

Blessed Assurance

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day

May 14, 2017

10:45 am

THE GATHERING

Prelude Chancel Ringers
Dorian Dance Joy

Welcome and Greeting Renee Hoke

Gathering Music
Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in this blood.

Introduction to the Service David Hartman

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

*Passing of the Peace Renee Hoke
Peace be with you!
And also with you!
(You are invited to greet those around you.)

*Hymn of Praise *For the Beauty of the Earth* No. 56

*A Litany for Mother's Day Renee Hoke
Mothers come in many different forms, and today we celebrate them all!

Thank God for mothers!
Everyone here is either a son or a daughter.
Thank God for my mother!
For those women who have joined God in Heaven and whom we miss dearly here on earth.

Thank God for the mothers of the past.
For every woman who is working day and night to raise her children right now.

Thank God for the mothers of today.
For all the women who are expecting, but aren't quite mothers yet!
Thank God for the soon-to-be-mothers.

For the women who took in others' children through marriage, adoption and foster care.

Thank God for the mothers with hearts so big.
For those women who have lost a child to death and must carry on.

Thank God for the mothers who are so strong.
For all the women who never had children of their own, but instead mother everyone.

Thank God for the mothers in spirit.

Let us pray:
We thank you, Lord, for the women who have influenced our lives in so many ways. We pray that we will honor them in everything we do. Amen.

*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.

THE PROCLAMATION

Children's Message Maggie Ross

Reading of the Scripture Renee Hoke
John 14:1-6a
Pew Bible Page 108

Ministry of Music Chancel Ringers
How Can I Keep from Singing arr. Moklebust

Sermon *To Prepare a Place For You* David Hartman

THE RESPONSE

Peace Officers Memorial Karl Stewart

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer Renee Hoke

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 *Alleuia, Amen* Chancel Choir

*Communion Hymn *In Remembrance of Me* No. 403

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Invitation Susan Buckley
Elders' Prayers Cathy Gately & Debbi Schmidt
Music During Communion Chancel Ringers
Blessed Assurance arr. Dobrinski

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.

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Stewardship Renee Hoke
Offertory Chancel Ringers
You Raise Me Up arr. Raney

*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

*Invitation to Discipleship David Hartman

*Hymn of Discipleship No. 560
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

*The Benediction David Hartman

*Response to Benediction Chancel Choir

*Postlude Chancel Ringers
Lord of the Dance arr. McChesney

* 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 flowers this morning are given by the Kerbow Family in loving memory of Joe Kerbow.

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.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

We would be pleased to send you the [Challenger](#) newsletter and [Monday Ministry News](#) at no cost. Simply share your e-mail address with us.

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 2nd 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.

COMMON GROUND RECOVERY MINISTRIES

Adult peer support groups on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm (Women's C.A.R.E., Parenting, Substance Abuse & Anger Management). For more information contact Laurel Clement with Catholic Charities at 940-642-7021.

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

- NO Come As You Are [Grades 6-12] (Room 403)
 Young Disciples [Grades K-5] (Room 402)
 Youth & Children's Ministers Search Cmte Mtg (Room 222)

Ministry News & Calendar Highlights

Children's Musical "The Sailor's Bible" - The story of the Apostle Paul's adventures on the high seas will be set to music this Wednesday, May 17th. Our Grow in Grace Choir (kindergarten through fifth grade) have been rehearsing for months and hope you will be on hand for their premiere. The musical performance is at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Graduation Sunday on May 21! God bless our graduates! On May 21st we celebrate a major milestone in many young lives. At 10:45 our high school graduates will process in their caps and gowns and share with us their plans and dreams for the future. We will also recognize those in our church family who are graduating from college, graduate school, or a professional school. If you have a graduate in your family, please call the church office so we can add the name to our list. The whole church is invited to lunch following worship and a special video presentation about our grads. Please make your reservations in the attendance folders or by calling the church office.

