

24th Sunday after Pentecost  
November 8, 2015 10:45 am

## THE GATHERING

Gathering

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. 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. Give thanks!

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

A Veteran Remembers Kenn Hill

Prelude Debbie Watson

\*Hymn of Praise No. 622  
*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

\*Invocation Renee Hoke  
God, our guide and our protector, as we gather today in your house, we thank you for your steadfast love and your wonderful works. Remake our lives as thanksgiving sacrifices. Send us from this place to tell of your deeds with songs of joy. Hear these and all of our prayers, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to save us. 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 WORD

Children's Message & Blessing of Coats Renee Hoke  
Holy and loving God: your son Jesus told us that whatever we do for the least of your children, we do for you. We present these coats, and ask that you bless them and the children who receive them. May the warmth these coats bring reflect the warmth of your love, and may the children feel that love through these coats. In your Son's name we pray. Amen.

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 *Threefold Amen* Chancel Choir

Reading of the Scripture See Insert  
Psalm 107:1-22, 34-37

Ministry of Music Chancel Choir  
*Thou Who Wast God* arr. Davis

Sermon Rev. Dr. Katie Hays  
*His Steadfast Love Endures Forever*

## THE SACRAMENT

THE LORD'S SUPPER  
Hymn *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* No. 419  
Communion Invitation Gary Ballard  
Elders' Prayers David Gately & Ted Lauck  
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  
Stewardship Moment Jerry Johnson  
Offertory Chancel Choir  
*You Are Mine* arr. Hayes  
Elise Allen, flute  
\*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 Renee Hoke  
\*Hymn of Discipleship No. 537  
*My Hope is Built*  
\*The Benediction Rev. Dr. Katie Hays  
\*Choral Response 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.

## 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. We make available to parents, if they desire, an in-house pager, so they can be reached during the worship service. 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 Moment. Godly Play allows children to worship and fellowship together in a special environment. Children may be retrieved from Room 213 immediately following the worship service.

## 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).

## SPECIAL NEEDS PARKING AREA

The church staff parking lot is available every Sunday morning for members and guests with special needs. Please be mindful of those that need extra room to load and unload wheelchairs and make it easier for them to worship on Sunday mornings!

## COMMON GROUND RECOVERY MINISTRIES

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

## MIDWEEK RESPITE SERVICE

We are offering a Wednesday evening period of quiet prayer and respite in our Chapel from 5:30-6:30. Members and visitors are warmly invited to come in and pray for however long or as little as they feel led; from 5:45-6:00, 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!

## MEMORIALS & HONORS

IN HONOR OF DAVE HARTMAN given by Richard & Phyllis Hiraki.  
The flowers this morning are given by Anita Mills and Rick & Holly Porter in loving memory of Roland & Terry Mills.  
The rose on the Communion Table this morning is in honor of Christian Elijah Opela born on November 4th. Christian Elijah is the son of Amanda & Cesar Opela.

**Sunday Evening Activities Schedule**

- 3:45 Chancel Ringers (Stratten Hall)
- 5:00 Grow in Grace Choir [Grades K-5] (Stratten Hall)  
Come As You Are [Grades 6-12] (Room 403C)
- 5:14 CGRM Evening Worship Ministry (Fellowship Hall)  
The speaker will be Rev. Erin Taylor.
- 5:45 Young Disciples [Grades K-5] (Rooms 309 & 311)
- 6:00 Common Ground Recovery Ministries (CGRM) Groups:  
Anger Recovery (Room 304)  
Chemical Addictions Recovery (Room 305)  
Parenting (Room 306)  
Women's C.A.R.E. (Room 307)  
Family Challenges Support (Room 310)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR &  
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE:  
COMMITMENT SUNDAY LUNCHEON  
NOVEMBER 22, NOON, FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

The November CWF Luncheon will be this Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The program will be Nancy Brown with Hands to Hands Community Fund. The devotional will be given by Judy Muir and the service offering will go to Hands to Hands Community Fund. Reservations are not required and guests are welcome. Cost is \$5.00 per person.

The CWF Board will meet at 10:30 am in Room 310 prior to the luncheon.

**NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

November is a very busy month for Outreach Ministries. We invite all members of the congregation to join us in these opportunities:

Coats for Kids

- Nov. 8 (Sun.) Worship service : Blessing of Coats
- Nov. 8 (Sun.) 3 p.m. Sanctuary : Meet to sort coats purchased in January
- Nov. 15 (Sun.) 3 p.m., Room 306 : Meet to organize coats for distribution
- Nov. 16 -20 (M-F) 9 a.m.-noon, Room 306 : Fill and deliver requests to schools

Thanksgiving Baskets

- Nov. 8 (Sun) : Distribution of Thanksgiving bags and turkey envelopes and sign up to deliver baskets
- Nov. 18 (Wed.) : Thanksgiving baskets and turkey money returned to church  
List of delivery volunteers finalized (PLEASE SIGN UP EARLY)
- Nov. 20 (Fri.) 4 p.m., Room 310  
Assemble Thanksgiving baskets and Delivery routes organized
- Nov. 21 (Sat) 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall : Delivery of Thanksgiving Baskets

Reminder on delivery: Basket requests will be divided into 15 routes. It is important to sign up early so that routes can be organized. Please contact Judy or Diana to volunteer to drive a route:

Judy Muir, 766.0491 or [jamuir2410@att.net](mailto:jamuir2410@att.net);  
Diana Costello, 723.5203 or [dmariec64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmariec64@sbcglobal.net).

