*FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH*
*(Disciples of Christ)*
*Niles, OH 44446*
*www.firstchristianniles.org*
*Rev. Christopher Stark, Minister*

**10:45 A.M.** **WORSHIP SERVICE** **APRIL 28, 2024**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

As we gather in this place, let us open our hearts to the presence of the Risen Christ.
**We are impatient people until we find our rest in Christ.**
Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we may walk in doubt and confusion.
**Yet, you walk with us, Lord, even when we do not recognize you.**
Open our eyes, O God, to see you in the breaking of the bread.
**Speak to us, Lord, and set our hearts on fire with your word.**
Let us worship the God who journeys with us, even in our moments of doubt.
**May our worship be pleasing to you, O Lord, our companion on the road of life. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN 'Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us' CH 231

Sing of one who walks beside us
and this day is living still,
one who now is closer to us
than the thoughts our hearts distill,
Christ who once upon a hilltop,
raised against the power of sin,
died in love as his own creatures
crucified their God and Friend!
We have walked with him as strangers
through the journey of the day,
and have told him of the violence
that has swept our hope away.
He has offered words of comfort,
words of energy and light.
Did our hearts not blaze within us
as he broke the bread this night?
Risen one, stay with us, raise us,
once again the night is near.
Dine with us and share your wisdom,
free our hearts from ev'ry fear.
In the calm of each new evening,
in the freshness of each dawn,
if you hold us fast in friendship
we will never be alone.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

SILENT PRAYER
MORNING PRAYER
LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Luke 24: 13-35 NT p. 90

**(Grades Kindergarten through Grade 4 to go to Junior Worship. Please gather at the back of the sanctuary.)**

HOMILY '**IN THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD'**

AT THE TABLE

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BLESSING OVER BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION BY INTINCTION

DOXOLOGY 'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow' CH 46

PRAYERS OVER TITHES AND OFFERINGS

CLOSING HYMN 'May You Run and Not Be Weary' CP 181

May you run and not be weary.
May your heart be filled with song.
And may the love of God continue
to give you hope and keep you strong.
And may you run and not be weary.
May your life be filled with joy.
And may the road you travel always lead you home.

(Hymn used by permission CCLI License # 2841151)

BENEDICTION

May the God of Emmaus, who walks beside you on the road of life, open your eyes to recognize the Risen Christ in the breaking of bread and the sharing of stories.

May the Spirit of revelation burn within you, igniting your hearts with faith, even in moments of doubt and confusion.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. Amen. Sources: Pastor Chris

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**GOING FORWARD FOR COMMUNION**. Pastor Chris will place a piece of bread into your cupped hands, then you will take a cup from the communion tray. If you prefer to receive your communion packaged, those too will be available when you go forward. If you are unable to come forward a deacon will bring communion to you.

WE WELCOME pianist Clay Colley to this morning's worship service.

A POTLUCK LUNCH/TRIVIA JEOPARDY will be held today following worship, hosted by our elders.

**CAMP CHRISTIAN SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATIONS/FAMILY PORTION FEES** due **TODAY** to the church office. Make checks payable to First Christian Church. Registration forms are posted on the bulletin board by the main office. If applicant has fulfilled the attendance requirement adopted by the First Christian Church board, **family portion registration fee is $240**.

GIVING STATEMENTS are available in the narthex. Pick yours up today.

FCC VOLUNTEERS will serve a dinner this Tuesday, April 30, from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley coordinated by Becky Carpenter. Anyone donating desserts needs to have them here to the church **by 11 a.m. Tuesday morning.**

**VBS FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON** will be held following worship next Sunday, May 5. Join us for a hot potato/salad bar luncheon to raise funds for this year's VBS. VBS work nights will be held Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. in June and July.

BIBLE STUDY this Tuesday, April 30, 12:30 p.m.

DEACONS 'COINS FOR CAMP CHRISTIAN.' Cabins are available in the narthex. Money collected will go into the Camp Christian Scholarship Fund towards tuition for First Christian students eligible for summer camp.

COMMUNITY MEALS WILL BE SERVED BY FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH DURING MAY. Meals will be served from 4:45 to 6 p.m. beginning Thursday, May 2 and continue on the Thursdays of May 9, 16, 23 and 30. Monetary donations are being accepted for these meals. If you wish to contribute, please make checks payable to First Christian Church labeled 'meals.'

PRAYER REQUESTS – Contact Pastor Chris at 330.442.2558 so that our praises and prayer concerns might be held in prayer throughout the week.

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## * CALENDAR *

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| Sun. | 9:30 a.m. | Church School |
| | 10:45 a.m. | Worship Service |
| | 12 p.m. | Potluck/Trivia Jeopardy |
| Mon. | 6 p.m. | Scouts |
| Tues. | 12:30 p.m. | Bible Study |
| | 4:30-7 p.m. | Youngstown Rescue Mission dinner served |
| Wed. | 6 p.m. | VBS Work Night |
| Thurs. | 4:45-6 p.m. | Community Meals |