

IRON WORKS CHURCH

PREACH CHRIST. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. SERVE THE CITY. PLANT CHURCHES.

Sunday, December 28th, 2025 | 10:30 am

welcome

We are so honored you've decided to join us this morning.

Whether it's your first time in church, your first time in a long while, or part of your regular rhythm, we aim to show you all the hospitality of Christ.

Iron Works is a community of very different people united by our need for the saving work of Christ. We vote differently. We are artists and statisticians. Stay-at-home and working parents. Economically comfortable and living paycheck-to-paycheck. Together we seek to glorify God and enjoy him forever.

We would love to walk with you, regardless of where you're coming from. So ask your questions. Bring your objections, your doubts, your fears. We in turn promise to consider them honestly with you, without condescension or condemnation.

You see, we too come from a history of inquiry and questioning. We've come to the conclusion that there's more to this life than what we see. What do you believe?

what to expect

LITURGY

A liturgical service might be unfamiliar for you, and that's okay. We've tucked notes about the service in the margins for you.

MUSIC

Making music together is a gift we give to each other and a collective offering to God in worship. Songs vary in style and source to reflect the many places we all come from.

COMMUNITY

None of us has it together, and we don't expect that of you, either. We firmly believe that every one of us is in need of the saving work of Jesus Christ.

KIDS

During the service, kids can enjoy fun, safe programming run by background-checked volunteers and staff. Or, if you'd prefer to keep your children with you, they're always welcome in the service—noises and all!

- **NURSERY:** ages 0-4: Check kids in at any time during the service, and pick them up when the sermon ends. Turn right out of the worship hall to get to the nursery.
- **CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** preschoolers aged 2.5-4 & early elementary schoolers aged 5-2nd grade: Classes gather at the kids table in the side hallway during the break, and they return to the worship hall after the sermon.
- **IN THE SERVICE:** Babies and kids of all ages are always welcome in the service. Drawing supplies are available at the kids table in the cafe.

gathering

find your places

These side margins will include notes about the liturgy and song to help you find your way.

As we sing, we meditate on the lyrics to help prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

Joy To The World

George Frederic Handel and Isaac Watts

VERSE 1

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n, and heav'n
And nature sing

VERSE 2

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

VERSE 3

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

VERSE 4

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

call to worship

WELCOME & GREETING

LEADER: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

PEOPLE: And also with you!

CALL TO WORSHIP: Exodus 15:1-2, 17-18

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,

"I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

The LORD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation;

this is my God, and I will praise him,
my father's God, and I will exalt him....

You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,
the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode,
the sanctuary, O LORD, which your hands have established.

The LORD will reign forever and ever."

be seated

In the greeting, God greets you with the Biblical message and words of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are then summoned to worship by words of a Bible passage as read by the liturgist. We stand to sing in response to God's call to worship.

songs of praise

please stand

*Join in singing to
God songs of praise,
thankfulness, lament,
and worship. Meditate
intentionally on the words
you're singing with and
for your neighbor, as your
neighbors do the same for
you.*

Angels We Have Heard On High

Edward Shippen Barnes and James Chadwick

INTRO

Gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo

VERSE 1

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

CHORUS

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo

VERSE 2

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

VERSE 3

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ, Whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King

Glory in the Heights

Ryan Flanigan

VERSE 1

Oh, glory in the heights, glory in the heights, for Christ is born!
Oh, glory in the heights, glory in the heights, for Christ is born!
Listen to the angels sing, oh! Hear their praises ring, oh!

VERSE 2

Oh, peace on earth, good will come to every man, for Christ is born!
Oh, peace on earth, good will come to every man, for Christ is born!
Come and see the newborn King, oh! All our lives we bring, oh!

VERSE 3

What will be your offering? What will be your offering? Oh!
Give Him everything! Oh! Give Him everything! Oh!
Lift your voices; sing, oh! All our lives we bring!

VERSE 4

Oh, glory in the heights, glory in the heights, for Christ is born!
Oh *Angels we have heard on high*
Glory in the heights *Sweetly singing o'er the plains*
Glory in the heights *And the mountains in reply*
For Christ is born! *Echo back their joyous strains*
Oh, glory in the heights *Gloria*
Glory in the heights
For Christ is born! *In excelsis Deo*

PRAYERS OF ADORATION

Having sung our praises to God, we lift our voices individually in adoration. We use this time to express more deeply our worship and adoration of God.

SPOTIFY

Scan the QR code for a Spotify playlist of the week's music. Choose a song you've found meaningful and learn it this week or review it with your kids.



confession & assurance

be seated

In confession, we take a few moments to evaluate ways our lives speak in contradiction to God's holy word. We do this through considering a passage of scripture, and then silently reflecting on a few questions the passage raises about our lives.

Our corporate prayer of confession enables us as one congregation to confess our sins and then to hear the unequivocal pardon of God's grace in the assurance of pardon.

CONFESSION OF SIN: Exodus 17:1-7

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. *Have I given up hope of ever seeing change?*
2. *Have I stopped praying, or taken matters into my own hands?*
3. *How do my actions or attitude reflect my response to the question posed "Is the LORD among us or not?"*

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, you are our deliverer, our provider, our sustainer; yet we confess that we have failed to recognize our dependence on you.

