

Welcome to worship!

We are glad to have you worship with us today.

Safer worship together: We follow CDC COVID-19 protocols for in-person gatherings, which may be adjusted as the situation in our area changes.

Currently our county is experiencing **HIGH** levels of COVID transmission. The wearing of masks indoors is optional, but highly encouraged and welcomed.

Childcare: All children are welcome in our service. Parents please keep your children with you. There are children's bulletins available at the entrances to the sanctuary. Our nursery (2nd floor) is open at 10:30am for ages 0-4 years of age.

Communion: Our communion is open to all who seek to follow in the way of Jesus. Pick up a prepackaged communion cup with grape juice, available at either entrance to the sanctuary.

Offering: To contribute financially to the ministries of our congregation, gifts may be placed in the offering boxes at any entrance to the sanctuary. Visit our website for online giving options.

How to become a member: We are part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), welcoming all who seek to follow in the ways of Jesus. To learn more about us and how to join with this congregation, speak to Pastor Nancy. Look for upcoming Guest Gatherings to learn more about who we are and how to be a part of FCC Morehead.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Jan. 29	10:45 AM	Worship Service—5 th Sunday Offering for Christian Care Communities
	12:15 PM	Deacons' Meeting, sanctuary
Jan. 31	7:00 PM	Women of the Bible study (Zoom)
Feb. 1	5:00/7:00 PM	Bell Choir/Choir rehearsal
Feb. 2	7:00 PM	Vespers (Zoom)

OUR PRAYERS

World Council of Churches ecumenical prayer calendar:

Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia

For those who desire our prayers:

Brenda Jasper, Jim Fred Cassity, Joe Thompson, Eva Johnston, Mechelle Marshall, Joe Eldridge, Ron Honeycutt, Katie Parker, Brent Rogers, Helen Hall, Betty Miller, Janelle Hare, Jim Gross, Frances Pucket, Maggie Miles, Ned Breschel, Hedy Caldwell.

Prayer concerns and joys may be shared with the office.

Concerns will be posted for two weeks only unless otherwise requested.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD

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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD

JANUARY 29, 2023



WE ARE DISCIPLES

We are Disciples.....
 We prepare God's table for all,
 as it was prepared for us.
 We embrace the old,
 the heartsick, the outcast,
 the different.
 We believe Love wins.....

Minister	Rev. Nancy Gowler
Music Director	Genny Jenkins
Keyboardist	Jiyeon McGillicuddy
Liturgist	Jack Whidden
Elder	Jack Whidden
Greeter	Brent Rogers
Audio/Visual Team	Ethan Jenkins, Wiley Tanner
Nursery Attendant	Katrina Allman

Acknowledgement of Land

For thousands of years, First Peoples have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Shawnee, Cherokee, and Osage people, past, present, and emerging, and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

**indicates the congregation stands in body and/or spirit*

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Welcome Rev. Nancy Gowler
 Bell of Mindfulness Jack Whidden
 Prelude *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Jiyeon McGillicuddy
 Call to Worship Jack Whidden

Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gathers the poor of the earth.
Glorious is our God, who wipes away the tears of sorrow.
 Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives inheritance to the meek.
Glorious is our God, who satisfies the hunger of the just.
 Wonderful is the God of Christ, who gives mercy to the merciful.
Glorious is our God, who gives vision to the pure in heart.
 Wonderful is the God of Christ, who adopts the peacemakers.
Glorious is our God, who lifts high the persecuted.
 Wonderful is the God of Christ, who finds the lost.
Glorious is our God, who awakens the dead.

(based on Matthew 5:3-12)

Opening Prayer Jack Whidden
 *Gathering Hymn *Woke Up This Morning* 623
 Prayer of Confession Rev. Nancy Gowler

**Source of goodness,
 we confess to you and to our siblings in Christ,
 we have wandered from your ways
 in our thoughts and words,
 in what we have done and left undone.
 We have failed to love you fully,
 to love our neighbors, and to love ourselves.
 Forgive us, O Creating God,
 and restore to us the joy of your salvation.**

(silence for reflection)

Words of Assurance Rev. Nancy Gowler
 Rest in the good news:
 Christ is the Way that leads to abundant living;
Christ is the Path of true joy and peace. Thanks be to God.

SACRED STORIES

Scripture Reading Micah 6:1-8 Jack Whidden
 Listen now for Word and Wisdom
 as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.
Our hearts and minds are open.

Anthem *What Does the Lord Require of You?* Choir
 Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Rev. Nancy Gowler
 Heavenly words for earthly people.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Finding Ourselves in God's Foolishness* Rev. Nancy Gowler

RESPONDING TO GOD'S STORY

*Song of Response *When the Poor Ones* 662
 Prayers of the People Jack Whidden

God of Light... **hear our 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.

Passing of the Peace Rev. Nancy Gowler
 Peace be with you!
And also with you.

Invitation to Communion Jack Whidden
 All are welcome at Christ's table.
Everyone is welcome at Christ's table.

Our Story at the Table Rev. Nancy Gowler
 Communion Prayer Jack Whidden
 The Sharing Rev. Nancy Gowler
 Meditation *On Eagle's Wings* Jiyeon McGillicuddy

GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Sending Out Rev. Nancy Gowler

God has shown us what is good;
God has told us what is right.
 The gospel commands us to seek peace rooted in justice.
We seek to follow Jesus in the ways of shalom.
 Will you live justly?
We will live justly.
 Will you love kindly?
We will love kindly.
 Will you walk with God?
Following Jesus,
with the guidance of the Spirit,
we will walk with God.

*Sung Response *Christ Be Beside Me* vs. 1-2

1. Christ be be - side me, Christ be be - fore me, Christ be be -
 2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
 3. Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me, Christ be on

1. hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me, Christ be be -
 2. round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my
 3. all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that

1. low me, Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
 2. sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, light of my life.
 3. see me, in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

Postlude *When the Poor Ones* Jiyeon McGillicuddy

Resources: Scripture readings: ©1989, ©2022 *The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)* and © 2018 *The Message*, Eugene H. Peterson. Used by permission; Liturgy adapted from: Bruce Prewer (Call to Worship); Music: *Christ Be Beside Me*, text: *St. Patrick's Breastplate* (8th C), © 1969 adapt. by James Quinn, music: traditional Scots Gaelic melody.