

27th Sunday after Pentecost  
November 20, 2016 Commitment Sunday 10:45 am

## THE GATHERING

Please greet those around you and welcome our guests  
before the service begins.

### Gathering

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ we bring: Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;  
praise we with grateful voice: Alleluia! Amen!

Welcome and Greeting Renee Hoke  
The peace of the Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Prelude Debbie Watson

\*Call to Worship Renee Hoke  
Come, all you thankful people!  
Come and worship,  
you who woke early and you who slept late;  
you who come often and you who don't.  
Whether we are first or last or somewhere in between,  
there is room for all of us in God's kingdom, and we all belong!  
And there is more than enough grace to go around.  
Let's give thanks and worship God together!

\*Hymn of Praise Come, Ye Thankful People Come! No. 718

\*Invocation Renee Hoke

\*Gloria Patri No. 36  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.

Child Dedication David Hartman

## THE WORD

Reading of the Scripture Renee Hoke  
I Kings 17:8-16  
Pew Bible Page 324

Children's Message Madi Showalter

Ministry of Music Grow in Grace Choir

This is the Day to Give Thanks  
This is the day... This is the day  
that the Lord has made... that the Lord has made.  
We will rejoice... We will rejoice  
and be glad in it... and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord had made; we will rejoice and be glad  
in it.  
This is the day.... This is the day that the Lord has made.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;  
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. (The  
congregation repeats in singing the words)

And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich  
because of what the Lord has done for us. (The congregation repeats in  
singing the words)

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer David Hartman

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.

Response to Prayer Twofold Amen Chancel Choir

Sermon David Hartman & Renee Hoke  
A Leap of Faith

## THE SACRAMENT

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

Hymn We Gather Together No. 276

Communion Invitation Doug Thompson

Elders' Prayers Kerry Roach & Gary Ballard

Sharing the Bread and Cup  
All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.

Please partake of the bread as it is passed;  
we will share the cup together\*\*,  
after sharing our common confession:

I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

### OUR LEAP OF FAITH

Call to Commitment Renee Hoke

Time of Reflection  
Music during reflection: Take My Life Courtney  
Sharon Mucker, solo; Andrew Allen, soprano sax

Prayer of Commitment Renee Hoke

We give thanks, gracious God, for the blessing of  
belonging to this historic congregation. Today we  
commit ourselves—our time, our talents, and our  
resources—to a new year of ministry. We give in  
grateful recognition of all we have received. We  
pray in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen.

### THE OFFERING

Invitation to Stewardship Renee Hoke

Offertory Chancel Choir

Sing to the Lord of Harvest arr. Wetzler

\*Doxology No. 46

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below:  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

\*Prayer of Dedication Renee Hoke

## THE GOING FORTH

\*Invitation to Discipleship David Hartman

\*Hymn of Discipleship No. 715  
Now Thank We All Our God

\*The Benediction David Hartman

\*Response to Benediction Chancel Choir

\*Postlude Debbie Watson

\* If you are able, please stand.

\*\* A few cups of water are in the communion tray for those on sugar-free diets.

## MEMORIALS & HONORS

The Thanksgiving cornucopia arrangement this morning is given by Ann  
Hunter with thanks to her helpers, especially Emily Wilson, and in memory of her  
parents, Polly & Aubrey Cox.

## WELCOME TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Welcome! We're glad you are with us for worship today. We want you to feel  
right at home. For 125 years First Christian Church has been a place where people  
come seeking a richer relationship with God and neighbor. No matter what your  
background or previous experience of church, this is a congregation where you  
can put down roots and experience true community. Our ministry staff and elders  
leading in worship today will be available after worship to answer your questions.  
It is our prayer that any person searching for meaningful relationships and a sense  
of belonging will find it here at First Christian Church of Wichita Falls.

## NURSERY

A quality nursery for infants and young children is available during our worship  
services. Also available during the week is our childcare programs of Children  
Come First and Young Ages Preschool.

