



December 17, 2023

9:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



11 W. Pine St.
Butler, MO 64730
660.679.3066

Email: admin@fccbutler.org
Website: fccbutler.org
Facebook: [@FCCButlerMO](https://www.facebook.com/FCCButlerMO)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Joys and Concerns

Sharla Hulsey

In order to respect privacy, joys and concerns will be discussed before the public livestream. Please fill out a prayer request form and place in the offering tray during communion.

Welcome and Announcements

John Daniel, Elder

If you are joining Sunday worship via Facebook Live, let us know you are tuning in by leaving a comment on the live stream video or visit fccbutler.org and click the Register Attendance button.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Mary Coffman, Accompanist

Bringing the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary

*Call to worship (please rise as able)

John Daniel & Congregation

L: Let us rejoice in God, our Sovereign,
whose salvation comes in everyday events.

**P: In the face of a child God is revealed.
In the babe of Bethlehem we are healed.**

L: Let us give thanks with our whole hearts,
for God is gracious and merciful.

**P: In the food we eat God's love is shown.
As the bread is broken our worth is known.**

L: Let us worship the God of wondrous works,
who offers to enter into covenant with us.

**P: In the gift of Christ we receive a new name.
Salvation comes and nothing is the same.**

*Opening Hymn

CH #155 (All)

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

*Invocation

John Daniel & Congregation

Your steadfast love to us is our joy, righteous God.

**We gather to rejoice in your salvation,
to sing praises to you for all your healing gifts to us.**

You have called us to faith

and have given us strength to live out that faith.

You have joined us together in the life of Christ.

Hear our prayers and our praise in Christ's name. Amen.

* Please rise as able

Advent Candle Lighting

"Joy"

Chuck Lewis

"Voices of Advent – The Man Who Slipped Through the Roof"

"One Candle Is Lit"

CH #128 (v. 3)

Prayer Hymn

CH #163 (1,2)

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer - "The Lord's Prayer"

Sharla Hulsey

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Responsive Reading

John Daniel & Congregation

Isaiah 12:2-6 (NRSV)

L: Surely God is my salvation,

**P: I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.**

L: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
And you will say in that day:

**P: Give thanks to the LORD,
call on his Name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his Name is exalted.**

L: Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.

**P: Shout aloud and sing for joy,
O inhabitants of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Special Music

Adult Choir

"Glory! Glory to the Newborn King!"

Scripture

Jennifer Schmehl

Mark 2:1-12

Message

Sharla Hulsey

"You'll never walk again."

<u>Invitation to Discipleship</u>	Sharla Hulsey
* <u>Invitation Hymn</u>	CH #164 (All)
“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”	
<u>Musical Interlude</u>	Mary Coffman
<u>Offering Meditation</u>	Diana Rich
<u>Tithes & Offerings</u>	Diaconate
<i>Offering trays will be passed in the pews.</i>	
* <u>Doxology</u>	CH #47
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.	
* <u>Prayer of Dedication</u>	John Daniel
<u>Call to Communion</u>	Sharla Hulsey
<u>Communion Hymn</u>	CH #170 (All)
“How Great Our Joy!”	
<u>Words of Institution</u>	Sharla Hulsey
<u>Communion Prayer</u>	John Daniel
<u>Distribution of the Elements</u>	Diaconate
<i>Everyone is welcome at Christ’s Table. Those who are comfortable doing so, please come forward down the center aisle to partake at the table. Deacons will serve those who remain seated.</i>	
<u>WE DEPART TO SERVE</u>	
* <u>Benediction</u>	Sharla Hulsey
<i>Taking the Light of Christ into the World</i>	
* <u>Closing Hymn</u>	CH #143 (1,3)
“Joy to the World”	

* Please rise as able

<u>SERVING TODAY</u>	
Pastor: Sharla Hulsey	Greeter: Carol Roberts
Elder: John Daniel	Scripture Reader: Jennifer Schmehl
Deacons: Lyssa Lile, Sally Bremer	Choir Director: Carol Ann Winburn
	Accompanist: Mary Coffman

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>	
• <u>OUTREACH MISSION</u>	This December, we will be supporting Coats for Kids in Bates County. You can participate in the project by making a monetary contribution payable to Coats for Kids.
• <u>KETCH-UP CAMPAIGN</u>	The Stewardship Committee is starting a “ketch-up” campaign to help replenish FCC reserve funds.
• <u>BOARD MEETING</u>	- TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP
• <u>COMMUNITY CAFÉ</u>	- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 AT 5:30 PM
• <u>CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE</u>	- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 AT 6:30PM
• <u>OFFICE CLOSED/CHRISTMAS DAY</u>	- MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
• <u>NEW YEAR’S EVE BREAKFAST</u>	- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 AT 8:30 AM

<u>THIS WEEK’S EVENTS</u>		
Sunday, Dec. 17:	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship Board Meeting
Tuesday, Dec. 19:	5:30 p.m.	Community Café
Wednesday, Dec. 20:	6 p.m. 7p.m.	Youth Group Choir Practice
Friday, Dec. 22:	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	SonShine Ladies
<u>NEXT WEEK’S EVENTS</u>		
Sunday, Dec. 24: (Christmas Eve)	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Worship Life Group Candlelight Service
Monday, Dec. 25:	Office Closed	
Wednesday, Dec. 27:	7p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday, Dec. 29:	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	SonShine Ladies

ABIDE WITH US



CHRISTMAS OFFERING

A Special Day Offering of Disciples Mission Fund
supporting the ministries of our Regional church



Abide With Us

when we gather to
discover friendship and faith
in summer camps

Abide With Us

when we welcome a new pastor
to our congregation

Abide With Us

when we nurture one who feels called to serve you in ministry

Abide With Us

when we seek to break down barriers of race, gender,
and sexual identity

Abide With Us

when we hold one another accountable and ethical

Abide With Us

when we engage in mission together

Abide With Us

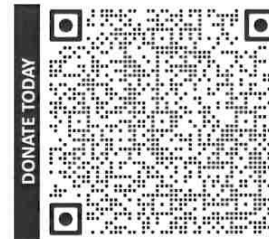
when we gather for assemblies and celebrations

"Oh, come to us, abide with us, our lord Emmanuel."

Your Christmas offering equips our Regional church to provide an abiding presence in summer camp settings, congregational life, and leadership gatherings. Your gift enables our shared ministry to give support to Elders, Sunday School teachers, youth group sponsors, worship leaders, seminarians, and pastors. With your gift, connections are made between congregations and among Disciples across our Regional geography and around the world.



You are invited to make a gift to
equip the Mid-America
Region's presence with your
congregation.



Christmas Offering

2023 Special Day Offering of Disciples Mission Fund supporting the ministries of our
Mid-America Regional church

