First Christian Church of Freedom

THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE / ESTABLISHED IN 1858



Combining
Traditional & Contemporary Worship

Knute Ogren, Pastor
Guest Preacher, Ann Cady

November 29, 2026

Introit

Arise, Shine

By Ruth Cunningham[1]

Welcome to First Christian

Confession of Sins

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
whose word endures forever.

Amen.

A voice cries out in the wilderness,
"Make straight the way of the Lord!"
We are called to confess our sin
and turn back toward God's love.

Comforting God,
we are your people,
but we have neglected to call on your name.
We are your people,
but we have not remembered your ways.
We are your people,
but we have forgotten your hold on us.
We are your people,
but now we fade like a leaf,
and our sins, like the wind, take us away.
Restore us as your people.

Cleanse us from our sin,
and clothe us in your righteousness.

Amen.

"Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God,
who has clothed you with the garments of salvation
and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness.
God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven:
Rejoice in the Lord!
Rejoice in the Lord!

Amen. [Thanks be to God!]

Candle Lighting Insert

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray: Gracious God,
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.

***Gloria Patri**

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

Announcements

***Hymn:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #119

Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

Read by Jennifer Bingham-Maas

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;

we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Read by Nadine Chapman

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Special Music: My Lord, What a Morning[2]

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in

charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Wondering

Sermon

***Hymn:** Come, O Long-Expected Jesus #125

Prayers of the People

L: Lord in your mercy
C: hear our prayer

Offering

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

***Hymn:** People Look East[3] #142

Benediction *Traditional Irish Blessing*[4]

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
May the rains fall softly on your fields, and until we meet again,
May you keep safe in the gentle, loving arms of God.

Postlude

*Please stand, as you are able.

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Visitors

We welcome your presence with us for worship this morning. Please sign the guestbook at the back of the church, and join us for coffee after the service in the Davidson Room.

Pastoral Visits

Should you want a pastoral visit or communion, please speak to Pastor Knute or one of the deacons. Also, if you notice that someone hasn't been in church for several weeks, please mention it to a deacon or the Pastor.

Deacons

Judy Blake, Ellie Bossdorf, Carol McIntire, Jim Osborne, Dianne Park, Marty Perreault, David Wilcox and Libby Wilcox, Martha Blaser, Eve Klotz and Bev Perry

Today in Church

Head Usher: Mark McKinley
Coffee Hour: Jennifer Bingham-Maas and Family

The altar flowers are given by Marsha Trook, in thanks for all God's Blessings.

Prayer List

Family of Kathy Avery
Calla Battenfelder
Ellie Bossdorf
Nancy Bossi
John Bourque
Family of Sandy Boyle
Susan Brown
Cecilia Costa
Family of Bill Elliott
Nancy Essex
Anna Hlushuk
Susan Jancetic
Robin Jensen
Grace Kull
Family of Melissa Maas
Bob McKenny
Tammy Merrill
David Meserve
Matthew Meserve
John Moceri
Kelley O'Connell
Gale Morris
Chuck Morrison
Wendell Packard
Marc Perreault
Bob Phinney
Willa Plunges
Henry Rodriguez
Nancy Sarden
Alan Scales
Family of Bob Smart
Dan Spear
Ellie Stokes
Andrew Szabo
Meg Taylor
Jim Tracey
Robin Tyner
Barbara Veglia
Renee and Ray Wheaton
Libby Wilcox
Marjorie Works
My Grandchild

Our country's military personnel and their families, first responders and all those who serve the public good.

To ensure your prayer request is added to the list, please write down the information and place it in the offering plate or on the administrative assistant's desk. Also, please let us know if you wish to have a name removed from the list.

Church Contact Information

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Visit freedomchurch.org to read today's Bulletin online.

Coming up:

Budget Forum — Today at 11:15 AM
Annual Meeting — DEC 6 at 11:15 AM
Jolly Holly Day in Freedom Village — DEC 12 all day