



**December 31, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**



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Butler, MO 64730  
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## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, December 31, 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

Diana Rich, 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](http://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)

Diana Rich & Congregation

L: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**P: Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name,  
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

L: The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

**P: May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!**

### \*Opening Hymn

CH #149 (All)

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

### \*Invocation

Diana Rich & Congregation

**As on a first day you began the work of creating us;  
as on a first day you raised your Son from the dead;  
so on this first day, good Lord, freshen and remake us:  
and as the week is new, let our lives begin again  
because of Jesus who shows us your loving power. Amen.**

### Prayer Hymn

CH #160 (1,2)

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

### Silent Meditation

**\* Please rise as able**

### 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

Diana Rich & Congregation

Psalm 25:1-10 (*United Methodist Hymnal*)

L: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**P: O my God, in you I trust,  
let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies exult over me.**

L: Let none that wait for you be put to shame;

**P: let them be ashamed who are clothed with treachery.**

L: Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

**P: teach me your paths.**

L: Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

**P: for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all the day long.**

L: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.

**P: Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions;  
according to your steadfast love remember me,  
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

L: Tood and upright is the LORD;  
therefore the LORD instructs sinners in the way,  
and leads the humble in what is right,  
and teaches them their way.

**P: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep the LORD's covenant and testimonies.**

### Special Music

Adult Choir

“What Child Is This?”

### Scripture

Chuck Lewis

*Mark 1:1-15*

### Message

Sharla Hulsey

“The beginning of the Good News”

### Invitation to Discipleship

Sharla Hulsey

\*Invitation Hymn

CH #169 (1,2)

“O, Thou Joyful”

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Offering Meditation

Don Malan

Tithes & Offerings

Diaconate

*Offering trays will be passed in the pews.*

\*Doxology

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.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

Diana Rich

Call to Communion

Sharla Hulsey

Communion Hymn

CH #330 (All)

“Alleluia! Hear God’s Story”

Words of Institution

Sharla Hulsey

Communion Prayer

Distribution of the Elements

Diaconate

*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.*

**WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\*Benediction

Sharla Hulsey

*Taking the Light of Christ into the World*

\*Closing Hymn

CH #164 (2)

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! ”

\* Please rise as able

**SERVING TODAY**

**Pastor:** Sharla Hulsey

**Greeter:** Carol Lewis

**Elder:** Diana Rich

**Scripture Reader:** Chuck Lewis

**Deacons:** Jennifer Schmehl,

**Choir Director:** Carol Ann Winburn

Carol Hedrick

**Accompanist:** Mary Coffman

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

• **OUTREACH MISSION**

This January, we will be supporting the Community Food Pantry. The donation focus is paper products, like Kleenex, paper towels, and toilet paper. Bring donations to the church throughout this month. Thank you!

• **KETCH-UP CAMPAIGN**

The Stewardship Committee is starting a “ketch-up” campaign to help replenish FCC reserve funds.

• **OFFICE CLOSED ON NEW YEAR’S DAY**

• **DISCIPLES WOMEN** - TUESDAY, JANUARY 2 AT 6:30 PM

• **ELDERS FELLOWSHIP SUPPER** - FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 AT 6:30 PM

Fellowship supper for Elders and their significant others at John and Judy Daniel’s house.

**THIS WEEK’S EVENTS**

Sunday, Dec. 31:  
(New Year’s Eve)

8:30 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

**Fellowship Breakfast**  
Worship  
Life Group

Monday, Jan. 1:

**Office Closed**

Tuesday, Jan. 2:

6:30 p.m.

**Disciples Women**

Wednesday, Jan. 3:

7 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, Jan. 5:

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
6:30 p.m.

Son Shine Ladies  
**Elders Fellowship**

**NEXT WEEK’S EVENTS**

Sunday, Jan. 7:

9:30 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

Worship  
Life Group

Wednesday, Jan. 10:

6 p.m.  
7 p.m.

Youth Group  
Choir Practice

Friday, Jan. 12:

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Son Shine Ladies