May Meetings: will be as follows:
 Tuesday, May 16th: **Prayer Team for Persecuted Church** at 5:00 pm, Rm 310
Membership at 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall;
Education at 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall; **Stewardship** at 6:00 pm, Rm 310;
Worship at 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
VBS Committee at 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
 Tuesday, May 23rd: **Executive Council** at 6:00 pm, Rm 310
 If you will need childcare, please RSVP to the church office, 692-2282, by noon on Mondays, May 15th & 22nd.

Vacation Bible School Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 16th, at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for any and all volunteers. VBS will be the week of **July 10-14th** from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The theme this year will be "Deep Sea Discovery." Registration will open on **May 22nd**.

Christian Women's Fellowship Group Meetings will be as follows:
Group 3 will meet on Monday, May 15th, at 1:00 pm at Applebee's on Kemp St.
Group 2 will meet on Wednesday, May 17th, at 12:00 noon in Room 405.
Group 1 will meet on Monday, May 22nd, at Jane Ridenour's home in Holliday TX. The Group will meet & leave from the Chapel entrance at 11:30 am. Bring a covered dish; Jane will provide the meat.

Christian Men's Fellowship Dinner will be on Thursday, May 18th, at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Laurel Clement with Catholic Charities and Director of Common Ground Recovery Ministries.

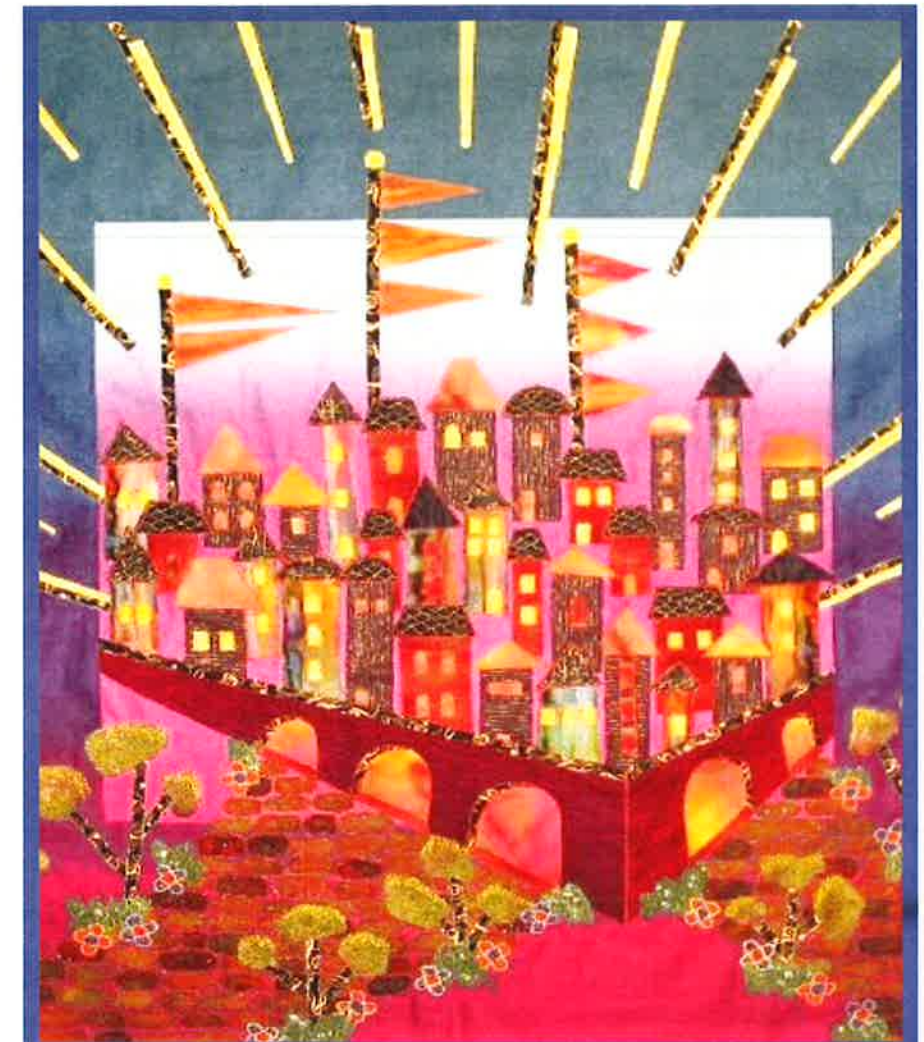
Prime Timers Trip Planned for June 17 to Attend "South Pacific". The Prime Timers trip to see "South Pacific" at the Granbury Opera House has been set for Saturday, June 17. Please join us. We are planning a day trip and will attend the 2:00 pm matinee. Tickets are \$25 each plus a \$2.45 service fee per ticket. Send your ticket request and check (payable to FCC) to the church office by this Wednesday, May 17. We will purchase a block of tickets in the orchestra section (first 3 rows).

