

**SUNDAY OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP, LEARN & FELLOWSHIP**

8:30 am                      Worship in the Chapel  
 9:30 am                      Sunday School Classes  
    *Adults:*  
    Inquirers (in person and ZOOM) (1<sup>st</sup> floor)  
    Challengers (in person) (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)  
    *Children:*  
    2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)  
 10:30 am                      Fellowship Time (coffee & donuts)  
 11:00 am                      Worship in the Sanctuary



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**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Tuesday, September 19**

9:00 am                      Workday (Tuesday Guys)  
 10:30 am                      Bible Discussion  
 4:00 pm                      Sojourners Adult Ed. Class (ZOOM)

**Wednesday, September 20**

1:00 pm                      Bell Choir Rehearsal  
 3:15 pm                      Wildcat Wednesday!  
 4:45 pm                      Beginner Bells  
 6:30 pm                      Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Monday - Thursday**

4:45 pm                      Friendship Feast

**Monday - Sunday**

7:00 pm                      Narcotics Anonymous  
 (Saturdays @ noon and 7)

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

September 18                      Neva Balduff  
 September 21                      Diann Benson  
 September 21                      Charles Ziegenhain  
 September 22                      Bob Erner

**UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES**

September 20                      Linda & Glenn Willison

**SERVING TODAY**

Elder:                                      Ron Kreger  
 Tech Team:                                Karen Adams  
    William Adams

Deacons

Bob Erner  
 Bobby Wilson  
 Pat Hicks

Tellers

Becky Abel  
 Frances Coonrod  
 Patti Ziegenhain

**SERVING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

Elder:                                      Nancy Stevenson  
 Tech Team:                                Karen Adams

Deacons:

Ruth Brace  
 Jeri Waller  
 Christy Thompson

Tellers:

Jerry Brace  
 Jerry Helems  
 Ted Impson

Parents, you are welcome to use the 2nd floor classrooms if your children need to take a break from worship. Changing tables are available in the bathrooms outside the classrooms. Activity bags are located in the basket by the post in the center aisle.



**First Christian Church**



(Disciples of Christ)

September 17, 2023

11:00 am

*A warm welcome is extended to all,  
 especially those who are worshipping here for the first time  
 or who have returned after an absence.  
 Your presence enriches us and this time of worship.*

REVEREND STEPHEN JOHNSON, SENIOR PASTOR  
 AMY BOATMAN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

580.762.1667 [connect@fccponcacity.com](mailto:connect@fccponcacity.com)  
[www.fccponcacity.com](http://www.fccponcacity.com)

## **WE GATHER AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Prelude	Amy Boatman
Welcome and Announcements	Pastor Stephen
* Call to Worship	Ron Kreger, Elder

L: In the presence of God, nothing about us is concealed.  
God knows us better than we know ourselves.

**P: Like the air that surrounds us, we do not always perceive what we understand to be true, God is always present..**

L: When we worship, we are reminded  
that we are indeed in the presence of the divine.

**P: Let us seek to know God more fully during this time.  
Let us acknowledge that in God we are fully known.**

* Invocation	Ron Kreger
* Opening Hymn	“God of Grace and God of Glory” Number 464 (1,3,5)

## **HEARING AND PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD**

Chancel Choir	“I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”	Rowley/Peterson
Psalter Reading	Psalms 103:8-13	Ron Kreger
Hymn	“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”	Number 73
Scripture	Matthew 18:21-35	Pastor Stephen
Sermon	“How often should I forgive?”	Pastor Stephen

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

Invitation to Discipleship and Reflection	Pastor Stephen
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*If you would like to make a public confession of Christian faith or express interest in being baptized, you are invited to come forward at this time. Pastor Stephen is happy to schedule a time to meet with you if you would like to talk about this or about becoming a member of First Christian Church of Ponca City.*

Prayers for God’s Creation	Pastor Stephen
Invitation to Christ’s Table	Pastor Stephen
Hymn of Preparation	“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” Number 589

\* All who are able, please stand.

Offering Invitation	Ron Kreger
Offertory	Amy Boatman
* Doxology	Number 46

**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. Amen**

* Prayer for the Offering and Communion Elements	Ron Kreger
Words of Institution	Pastor Stephen
Congregation Response:	

**By eating this bread and drinking this cup,  
we proclaim Christ’s death,  
celebrate Christ’s resurrection,  
and await Christ’s coming again.**

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 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.**

Partaking of the Elements	Pastor Stephen
Prayer of Thanksgiving	Ron Kreger

## **GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

* Closing Hymn	“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”	Number 16 (1,3)
* Benediction		Pastor Stephen

Live with integrity.  
Live with humility.  
Live with grace.

Postlude	Amy Boatman, Accompanist
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*The flowers are from Toni Kreger for her sisters, Patty and Becky.*