## "GODLY PLAY"

Children ages 3 years thru 2<sup>nd</sup> grade may participate in "Godly Play" following  
the Children's Message in the 10:45 worship service. Godly Play allows children  
to worship and fellowship together in an engaging and age appropriate  
environment. Children can be picked up immediately following the worship  
service in Room 213, use Exit door near altar and follow the signs for "Children  
Pick-Up".

## HEARING AID DEVICES

Are available for those in need by asking an usher in the Sanctuary Narthex.

## SERMONS

Last week's sermon is available in print form in the Narthex of the Chapel and  
Sanctuary or at [www.firstchristianwf.com](http://www.firstchristianwf.com).

## COMMON GROUND RECOVERY MINISTRIES

Adult peer support groups each Sunday afternoon at 6:00 pm (Women's  
C.A.R.E., Anger Management, Chemical Addictions Recovery & Parent Groups)  
For more information contact Rev. Dave Brummett, 613-2112.

## MID-WEEK COMMUNION SERVICE

We are offering a Wednesday evening period of quiet prayer and communion in  
our Chapel from 5:00-5:30. Members and visitors are warmly invited to come in  
and pray for however long or as little as they feel led; from 5:00-5:15, there will  
be a brief vespers service consisting of scripture, guided prayer and communion.

## PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF A CHURCH MEMBER IS HOSPITALIZED

Due to hospital policy changes & HIPAA laws, if a church member enters any  
hospital, the church office has no way of knowing and now needs for either the  
patient, a family member, a friend, or another church member to call and tell us. If  
in doubt, please, go ahead and call the church office as we would prefer to receive  
many calls about someone being hospitalized, than us not knowing at all!

**Sunday Evening Activities Schedule**

- 2:00 Nominating Committee Meeting (Room 310)
- 3:45 Chancel Ringers [High School-Adults] (Stratten Hall)
- 5:00 Grow in Grace Choir [Grades K-5] (Stratten Hall)  
Come As You Are [Grades 6-12] (Room 403)
- 5:14 CGRM Bible Study (Rm 307)
- 5:45 Young Disciples [Grades K-5] (Scout Hall)
- 6:00 Common Ground Recovery Ministries (CGRM) Groups:  
Parenting (Room 306)  
Anger Recovery (Room 304)  
Chemical Addictions Recovery (Room 305)  
Women's C.A.R.E. (Room 307)

**Thanksgiving Fellowship Luncheon @Noon**

With Fried & Baked Chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad and dessert. Cost is by donation.  
We hope you'll join us for a great meal and fellowship!

**Ministry News & Calendar Highlights**

**Advent Workshop: A Family Tradition for Generations!**

Each year the holy season of Advent begins with the aroma of stew simmering in the church kitchen, cornbread fresh out of the oven, trays of Christmas cookies, and the sight of Fellowship Hall lined with colorful craft tables where volunteers guide little ones in constructing crafts that teach the story of Christmas. Many of our members gather up the neighborhood kids each year for this Advent outing. **Sunday, November 27, 5-7 pm, in Fellowship Hall.** Donations are appreciated to cover the cost of the meal and craft supplies. (Kids menu includes chicken nuggets.) If you are a crafter who would like to help at one of the tables, call the church office to volunteer.

**Christian Woman's Fellowship Group Meetings** will be as follows on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup>: **Group 1** will meet at 1:30 pm in the Parlor; **Group 2** will meet at 12:00 noon in Rm 405; **Group 3** will meet at 2:00 pm in Rm 405. CWF Service Day will be Monday, November 21st at 10:00 am in Scout Hall. We will be preparing the wreaths.

**Tea At Two on Tuesdays!** Who doesn't love a fragrant cup of tea on a cool autumn afternoon? Claudine Farrell and Renee Hoke are hosting a new gathering for women on Tuesday afternoons at 2 pm in the Church Parlor. Bring your favorite tea cup and join us for hot tea, tasty treats, and a guided conversation using Joyce Rupp's wonderful book "The Cup of our Life: A Guide for Spiritual Growth." Everyone is welcome—bring a friend or neighbor!