First Christian Church 3701 Taft Blvd, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308 (940) 692-2282, www.firstchristianwf.com

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

OPPORTUNITIES

- Sunday, May 14, 2017**
 MOTHER'S DAY
 8:40—Worship Chapel
 9:30—Sunday School
 9:45—Journey Through Scripture Parlor
 10:45—Worship Sanctuary
 NO—Sunday Evening Activities
- Monday, May 15, 2017**
 7:30-6:00—Children Come First (M-F)
 9:00-12:00—Young Ages School (M-Th)
 10:15—FCC Staff Meeting Office
 1:00—CWF Group 3 Applebee's on Kemp
 7:30—Boy Scouts Troop 15 Scout Hall
- Tuesday, May 16, 2017**
 2:00—Library Committee Library
 5:00—Prayer Team for Persecuted Church Room 310
 5:30—Membership Ministry Meeting Fellowship Hall
 6:00—Education Ministry Meeting Fellowship Hall
 6:00—Stewardship Ministry Meeting Room 310
 6:00-7:00—Common Ground Recovery Ministries Support Groups:
 Women's C.A.R.E. Room 304 Parenting Rooms 305 & 306
 Anger Management Room 308 Substance Abuse Room 309
 7:00—Worship Ministry Meeting Fellowship Hall
 7:00—VBS Committee Meeting Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday, May 17, 2017**
 7:00—Elders' Breakfast Room 405 & Chapel
 8:00—Leadership Team Meeting Renee's Office
 12:00—CWF Group 2 Room 405
 5:00—Mid-Week Communion Service Chapel
 5:00-5:45—Mid-Week Meal Fellowship Hall
 6:00-7:00—The Neighborhood Worship
 & Children's Musical "The Sailor's Bible" Fellowship Hall
 6:00-8:00—Chi Rho & CYF (6th-12th) Room 403
 7:00-8:00—Young Disciples (K-5th) Room 402
 7:00—Chancel Choir (High School-Adults) Stratten Hall
- Thursday, May 18, 2017**
 9:00—CWF Group 3 Birthday Breakfast IHOP on SW Pkwy
 9:00-12:00—Last Day of School for Young Ages Preschool
 12:00—YAS Teacher In-Service
 1:30—Knit Wits Parlor
 6:30—CMF Dinner Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, May 21, 2017**
 GRADUATE SUNDAY
 8:40—Worship Chapel
 9:30—Sunday School
 9:45—Journey Through Scripture Parlor
 10:45—Worship Sanctuary
 12:00—Graduate Luncheon Fellowship Hall
 5:30-7:00—Young Disciples End-of-Year Party Room 402
 6:00—Youth & Children's Ministers Search Committee Meeting Room 222



First Christian Church *Disciples of Christ*

Sunday Worship at 8:40am in the Chapel
 10:45am in the Sanctuary
 Sunday School at 9:30am

Acoustic worship Wednesdays at 6pm
 in Fellowship Hall

3701 Taft Blvd. • Wichita Falls, TX 76308
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