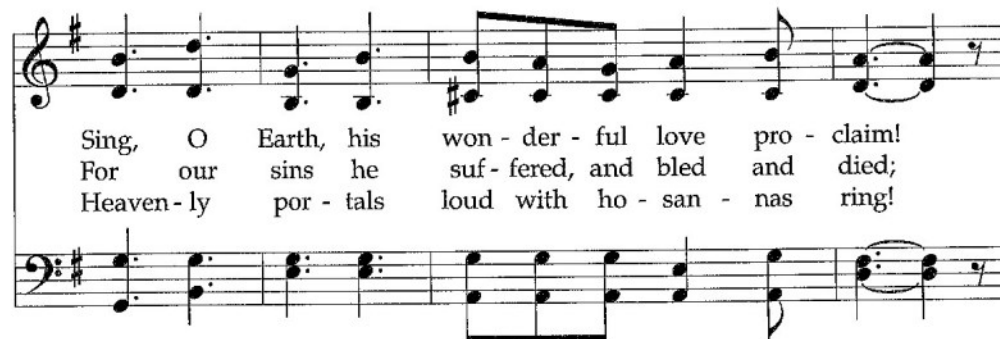


93

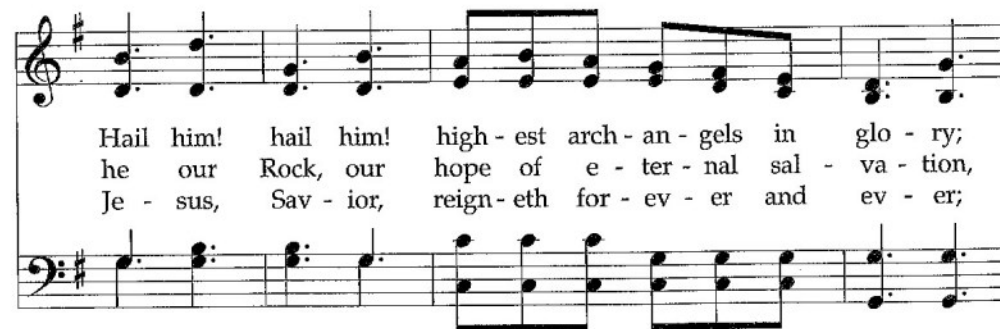
Praise Him! Praise Him!



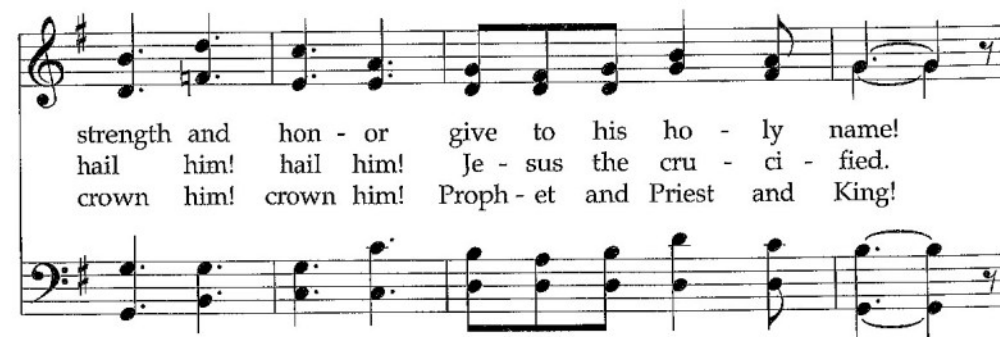
1. Praise him! praise him! Je - sus, our bless - ed Re - deem - er!
2. Praise him! praise him! Je - sus, our bless - ed Re - deem - er!
3. Praise him! praise him! Je - sus, our bless - ed Re - deem - er!



Sing, O Earth, his won - der - ful love pro - claim!
For our sins he suf - fered, and bled and died;
Heaven - ly por - tals loud with ho - san - nas ring!



Hail him! hail him! high - est arch - an - gels in glo - ry;
he our Rock, our hope of e - ter - nal sal - va - tion,
Je - sus, Sav - ior, reign - eth for - ev - er and ev - er;



strength and hon - or give to his ho - ly name!
hail him! hail him! Je - sus the cru - ci - fied.
crown him! crown him! Proph - et and Priest and King!

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1869
MUSIC: Chester G. Allen, 1869

JOYFUL SONG
12 10.12 10.11 10.11 10

Continued on next page

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Like a shep - herd Je - sus will guard his chil - dren,
Sound his prais - es! Je - sus who bore our sor - rows;
Christ is com - ing! o - ver the world vic - to - rious,

in his arms he car - ries them all day long:
love un - bound - ed, won - der - ful, deep and strong:
power and glo - ry un - to the Lord be - long:

Refrain

Praise him! praise him! tell of his ex - cel - lent great - ness;

praise him! praise him ev - er in joy - ful song!

405 In Memory of the Savior's Love

1. In mem - ory of the Sav - ior's love, we keep the sa - cred feast,
2. By faith we take the bread of life by which our souls are fed,
3. In faith and mem - ory here we sing the won - ders of his love,

where ev - ery hum - ble, con - trite heart is made a wel - come guest.
the cup in to - ken of his blood that was for sin - ners shed.
and thus an - tic - i - pate by faith the heav - en - ly feast a - bove.

WORDS: Thomas Cotterill, 1805
MUSIC: Johann Michael Haydn (18th century), adapt.

SALZBURG
CM

Higher Ground

1. I'm press - ing on the up - ward way, new heights I'm
 2. My heart has no de - sire to stay where doubts a -
 3. I want to live a - bove the world, though Sa - tan's
 4. I want to scale the ut - most height and catch a

gain - ing ev - ery day; still pray - ing as I on - ward
 rise and fears dis - may; though some may dwell where these a -
 darts at me are hurled; for faith has caught the joy - ful
 gleam of glo - ry bright; but still I'll pray till heaven I've

bound, "Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground."
 bound, my prayer, my aim is high - er ground.
 sound, the song of saints on high - er ground.
 found, "Lord, lead me on to high - er ground."

Lord, lift me up and let me stand, by faith, on heav - en's ta - ble - land,

a high - er plane than I have found; Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground.

WORDS: Johnson Oatman, Jr., 1892
 MUSIC: Charles H. Gabriel, 1892

HIGHER GROUND
 LM with refrain