



**First Christian Church of Decatur**  
**(Disciples of Christ)**  
601 W. Ponce de Leon Avenue, Decatur, Georgia 30030  
404-378-3621  
DecaturDisciples.org  
[fccdecatur@gmail.com](mailto:fccdecatur@gmail.com)

*Resolve to Love 🌐 Agree to Differ 🌐 Unite to Serve 🌐 Break Bread Together*

**Sunday, October 13, 2024**  
**Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**

Things falling apart is a kind of testing  
and also a kind of healing.  
We think the point is to pass the test  
or to overcome the problem,  
but the truth is that things don't really get solved.  
They come together and they fall apart.  
Then they come together again and fall apart again.  
It's just like that.  
The healing comes from letting there be  
room for all of this to happen:  
room for grief, for relief,  
for misery, for joy.

*- Pema Chodron*

## We Gather to Connect with God and One Another

Theme	Rev. Phil Foster
Prelude	Adam Cole
Welcome, Announcements	Rev. Daniel Brower
† Opening Hymn	<i>“Come Down, O Love Divine”</i> <b>582</b>

*1. Come down, O Love divine,  
seek out this soul of mine,  
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.*

*2. O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let your glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round,  
the while my path illuming.*

*3. And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
for none can guess its grace,  
till love creates the place  
where the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.*

† Call to Worship ( <i>Psalm 18, adapted</i> )	Rev. Phil Foster
--	------------------

One: The Eternal is my rock;  
**Many: my fortress, and my salvation.**  
One: In my time of need, I called to the Eternal;  
**Many: I begged the true God for help.**  
One: God reached down God's hand from above me;  
**Many: God rescued me from my strongest enemy,**  
One: God set me down in a safe place;  
**Many: God saved me and took joy in me.**  
One: Who is the true God except the Eternal?

**Many: Who stands like a rock except our God?**

† Unison Prayer of Invocation

Rev. Phil Foster

**Through dreams and visions, O God, you broaden the horizon and hope of your people, that they may discover the meaning of your covenant, even in the midst of trial and exile. Increase the number of those who believe in your word so that all people may joyfully respond to your call and share in your promises. Amen.**

† Song of Praise

*"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"*

49

*From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, in every tongue.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## **We Receive and Respond to the Word**

Holy Scriptures

**Genesis 25:19-26**

Rev. Phil Foster

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,  
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;  
the one shall be stronger than the other;  
the elder shall serve the younger."

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

**One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
Many: Thanks be to God.**

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Daniel Brower

Anthem

Adam Cole

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Brower

Communion Hymn

*“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”*

**622**

*1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand;  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more;  
feed me till I want no more.*

*2. Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing waters flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through;  
strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.*

*3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
bear me through the swelling current;  
land me safe on Canaan's side;  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee;  
I will ever give to thee.*

Invitation to Faithful Stewardship & Holy Communion

Rev. Phil Foster

Prayers for the Bread and Cup

Rev. Daniel Brower

*(Christ invites you to partake of Holy Communion. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us. After the Words of Institution are proclaimed, you are invited to partake of the Bread and the Cup.)*

Words of Institution

Rev. Daniel Brower

*(Christ invites you to partake of the Lord's Supper. shared together as a love feast for all. Today we observe the Eucharist in the spirit of the early church by sharing a meal together as the one body of Christ. We welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has*

welcomed us.)

## Words of Institution

One: For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks broke it, and said,

**Many: “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

(In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,

**Many: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”**

One: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you remember the Lord until He comes.

Unison Prayer of Commission

Rev. Phil Foster

**God our help: We thank you for this supper, shared in the spirit with your son Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts in Him and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you have served us. Amen.**

## We Are Led Out by the Spirit

† Closing Hymn

*“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”*

557

*1. I am weak, but, thou art strong;  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk,  
let me walk close to thee.*

*Refrain:  
Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
daily walking close to thee:  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

*2. Through this world of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. [Refrain]*

*3. When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;*

*guide me gently, safely o'er  
to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. [Refrain]*

Postlude

Adam Cole

Benediction

Rev. Daniel Brower

† *You are invited to stand.*

### **Bring Friends and Enthusiasm!**

**Sundays** – Rev. Stan Saunders Sunday School on hiatus for the month of September

**Now thru Oct 31** – 50% Off All Halloween Inventory at Chalice Thrift

**Sun, Oct 13** – Transition Team meeting after Worship

**Mon, Oct 14** – Stewardship Ministry Meeting, via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89023712454>, 7:00 pm

**Wed, Oct 16** – Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Sun, Oct 27** – Amy Wilson Fall Recital, Sanctuary, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Sat, Nov 9** – The Atlanta Concert Ringers “Shall We Dance?” Tour, Living Grace Lutheran Church, 4:00 pm (admission is free!)

### **Welcome Statement**

*All In*



*First Christian Church of Decatur (Disciples of Christ) is an open and affirming congregation.*

*We welcome everyone into full participation in the life and membership of the church.*

*Inspired and informed by God’s love, mercy, and justice, we are purposefully involved in the healing and helping of our community and our world. We covenant with God and the greater community to nurture a spirit of love and service to neighbors, honor one another’s differences, and fellowship in the breaking of the bread.*

*Actively striving to honor each other’s race, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, physical or mental ability, family configuration, political affiliation, economic circumstance, or theological perspective, we truly welcome all.*

## Online Giving



First Christian Church of Decatur is a spiritual community that transcends physical distance. In this unprecedented time, online giving is a positive way that this growing faith community can be supported.

As we often say in worship at the Invitation to Faithful Stewardship, “Those in need, please take; those with abundance, please give.” If and when you find yourself in need, please let us know so we might be of assistance. You matter to your Church, which is the Body of Christ. The missions of our church are imperative to nurture a hurt and hurting world.

For those who would like to give out of gratitude for all the Lord is doing in our lives, please click the following link: <https://www.osvhub.com/decaturdisciples/giving/funds>

***Thank you for your support and prayers.***

### **Ministers: All the People**

#### **Your Church Staff:**

Rev. Daniel C. Brower, *Interim Pastor*  
Russell Broomfield-Ranney, *Church Bookkeeper*  
Adam Cole, *Organist*  
Tanya DePree, *Church Administrator*  
William E. Garner, *Director of Music*  
Kedric Kelly, *Facility Manager*

Church Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 3 pm