

Is Born

THE GATHERING

Prelude Debbie Watson

Welcome and Announcements Claire Baer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Gathering in Light
(The congregation is invited to sing the bold words.)

It is the day we can be born

Silent Night

Yet all around the world is torn

Holy Night

But we bring calm and we bring light

Silent Night

Our stars together make things bright

Holy Night

**Dear people all around the world,
Let us unite and we will show
How light can change us,
How light has helped us grow.**

The Question

So let your Light shine in the night

Silent Night

And let your life burn warm and bright

Holy Night

This Light we give the world is balm

Silent Night

And in this truth we find our calm

Holy Night

Opening Prayer Dr. Mark Bender

*Opening Hymn *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* No. 164

THE PROCLAMATION

Scripture Claire Baer
Luke 2:21-35
Pew Bible p. 59

Children's Message Claire Baer

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer Dr. Mark Bender

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.

Anthem Chris Showalter, solo
Love Came Down at Christmas — arr. Peterson

Sermon Dr. Mark Bender
Looking Forward

THE RESPONSE

THE LORD'S SUPPER
*Passing of the Peace[†]
Communion Hymn No. 144

O Little Town of Bethlehem — vs. 1, 3 & 4

Communion Invitation Ann Hunter

Elders' Prayer Dwight Ross III & Emily Wilson

Distribution of the Loaf 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 Dr. Mark Bender
Offertory Emily & Tyler Thomas, violins
*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.**

*Offertory Prayer

THE SENDING

*Invitation to Discipleship Dr. Mark Bender

*Closing Hymn *Angels We Have Heard on High* No. 155

*Congregational Benediction
**Go with God into this day.
May the Spirit guide your way.
Offer life to all you greet;
Like Christ, see God in all you meet.**

Postlude Debbie Watson

[†]If you are able, please stand
^{**} Gluten-free wafers are available in each bread tray. A few cups of water are in the cup tray for those on sugar-free diets.
^{††}As part of our Table-centered spirituality, the "peace of Christ" is offered as a sign of our reconciliation to God and neighbor. It is a visible symbol of our being "a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world," preparing us to "welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us."

Sermon Notes

1. Come all ye faithful

2. The importance of rituals

3. A dream realized
a. Giving sight to salvation

- b. But not all rejoice

4. Dismissing in peace

5. What are you longing for?

Church Office Closing Reminder

All church offices will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 1st. If there is an emergency and you need to get in contact with someone in the office, please call the church and the answering service will get in contact with a minister ASAP.

Prime Timers Luncheon

Sunday, January 6th
12:00 noon
Fellowship Hall

New in 2019

Coming Monday, January 7th, is a new stretch class! If you are feeling stressed from the holidays or everyday life, join us in the gym every Monday at 6 pm for an hour. This class is open for everyone....men and women. Lora Vaites is teaching the class. She will guide us through some easy stretches to relieve the stress on our muscles. It will cost \$5 a class. Yoga mats and stretch bands are available but you are welcome to bring your own. Please come and bring a friend. If you have any questions ask Cindy Hernandez.

Pantry Sunday

Pantry Sunday for Interfaith Outreach Services will be on Sunday, January 6th. Items for collection will be **boxes of macaroni and cheese and cans of Spaghettios**. Also, if you travel and have any unopened hotel toiletries, Interfaith Outreach Services would love to have them for their care sacks. Thank you for the 104 pounds of items delivered for the month of December!

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 30		
8:40 am	Worship	Chapel
9:30 am	Sunday School	
NO	Journey Through Scripture Bible Study	
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
NO	Chancel Ringers (Adults)	
NO	Grow in Grace Choir (Grades K-5)	
NO	Chi Rho & CYF (Grades 6-12)	Room 403/Gym
NO	Young Disciples (Grades K-5)	Room 402
Monday, December 31		
	Children Come First "CCF" Closed	
	Young Ages School "YAS" Closed until January 8	
NO	Boy Scouts Troop 15	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, January 1 New Year's Day		
	Church Building, Offices & All Programs Closed	
Wednesday, January 2		
7:00 am	Elders' Breakfast	Room 405/Chapel
7:45 am-6:00 pm	Children Come First (W-F)	
9:00 am	CCF Chapel	Chapel
5:30 pm	The Neighborhood Meal	Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:00 pm	The Neighborhood Worship	Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:00 pm	First Kidz (Grades Pre-K to 5th)	Room 402
7:00-8:00 pm	Youth Activities (Grades 6-12)	Room 403/Gym
7:00-9:00 pm	Chancel Choir (High School-Adults)	Stratten Hall
Thursday, January 3		
NO	Knit Wits	Parlor
Friday, January 4		
9:00 am	CCF Spanish	Room 220
Saturday, January 5		

GIVE+ FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Make contributions conveniently and securely with your bank account or debit/credit card through the *GivePlus Church* app in the App Store or Google Play.

Welcome

Thank you...

For joining us today. We are glad to see you and to join in worship with you.

Here at First Christian Church, our vision is:

To provide a church in Wichita Falls where there is appreciation for differences in beliefs so that families can be united in Christ. Therefore, we promote spiritual growth with intellectual challenges, emotional support through small group activities, and opportunities to serve one another in the larger community.

We would love to help you take the next step in your own search for...a church home...deeper spiritual growth...significant community...meaningful service.

Several things for you to know:

- **Nursery** for children age 3 and under is available in Room 209. While there, your child will learn about God through storytelling, play, and music.
- Children age 4 through Second Grade are invited to **Children's Church** following the Children's Message. This age-appropriate worship and fellowship experience takes place in Room 213, where your child learns about faith through storytelling and art projects. You can pick up your child in Room 213 at the conclusion of worship.
- **Hearing devices** are available. A member of the Diaconate would be happy to assist you.
- **Audio CDs** of the service are available by calling the church office. You may also download messages from our website or pick up printed transcripts in the Narthex of the Chapel and Sanctuary.
- The volunteers at the **Welcome Center**, located in the Narthex, are here to answer your questions about First Christian Church, and to assist you in making connections.

To find out more about First Christian Church, visit us at www.firstchristianwf.com.



Young Disciples—Grades K-5

Sundays | 5:45—7:00 pm | Room 402

First Kidz—Grades K-5

Bible Study, activities, fellowship, and games

Wednesdays | 6:00—7:00 pm | Room 402

Come As You Are—Grades 6-12

Sundays | 5:00—7:00 pm | Room 403

After the Neighborhood... - Grades 6-12

Wednesdays | 7:00—8:00 pm | Room 403



Tuesdays | 6:30 pm

Adult peer support groups: Parenting, Anger Management, Rebuilding Your Life

Contact Rev. Margaret Scales

940.337.1712 or cgrm@firstchristianwf.com



Silent Night...

First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

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Wichita Falls, Texas 76308
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www.firstchristianwf.com

First Sunday After Christmas
Sunday, December 30, 2018