

Ponca City Christian

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Seeking, Serving, Sharing
April 3, 2022



Images of Lent

As we approach the celebration of Easter, we must first pass through the days of reflection during the season of Lent. This series of images bring the story of the final days of Jesus to the forefront of our meditations as we ponder the intersection of the ministry of Christ and our own experiences.

Luke 23:20-21 - Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!"

Though there is much excitement of the approaching celebration of Easter, before that comes recognition of the crucifixion. That recognition brings us to a moment of uneasy reflection. What motivated the crowd to call for the execution of Jesus? Why was something that seems so wrong to us able to happen so easily?

Though we hold Jesus as unique, it is apparent that he was not unique in suffering a horrific death. Even that day, two other souls were tortured to death alongside Jesus. And we know that in the two thousand plus years since, countless other horrific executions have occurred. We are forced to acknowledge the lack of justice and the abundance of oppression in our world. How do people continue to call for the execution of their sisters and brothers? How do acts that seem so wrong to us continue to happen so easily?

These are not questions that we take joy in. There is a stereotype of Christianity being all happiness and celebration. But you don't have to read very much of the Bible to find that there is a great deal of conflict and struggle for wholeness in our story. But there is also a promise of achieving that wholeness through Christ. We have hope in a world in which acts that seem so wrong to us do not happen so easily. A world in which people do not call out for the execution of others, but instead regard each other as people of deep worth.

While our world has not yet achieved the vision of the peaceable realm of Christ, we are moving in that direction. I know it seems like we are at a time in history when everything is coming apart. But there are so many more people working for justice now than ever before. The pain and suffering of so many have been brought to the light of day, so that we might work towards reconciliation and healing. Resurrection is occurring in many forms around the world. Yes, we still struggle, but we also have abundant reasons to celebrate.

-Pastor Stephen



Why I love this church...

"The Fellowship. The Friendship. The Good People. The Family Atmosphere. The things that we do for each other. Everybody seems to care

about everybody. We're not just FCC Ponca City; we take care of the community. I was born a Disciple. Our family has always been Disciples."

-Bobby Jorgenson



HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday April 14, 2022
6:00 PM Light Meal and Worship
Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunday April 17, 2022
8:30 AM Lakeside Worship
Lake Ponca Shelter House 5
(Near the walking path / docks)
9:30 - 11:00 AM Doughnuts / Coffee
Fellowship Hall
10:00 AM Flowering of the Cross
5th and Cleveland Outside Steps
10:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt
West Lawn
11:00 AM Worship
Sanctuary

Fellowship time returns beginning Easter Sunday. Join us in the fellowship hall before the 11:00 AM worship time for doughnuts and a cup of coffee.





Come, Christians, Join to Sing — Seize the Opportunity

Beloved,

It has often been said, "We can't have a Choir without...the Choir." The same could be said for any group in our Church. You are important. You are valued. You are needed! We are better together! I have heard several names of folks whom "used to be in Choir" but have yet to attend a Rehearsal since we came to FCC almost a year ago now. Let me encourage you. Please, come and see the fun and fellowship you are missing! Consider making the commitment to be a part of this special group! Seize the Opportunity! We are meeting at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays in the Choir Room. We have a place for you! Your chair and music are set...The only thing missing is you! If you feel like you need some help finding your notes, etc meet me in the Choir Room at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays, and I will gladly work with you individually...Sarah, Drew, and I are humbled and blessed to be a part of the FCC Family of Faith! Thank you for accepting us with open arms! I look forward with anticipation of seeing a full FCC Choir Loft again soon!

Peace and Joy, Andrew Orr



...from Lincoln Teachers

Oh, My Goodness!

You all have been the best PIE partners!
Thank you so much for supporting our classrooms! <3 Lincoln 1st Grade.
Teachers: Kristi Gazaway, Beth Post, & Sherrie Webb

FCC

Thank you for your gifts on Monday.
Your kindness is greatly appreciated.
Amy Muegge, Lincoln, Music

First Christian Church,
Thank you for all the lovely goodies and the cash gift. I plan to buy some new class books and rewards for the students. You made my day. From
Andrea Ryan, 3rd Grade

- Andrea Morriss, E-Team

