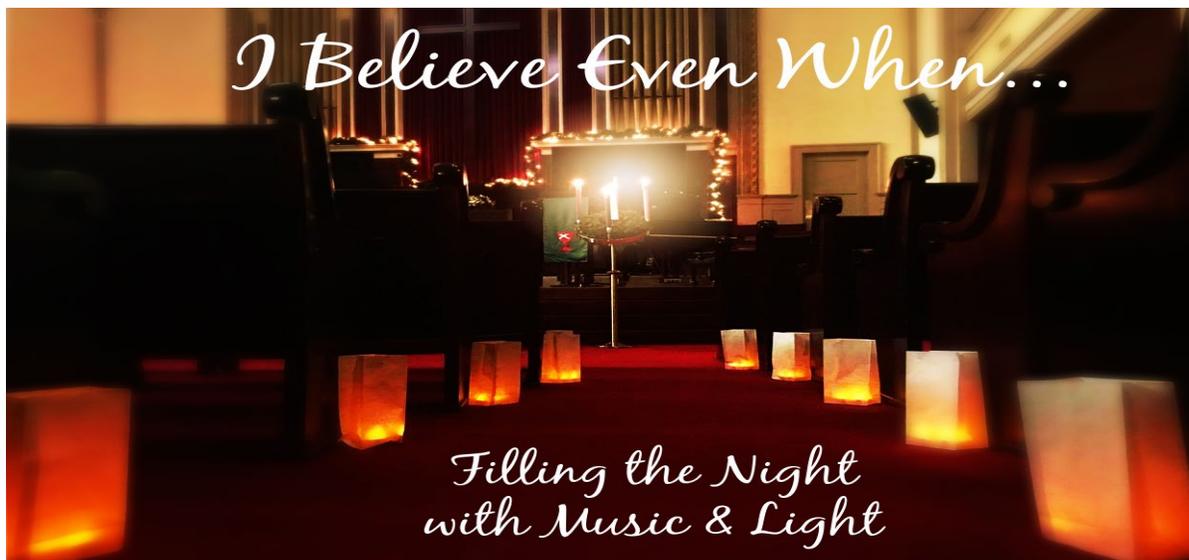




*Greetings: Please take a minute to find our page on Facebook so that you can join in on the live stream of this morning's service. We will have a time for offering today. If you would like to give online, just go to our "[Tithe.ly](#)" online giving page or to our church website ([www.fccstjo.org](http://www.fccstjo.org)). We'll also be sharing in communion today so we invite you to prepare by finding something from home you can use to represent the bread and the juice. The lyrics to the songs in today's worship service are provided below.*



**Welcome:** Mike Pittman

**Singing Together: "I Believe"** by Mark A. Miller  
Beth McLenaghan, Maddie Dryer, Jackson Connors, Colton Connors

I Believe in the Light, I believe in the Light,  
That has come, that has come, and is coming.

**Do We Still Believe?** Pastor Brian

**Singing Together: "I Believe"** by Mark A. Miller

I Believe in Sun, I believe in Sun,

**Welcome...We're Glad You Are Tuning In!**

Our congregation is diverse in age, race, sexual orientation, biblical interpretation, culture, ethnic background, gender identity & expression, economic circumstance, family configuration, political inclination and physical ability. We celebrate and honor this diversity and welcome the struggle necessary to sustain it.

Even when, even when I don't see it.

**Prayer:** Pastor Brian Kirk

**Lighting the Advent Candle of Love:** Ron Johnson and Barry Hall

**The Meaning of the Nativity Scene:** Landon Hibler & Kenny Crawford

**First Reading:** Luke 1:26-38 – Stefan Mathies

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

**Prayer:** Carla Willis

**Music:** "There's Still My Joy" - Beth McLenaghan

**Second Reading:** Luke 1:39-56 – Mike Pittman

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.’  
And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

**Music: “O Holy Night” – Kenny Crawford**

**Third Reading:** Luke 2:1-7 – Pastor Brian Kirk

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the sleeping quarters.

**Music: “Mary Now Sings Her Birthing Song” – Vs. 1**

**Fourth Reading:** Luke 2:8-20 - Stefan Mathies

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The

shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Message: “I Believe Even When....”** Pastor Brian Kirk

**Music: “Joy to the World”**

**Sharing Our Gifts:** Keisha Davis

Tonight’s offering will go to support the YWCA Women’s Shelter in St. Joseph. You can click on the link to give. [https://tithely.com/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1309125](https://tithely.com/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1309125)

**Breaking Bread:** Mike Pittman

**Music: “Mary Sings Her Birthing Song” – Vs. 5**

**Candle Lighting:** Pastor Brian

**Music: “Silent Night”**

**Going Forth:** Mike Pittman

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## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

**All the medical and health care professionals** serving during this pandemic.

Our members who are dealing with health issues due to COVID-19

**Evelyn Hemmen's** brother and **Kaye Adkins** uncle Bill who is starting on hospice

**Beth Kar** in the hospital

**Sara McLaren's** cousin's son, Steele

**Carla Willis'** Aunt Jeannette with health concerns

**Katey Girard** with health concerns

**Keisha Davis'** Aunt Gail dealing with health issues

**Chris Bartlett's** cousin, Ashley, dealing with health issues

**Cathy Hammer**

**Kim Potter, Judy Spencer, Beth Kar** receiving treatment for cancer.

Carolyn Koftan, sister-in-law of **Sandy Hamlin**, in hospice care.

**Kayla Harris'** mother, Robin Knotts, living with cancer

**Friends and Family:** Liz Canon, John Nichols, son of Nancy Nichols; Kathy Long, friend of Janet Pullen,

**Homebound:** Francis Hesnault, Louis Parmalee, Bette Lampton, Pat Jacobs

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

927 Faraon Street, Saint Joseph, Missouri

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Follow us on Facebook @ First Christian Church

Contact Pastor Brian at bkirkfccstjo@yahoo.com



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- 3) Select our church by name or zip code 64501
- 4) Give!

Thank You for Your Faithfulness

**How can we be of help to you? Just contact us and let us know. We are in this together!**

Church office: **816-209-8212** (Kenny, our administrator, is currently in the office on Monday, Wednesday & Fridays from 9 AM – 1 PM.)

Pastor Brian: [bkirkfccstjo@yahoo.com](mailto:bkirkfccstjo@yahoo.com) or call or text to 314-303-4601. Office phone 816-209-8160

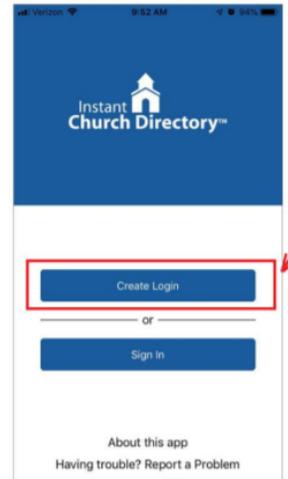
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Search for "Instant Church Directory" and look for this icon:



2. Open the app and click on the **Create Login** button.
3. Enter your email address that is used in your church's directory.
4. Create a password. The password must be 8 characters long and must contain at least two of the following special characters: capital letters, numbers or symbols.
5. Retype the password to confirm it and click **Create Login**.
6. Check your inbox for an email from [service@instantchurchdirectory.com](mailto:service@instantchurchdirectory.com).
7. To complete the sign-up process, you will need to verify your email address by clicking on the link sent to you in that email.
8. Once you confirm your email, you may open the app and click **Sign In** to log into your church's directory.



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