



**First Christian Church of Decatur  
(Disciples of Christ)**

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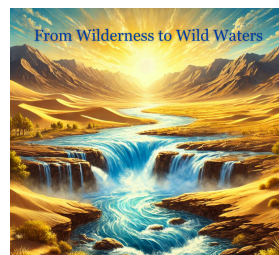
*Resolve to Love* 🌐 *Agree to Differ* 🌐 *Unite to Serve* 🌐 *Break Bread Together*

**Sunday, March 30, 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Worship Theme:

Grant us a vision, Lord,  
To see what we can achieve  
To reach out beyond ourselves  
To share our lives with others  
To stretch our capabilities  
To increase our sense of purpose  
To be aware of where we can help  
To be sensitive to your Presence  
To give heed to your constant call.

*- David Adam*



## We Gather to Connect with God and One Another

Theme Minnie Haynes

Prelude Kathy Westbrook

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Daniel Brower

Passing the Peace

† Opening Hymn “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” 5

† Call to Worship Alex Parvin

One: We gather today to sing praises and to worship God with all our hearts.

**Many: For God is the source of our life and from God's hands we receive an abundance of good things.**

One: We give thanks for all of God's blessings, which we sometimes take for granted rather than with gratitude.

**Many: We are thankful for the fellowship of this church and the call to be disciples of Jesus Christ.**

**All: Thanks be to God!**

† Unison Prayer of Invocation (*by Thomas Pilgrim*) Alex Parvin

**Holy God, we pray that we would be people who would receive new sight and new insight. May we take from here a new resolve to seek your will and way. May we take away from here a fresh vision, some renewed hope, more faith, a deeper kind of love. We offer this our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.**

† Song of Praise “I Want Jesus to Walk With Me” 627

*I want Jesus to walk with me  
I want Jesus to walk with me  
All along life's pilgrim journey  
I want Jesus to walk with me.*

## We Receive and Respond to The Word

Holy Scriptures

**Luke 18:35-43**

Alex Parvin

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him, and when he came near, he asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God, and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

One: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Daniel Brower

Anthem

*“Pastorale”*

Handbell Choir

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Brower

Communion Hymn

*“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”*

**90**

Invitation to Faithful Stewardship  
& Holy Communion

Rev. Daniel Brower

Prayers for the Bread and Cup

Minnie Haynes

*(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.)*

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

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

One: 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

Minnie Haynes

**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     *“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”*

**204**

Postlude

Kathy Westbrook

Benediction

Rev. Daniel Brower

† *You are invited to stand.*

## Bring Friends and Enthusiasm!

- Sundays** Rev. Stan Saunders Sunday School, Pathfinders, *9:15 am*
- Sun, Mar 30** Chalice Thrift Seasonal Changeover, *following Worship Service*
- Sun, Apr 13** Break Bread Together: Palms & Priorities, Fellowship Hall, *following Worship Service*
- Wed, Apr 16** Chancel Choir Practice, *7:00 pm*
- Thu, Apr 17** Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall, *10:00 am - 3:00 pm*
- Thu, Apr 17** Maundy Thursday Service, *7:00 pm*
- Fri, Apr 18** Good Friday Service on the lawn, *7:00 pm*
- Sun, Apr 20** Easter Sunday Worship!
- Sat, May 3** Walk & Roll 2025, Oakhurst Square, *10:00 am - 12:00 pm*

## Welcome Statement



*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 Minister*

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, 9 am to 3 pm