



AUTHENTIC DISCIPLESHIP
IN A
FRAGMENTED WORLD

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KINSHIP

February 11, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Gathering Time

Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Worship

If you are a visitor, have a prayer request or have a change of address, please note this on a Connect Card found in the pew pockets. Place it in the offering plate.

*Opening Hymn 72

To God Be the Glory

*Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading

Acts 8:26-40, Jorge Martinez, Kari Taylor

Ministry Highlight

Friends of World Mission Project of the Evangelical Covenant Church

*Songs

Love Justice

Light of the World (Lauren Daigle)

Prayer of the People

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Choral Offertory

Perfect Praise (How Excellent), Gospel Choir

Children in grades pre-k through 2nd grade are invited to continue worshipping in Children's Church. After the offertory, please meet the teachers in the back of the Sanctuary.

Message

Stop the Chariot

Pastor Paul Robinson, guest preacher

*Closing Hymn 282

O Holy Spirit, Breathe on Me

*Sending Words

Postlude

We all believe in one God (J.S. Bach)

**Stand if you are able*

Prayer Time for health and wholeness is offered in the Prayer Chapel following Worship.

If you temporarily leave the sanctuary during a worship service, please return to your seats using the rear sanctuary doors. This will minimize disruptions.

Thank you for understanding.

TODAY

Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church! *Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here! Please join us for a cup of coffee and a treat following Worship.*

The single rose this morning celebrates the arrival of Annika Grace Carlson. Annika was born February 3 to Erik and Kristin Carlson and joins big brother Soren. We are grateful to God for this new life!

This morning we welcome Pastor Paul Robinson as he joins us to preach in Worship and teach in the Adult Spiritual Growth Hour. Pastor Paul is a Leadership Coach and Covenant Pastor, currently serving as Pastor at Grace Outreach Covenant Church, a new church plant in Coon Rapids.

9:30am Worship

Nursery Care, (birth through age 3), *Rooms 105 & 106*

Children's Church, children pre-k through 2nd grade are dismissed with leaders during Worship and will return with leaders during the last song, *Room 104*.

Resource Table for children and youth: check out this table as you enter Worship for bulletins, crayons & Bibles for children, and Confirmation worship notes.

Immediately following Worship, new member affirmation: today FCC members will have the opportunity to stay in the Sanctuary following the Worship service and affirm those who desire to become members of this congregation. These individuals have completed our Discovery Class and have met with members of the Leadership Team. New members will then be officially welcomed into the life of FCC during Worship next Sunday, February 18.

10:30-11:00am Fellowship Time, Upper Fellowship Hall

11:00am-12:00pm

Nursery Care (birth through age 3), *Room 105*

Children's Sunday School, *(all start in Room 104 together)*

Please pick up your children at 12:00pm in the following rooms:

Pre-K - K, *Room 106*

Grades 3-4, *Room 104B*

Grades 1-2, *Room 104A*

Grades 5-6, *Room 201 (upstairs)*

Youth (grades 7-12 not in musical), please join the Adult Spiritual Growth Hour today
Adult Spiritual Growth Hour, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

Join us as Pastor Paul Robinson leads us in our time together, along with our Love Mercy Do Justice team, with an emphasis on Black History Month.

11:00am-2:00pm

Beauty and the Beast Musical Rehearsal (grades 7-12), *Lower Fellowship Hall*

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Welcome to our new Nursery Coordinator, Lora Murtha! Although her job here as our part-time Nursery Coordinator is new, Lora and her husband Matt are not new to First Covenant Church. The Murtha's have been members here since 2007, and have a son, William and a daughter, Gwendolyn, and live on the East Side of St. Paul.

CHIC Fundraising Update: Thank you for your generous support of our CHIC Cinnamon Roll Sale and Envelope Wall Fundraiser two weeks ago. Over \$1,500 was raised to help send 24 kids to CHIC in Tennessee this summer. Stay tuned for other ways you can be supporting this Christ-centered, transformational, and fun experience for our 9th-12th graders!