**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*  
Justin Dickey, *Director of Youth & Children's Ministries*  
Rev. Erin Taylor, *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*              Pam Poulos, *Receptionist*  
Debbie Watson, *Organist*                              Glenda & Preston, *Custodians*

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**Sunday, November 8, 2015**

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN KICKOFF SUNDAY /  
VETERANS SUNDAY / BLESSING OF THE COATS

- 8:40—Worship ..... Chapel
- 9:30—Sunday School
- 9:30—Discovery Class Breakfast with Katie Hays ..... Fellowship Hall
- 9:45—Journey Through Scripture ..... Parlor
- 10:45—Worship ..... Sanctuary
- 3:00—Sort Coats ..... Sanctuary
- 3:45-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities

**Monday, November 9, 2015**

- 7:30-6:00—Children Come First (M-F)
- 9:00-12:00—Young Ages School (M-F)
- 10:15—FCC Staff Meeting ..... Office
- 10:30—CWF Board Meeting ..... Fellowship Hall
- 11:45—CWF Luncheon ..... Fellowship Hall
- 7:30—Boy Scouts Troop 15 ..... Gym

**Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

- 2:00—Library Committee ..... Library
- 7:00—Property Ministry Meeting ..... Room 402

**Wednesday, November 11, 2015**

VETERANS DAY

- 7:00—Elders' Breakfast ..... Room 402 & Chapel
- 11:00—Young Ages School Board Meeting ..... Parlor
- 5:00-5:30—Mid-Week Communion Service ..... Chapel
- 5:30-6:00—FEAST Fellowship Meal ..... Fellowship Hall
- 6:00-7:00—FEAST Small Groups:  
Young Disciples Group (Grades K-5) ..... Rooms 309 & 311  
360 (Grades 6-12) ..... Room 403C  
Adult Bible Study: "New Testament Writings" ..... Room 305
- 7:00-7:15—FEAST Communion & Prayer ..... Chapel
- 7:00—Chancel Choir (High School-Adults) ..... Stratten Hall
- 7:15-8:00—FEAST Open Gym ..... Gym

**Thursday, November 12, 2015**

- 1:30—Knit Wits ..... Parlor

**Friday, November 13, 2015**

- 3:30—Leave for CYF Retreat (Nov. 13-15).....Disciples Crossing-Athens TX

**Sunday, November 15, 2015**

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN / THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING

- 8:40—Worship ..... Chapel
- 9:30—Sunday School
- 9:45—Journey Through Scripture ..... Parlor
- 10:45—Worship ..... Sanctuary
- 3:00—Sort Coats ..... Room 306
- 3:45-7:00—Sunday Evening Activities
- 5:00—Evangelism Ministry Meeting ..... Room 222

*More Than We Deserve  
Greater Than We Imagine*

Stewardship Campaign  
for 2016



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

Wichita Falls, Texas

## **Psalm 107: 1-22; 34-37**

**All: O give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.**

*One: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble  
<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.*

Reader 1: Some wandered in desert wastes;  
finding no way to an inhabited town;  
<sup>5</sup> hungry and thirsty,  
their soul fainted within them.

<sup>6</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress;  
<sup>7</sup> he led them by a straight way,  
until they reached an inhabited town.

**All: Let us thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.**

Reader 1: For he satisfies the thirsty,  
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Reader 2: Some sat in darkness and in gloom,  
prisoners in misery and in irons,

<sup>11</sup> for they had rebelled against the words of God,  
and spurned the counsel of the Most High.

<sup>12</sup> Their hearts were bowed down with hard labor;  
they fell down, with no one to help.

<sup>13</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;

<sup>14</sup> he brought them out of darkness and gloom,  
and broke their bonds asunder.

**All: Let us thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.**

<sup>16</sup> For he shatters the doors of bronze,  
and cuts in two the bars of iron.

Reader 3: Some were sick<sup>[b]</sup> through their sinful ways,  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;

<sup>18</sup> they loathed any kind of food,  
and they drew near to the gates of death.

<sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;

<sup>20</sup> he sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from destruction.

*One: And the congregation says:*

**All: Let us thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.**

<sup>22</sup> And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

Reader 1: He turns rivers into a desert,  
springs of water into thirsty ground,

<sup>34</sup> a fruitful land into a salty waste,  
because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.

Readers 1 and 2: He turns a desert into pools of water,  
a parched land into springs of water.

Readers 1, 2, and 3: And there he lets the hungry live,  
and they establish a town to live in;

<sup>37</sup> they sow fields, and plant vineyards,  
and get a fruitful yield.

**All: Let us thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind. Amen.**