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Seventh Sunday of Epiphany – February 19, 2023

THE GATHERING

Please let us know you're here by texting FCC to 77411.

Chimes

Prelude

Debbie Watson

Welcome & Call to Worship

Claire Baer

Opening Hymn

How Firm a Foundation – vs. 1, 2 & 5

No. 618

***How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!***

***What more can be said than to you God has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?***

***"Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.***

***I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.***

***"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"***

Opening Prayer

Claire Baer

THE PROCLAMATION

Scripture Reading

Judges 16:15-31

Jeanette Showalter

Children's Message

Claire Baer

Pastoral Prayer and 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 *Arise, My Soul, Arise* – arr. Wood Chancel Choir
Sermon *Samson* Dr. Mark Bender

THE RESPONSE

Communion Hymn *In Remembrance of Me* No. 403
***In remembrance of me, eat this bread.
In remembrance of me, drink this wine. In remembrance of me,
pray for the time when God's own will is done.
In remembrance of me, heal the sick.
In remembrance of me, feed the poor. In remembrance of me,
open the door and let your neighbor in, let them in.
Take, eat, and be comforted;
drink and remember too. That this is my body and precious
blood shed for you, shed for you.
In remembrance of me, search for truth.
In remembrance of me, always love.
In remembrance of me, don't look above,
but in your heart look for God.
do this in remembrance of me.***

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table and Words of Institution Harry Tonemah
Prayers for the Bread & Cup David Collins & Polly Tonemah
Partaking of the Bread and Cup
All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.
I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

THE OFFERING

Moment for Mission Dr. Mark Bender
Offertory *With Songs of Rejoicing* – Bach/Hopson Chancel Choir
*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

Sent from the Table & Invitation to Discipleship Dr. Mark Bender

***Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down; thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.***

***Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring: Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.***

***Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry hosts: Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.***

Benediction

Dr. Mark Bender

Postlude

Debbie Watson

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Memorials and Honors

In memory of Sheryl Spaulding (mother of Shaun Spaulding) given by Lee & Bart Bybee.

In memory of Rev. Jim Rudd given by Larry & Linda Carr, Pat Duncan.

In memory of Patt Giddings given by Woody & Kris Gossom, Marcia Cooper, Lee & Bart Bybee.

In memory of Debbi Schmidt by Woody & Kris Gossom, Larry & Linda Carr, Lee & Bart Bybee, Mark & Debbie Turnbow.

In memory of Christopher Rodgers (son-in-law of Sherry Tucker & Eddie Tucker) given by Woody & Kris Gossom, Mark & Debbie Turnbow.

In memory of Carol Allred (mother of Ann Kable) given by Woody & Kris Gossom.

In memory of Lita Watson given by Woody & Kris Gossom, Lee & Bart Bybee, Mark & Debbie Turnbow.

In memory of Jerry Tucker (brother of Eddie Tucker) given by Lee & Bart Bybee.

The flowers this morning are given by the Chancel Choir in grateful appreciation to the CMF for sponsoring Love Notes.

Sermon Notes

1. Staying quiet in church

2. The Word of God for the people of God?

3. A life of promise

4. The "eyes" have it

5. The season to come

Announcements

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CALENDAR

Sunday, January 19 Week of Compassion Special Offering		
8:40 am	Worship Service	Chapel
9:30 am	Sunday School	
9:30 am	Journey Through Scripture	Parlor
10:45 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary/ Livestream
3:45 pm	Chancel Ringers (High School-Adults)	Stratten Hall
5:00 pm	Young Disciples Choir (Grades K-5)	Stratten Hall
5:00 pm	Youth Fellowship (Grades 6-12)	Room 403 & Gym
6:00 pm	Young Disciples (Grades K-5)	Rooms 402 & 405
Monday, February 20 President's Day		
7:30 am–6:00 pm	Children Come First "CCF" (M-F)	
	Young Ages Preschool "YAS" Closed	
9:00 am	CCF Chapel	Chapel
10:00 am	Peggy Fitts' Memorial Service	Sanctuary
1:00 pm	CWF Group 1	1723 Shoal Creek
7:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop 15	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, February 21		
9:00 am–12:00pm	Young Ages Preschool "YAS" (T-F)	
9:30 am	FCC Staff Meeting / Worship Planning	Room 310
5:30 pm	Shrove/Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Stewardship Ministry Meeting	Room 310
6:30 pm	Common Ground Recovery Ministries Support Groups Anger Management, Parenting, Rebuilding Your Life,	Rooms 304-308
Wednesday, February 22 Ash Wednesday		
7:00 am	Elders' Breakfast	Room 405
9:00 am	CCF Spanish	Room 300
10:30 am	Sheri Sutton's Lenten Bible Study	Room 310
1:00 pm	Stretch Class	Parlor
6:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Youth Fellowship (Grades 6-12)	Room 403/Gym
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir (Grades 9-Adults)	4902 Andria
Thursday, February 23		
6:00 pm	College Bible Study	Room 305
9:00 am	CCF Music	Room 300
Saturday, February 25		