**Thanksgiving Holiday:** The Church Building, Offices and All Programs will be CLOSED on Thursday & Friday, November 24-25<sup>th</sup>.

**Finding Support When Your Life is ON HOLD.** First Christian Church and First Methodist Church are collaborating on a new ministry of encouragement for those caring for multiple generations of loved ones. We've named the new program ON HOLD/A Support Group for Caregivers of All Kinds. At least once a month we'll gather in an informal home setting for lunch and conversation with others who understand exactly what you're up against. There will be time for laughter, sympathy, and a reminder that you're not alone.

Our hosts will be Kris Gossom and Kathy Gilbert who just happen to be next door neighbors. The first gathering will be **Tuesday, November 29, at 2414 Barbados.** A simple lunch will be available between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm so that you can drop by at the time that works for you. Bring a friend, or just yourself, and join us.

**First Christian Church**  
3701 Taft Blvd, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308  
(940) 692-2282, [www.firstchristianwf.com](http://www.firstchristianwf.com)

Dr. David B. Hartman, Jr., *Senior Minister*  
Rev. Renee Hoke, *Associate Minister*  
Jeanette Showalter, *Director of Music Ministries*  
Meredith Buckley, *Interim Director of Children & Youth Ministries*  
Madi Showalter, *Children's Ministries Intern*  
Rev. Dave Brummett, *Director of Recovery Ministries*  
Heather Dickerson, *Director of Children Come First*  
Karen Bivona, *Director of Young Ages School*  
Cheryl Appling, *Business Administrator* Susan Marrs, *Executive Secretary*  
Tina Williams, *Financial Secretary* Ann Hunter, *Receptionist*  
Debbie Watson, *Organist* Glenda & Preston, *Custodians*

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**Sunday, November 20, 2016**

COMMITMENT SUNDAY  
8:40—Worship..... Chapel  
9:30—Sunday School  
9:45—Journey Through Scripture..... Parlor  
10:45—Worship..... Sanctuary  
12:00—Thanksgiving Fellowship Luncheon..... Fellowship Hall  
2:00—Nominating Committee Meeting..... Room 310  
3:45-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities

**Monday, November 21, 2016**

7:30-6:00—Children Come First (M-F)  
9:00-12:00—Young Ages School (M-F)  
10:00—CWF Service Day: Preparing Wreaths..... Scout Hall  
10:15—FCC Staff Meeting..... Office  
10:30—YAS Thanksgiving Feast (Mon & Tues)..... Fellowship Hall  
12:00—CWF Group 2..... Room 405  
1:30—CWF Group 1..... Parlor  
2:00—CWF Group 3..... Room 405  
5:30—CCF Staff Meeting..... Room 306  
6:00—Executive Council Meeting..... Room 310  
7:30—Boy Scouts Troop 15..... Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, November 22, 2016**

2:00—Tea at Two..... Parlor

**Wednesday, November 23, 2016**

7:00—Elders' Breakfast..... Room 405 & Chapel  
NO Wednesday Evening Activities

**Thursday, November 24, 2016**

THANKSGIVING  
Church Building, Offices & All Programs Closed

**Friday, November 25, 2016**

Church Building, Offices & All Programs Closed

**Sunday, November 27, 2016**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / HANGING OF THE GREENS  
8:40—Worship..... Chapel  
9:30—Sunday School  
9:45—Journey Through Scripture..... Parlor  
10:45—Worship..... Sanctuary  
3:45-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities - NO Grow in Grace Choir  
5:00-7:00—Advent Workshop..... Fellowship Hall  
6:00—FACE Time with Dave..... Parlor



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

everyone  ONE  
BELONGS • GIVES • RECEIVES