Jonathan House: We will be continuing to update you with specific needs for the residents of Jonathan House, a residence for three asylum seekers located in the parsonage on our church property. There are no specific requests this week, but a bin is in place by the Welcome Center if you wish to contribute some household items, especially as they are announced in future Sunday bulletins. For any who are interested in volunteering to work directly with the residents, you will need to complete volunteer training. The next training is scheduled for Saturday, March 10, location to be announced. The third Saturday of every month Jonathan House hosts a brunch at 10:00am for folks to attend. If you are interested in volunteering, attending a brunch, being updated on requests for donations or wishing information on the training, you may sign up at the Welcome Center on the Jonathan House sign-up sheet.

Stay connected: Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts of each week's message can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab. Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any Worship Service or Spiritual Growth Hour.

Weather Advisory Information: It's the season of ice, snow, and cold! In case Wednesday activities or Sunday Worship needs to be cancelled due to weather, alerts will be posted on the FCC website, the office voicemail, FCC Facebook, TV Channel 4, and TV Channel 9. Cancellations will be made by 3:00pm for Wednesday activities and by 6:00am for Sundays.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, FEBRUARY 23, 24, 25

Beauty and the Beast Informational Meeting, Wednesday, February 14, 7:30pm
Lower Fellowship Hall

All parents, guardians and students in the musical need to be at this meeting where important last minute details will be shared and questions can be answered.

Beauty and the Beast Inserts: Please use the insert in today's bulletin to invite someone to Beauty and the Beast, which will be held at Johnson High School on February 23, 24, 25. More inserts can be found at the Welcome Center. Remember that there will be no Worship at First Covenant Church on Sunday, February 25, due to the musical.

We need you! We still need many volunteers to help with parking, greeting, ushering, food and more. Please help by filling out a green volunteer form and placing it in the basket (both are found at the Welcome Center). Prayerfully consider your part in the success of this musical. The coordinators of each area will contact you with more details once you sign up.

LENT BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 14

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (not including Sundays). Lent is a time for reflection on Jesus Christ - his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial and resurrection.

Ash Wednesday Worship, February 14, 6:15-7:30pm, FCC Sanctuary

Plan now to attend this intergenerational and intercultural worship service with the imposition of ashes. Childcare is available for ages birth through kindergarten. Dinner is served from 5:45-6:15pm in Upper Fellowship Hall.

Easter Choir, Wednesdays during Lent, 7:30-8:30pm, Choir Room

We are excited to announce the second year of the Ethnic Mass Concert Series, which will be performed on Good Friday, March 30. Last year, "Gospel Mass" was performed, written by African American composer and educator, Robert Ray, in the style of Gospel music. This year we will be performing the "Misa Criolla", written by Ariel Ramirez, an Argentine composer who used the melodies and rhythms of traditional Hispanic music. It is not too late! All are welcome to join this choir. Questions? Contact Richard Voth, richard@first-covenant.org.

Adult Lent Discussion Groups, Sundays, February 18, March 4, 11, 18

Join us as we discuss Walter Brueggemann's "Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now" in small group discussions. Existing Life Groups which have met at church on Sundays will serve as discussion groups for our Lenten study. Those who are not a part of a Life Group that meets on Sunday can sign up to join a Lent Discussion at the Lent Resource Table. Questions? Contact Pastor Tom Cameron at tom@first-covenant.org.

Stop by the Lent Resource Table in Upper Fellowship Hall to pick up Lent devotionals, our new Lent Guidebook and other resources to use as we enter the season of Lent.

LOOKING AHEAD

First Covenant Church Adventurous Christians Winter Retreat, March 9-11,

Adventurous Christians Camp, Grand Marais, MN

All are welcome to join us in the beautiful, snowy north woods of MN at our Covenant-owned camp! This retreat can be as active or relaxing as you want with skiing, hiking, snowshoeing, sauna, eating, reading, fellowship and worship. There is a sign up sheet and more information at the Welcome Center. Questions? Contact Mandy Griffin, mjcline@gmail.com.

Sankofa Registration is open!

Sankofa Dates: May 17-20, 2018

Departs from Chicago and tours historic Civil Rights sites of the South

If you would like to learn more about our history surrounding the Civil Rights movement, do not delay! This popular and high-impact bus tour is a one-of-a-kind experience that will help you gain new insights. The Love Mercy Do Justice team at FCC would love to help you with a scholarship, find a partner, or answer any questions you may have. Please contact Susan Carlson, 651-247-8082. For more information or to register: covchurch.org/justice/racial-righteousness/Sankofa.