Wednesdays At The Table – 2023 Lenten Study Series

This Lenten season, you are invited to the table. On Wednesday evenings from March 1 to April 5, deepen your faith by participating in Lenten electives. Each week, we will gather for a simple soup supper (along with kid-friendly options for our young friends) at 5:30 pm. Then, we will share together in communion before choosing an elective to attend:

- *Walk with Jesus Bible Study* with Sheri Sutton
- *How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth* with Mark Bender
- *Understanding Prayer* with Brooke Reid
- *Letters from Jerusalem* (for our young friends) with Claire Baer

So, grow your faith this Lenten series. Mark your calendars now and plan to join in *Wednesdays At The Table*.

RISE UP ANEW: SUNNY DAY CAMP



On a dark night in early December 2021, entirely out of season, tornadoes tore across eight states, killing more than 80 people and devastating many communities. Just eight months later, on a warm Saturday in July, two Disciples churches and several community organizations made sure that dozens of children impacted by those winter storms in western Kentucky spent time outside with friends and caregivers, reveling in a bright and sunny day.

As their churches were recovering from the storms, caring for their members and communities, and even hosting long-term recovery volunteers, pastors at First Christian Church of Madisonville and First Christian Church of Princeton dreamed of a way to connect with the region's youngest survivors—children from kindergarten to fifth grade who were affected by the tornadoes.

How could they care for children who had been through so much, so little of it they could understand? In the season after such fear, how could these children feel loved and have access to the care they needed? How could the church help them blossom and flourish—how could they, in the words of Lamentations, rise up anew?

With the support of Week of Compassion; gifts and volunteers from both congregations; and the expertise of Children's Disaster Services (a Week of Compassion partner), a medical team at Baptist Health Deaconess Madisonville, and Child Life Disaster Services (a local network of specialists with expertise in trauma, positive coping, and resilience), the Sunny Day Camp was born.

Children spent an entire day, at no cost to their families, going about perfectly typical day camp fare at the Western Kentucky 4-H Camp: canoeing, crafts, swimming, meals and snacks. And alongside these gifts of normalcy, trained professionals provided age-appropriate opportunities for processing grief and trauma. Children connected with therapy animals, worked with disaster relief counselors, and had a local physician available for care onsite.

A living witness to God's constant mercies, and committed to healing and wholeness especially among the youngest and most vulnerable, these churches and their local partners put your Week of Compassion gifts to work, transforming suffering into hope, so that churches, communities, and children can rise up anew, together.



Our hope is rooted and nourished by God's steadfast, abundant, enduring, ever-in-supply and in season compassion. Remembering the compassion of God can ease the pain of what seems like a never-ending news cycle of devastation.

Yet it is because I remember all this that I have hope. YHWH's favor is not exhausted, nor has God's compassion failed. They rise up anew each morning, so great is God's faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:21-23, The Inclusive Bible)

Singing this promise can give us the strength of heart to **RISE UP ANEW** when our hearts are weary from the work of caring about and for all those in need in this beautiful and broken world.

When rains come and waters rise, generosity follows close behind.

When fires rage and destruction looms, support and help are stirred up too.

When war and disease and drought are too close for too long, compassion comes closer, and God's mercies are made known through the gifts of God's people.

Through domestic disaster response in familiar communities; preparedness training



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for congregations and individuals; refugee response in the aftermath of national conflicts; and ecumenical partnerships that engage international disaster response and support basic human needs for shelter, food, education, and livelihoods Week of Compassion proclaims this truth: God's mercies **RISE UP ANEW** each day.

Because of your generosity, Week of Compassion meets people and communities in the midst of grief and lament, in the deepest moments of 'How could this happen?', as the very real presence of God's unfailing compassion.



SPECIAL OFFERING 2023 FEBRUARY 19-26

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.