Our hearts are fickle. One moment we praise and extol your name, declaring that you will reign forever; and the next we question if you are for our good, and whether you are even among us.

We have put you to the test, and gave up when your provision was not immediate. Our hearts grumble, we grow prayerless, and we attempt to secure life apart from you.

Forgive us, Lord, for the sake of Christ, the Rock was stricken for us, and restore to us the joy of trusting in you each day. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: 1 Corinthians 10:4b

For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

RESPONSE SONG

He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)

Meredith Andrews

VERSE 1

God rest ye merry gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray

PRE-CHORUS

O tidings of comfort and joy
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

CHORUS

He has come for us, this Jesus
He's the hope for all mankind
He has come for us, the Messiah
Born to give us life
(He is born to give us life)

VERSE 2

From God our heav'nly Father
A blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name

BRIDGE

All the angels sing, "Hallelujah!"
Jesus Christ is born
All the children sing, "Hallelujah!"
He is Christ the Lord

ENDING

Angels sing, "Hallelujah!"
Jesus Christ is Lord
All the children sing, "Hallelujah!"
He is Christ the Lord

please stand

*We respond to God's
assurance of our pardon
with gratitude and
adoration.*

passing the peace

be seated

Each week, we greet each other with a sign of the peace Christ purchased for us. The community of the church thrives on us being at peace with God and also with one another. There is no room for quarrels, schisms, or conflicts. The peace of Christ is to reign in our community.

THE BREAK

- **RESTROOMS** are on the far side of the cafe.
- **CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** Both classes (Preschool: ages 2.5-4, School-aged kids: K-2nd grade) meet at the kids' table out in the hallway. Kids return after the sermon concludes.
- **NURSERY** is available for kids 0-4 during the service, until the beginning of communion. Turn right out of the door from the gathering room and follow the hallway to the end.
- **WELCOME TABLE:** If you are new to Iron Works, we'd love to greet you and answer any questions you might have. Just stop by the welcome table in the cafe.
- **GET CONNECTED** by texting HEY to 610-421-0581

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LEADER: The peace of Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

PEOPLE: And also with you!

Take a few minutes to pass this Peace with one another and introduce yourself to someone you don't yet know.

announcements

- **NEWCOMERS' DINNER:** Iron Works is a community where you can be deeply known. Pastor Kent and Anna invite you to start connecting with a newcomers' dinner at their home, January 18th at 6:30p. Contact Anna at thosewoodrows@gmail.com to RSVP.
- **PRAYER MEETING:** On January 7th at 7p, join your church family to pray for God's provision and power in the life and mission of Iron Works Church.

Take a look at the back inside page to see all that's going on in the life of Iron Works!

PASTORAL PRAYER

*In the pastoral prayer we pray for the needs of our world, country, city, and church community. When you hear "Lord, in your mercy" reply with **"hear our prayer."***

be seated

As we regather after the break, we take this time to learn more about what is going on in the life of the church, pray for our community and hear how God is working in the lives of our church family outside of Sundays during the offertory.

sermon

Genesis 11:27–12:9

^{11:27} Now these are the generations of Terah. Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot. ²⁸ Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his kindred, in Ur of the Chaldeans. ²⁹ And Abram and Nahor took wives. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. ³⁰ Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.

³¹ Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. ³² The days of Terah were 205 years, and Terah died in Haran.

^{12:1} Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

⁵ And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸ From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. ⁹ And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God!

This image shows a full page of blank white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

the sacred supper

please stand

In Communion (also called the Eucharist, which literally means “thanksgiving”), we are invited to partake of elements of bread and wine to drink deeply of the grace of Jesus Christ. We reflect on how thankful we are for the work of Christ on our behalf, and we pray that his grace would work more powerfully in our lives to change us more into his likeness.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you!**

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them to the Lord!**

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

PEOPLE: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise!**

SANCTUS: *Revelation Song* by Jennie Lee Riddle

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain! Holy, holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on Heaven’s mercy seat

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty

Who was, and is, and is to come

With all creation, I sing, “Praise to the King of kings!

You are my ev’rything, and I will adore You!”

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at the mention of Your name

Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be to You, the only wise King

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

LEADER: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

PEOPLE: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE CUP

- *Come forward by rows to receive communion elements.*
- *Grape juice is in the individual cups, and wine is available from the common cup. Gluten-free communion elements are available on the table.*
- *A pastor is available up front to pray with you for your noncommuning child.*
- *You can also take this time to pray. Some sample prayers are provided on the opposite page.*

GUIDELINES FOR RECEPTION OF COMMUNION:

The Lord's Supper is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members under the care and oversight of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer using the prayers that follow as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.

SILENT PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

Prayer for those searching for truth

God, I am pressed and discontent. I am drawn to certain aspects of Christianity, which is why I am here. If you are really there, then who are you, Lord? If you are Jesus Christ, who claimed to be the way, the truth, and the life, please guide me into this reality. Are you calling me? Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. You paid my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and trust you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of commitment for those not yet baptized

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. I resolve before You to take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for those refusing to reconcile with another

Lord Jesus, I do not want to forgive and be forgiven. My situation of offense seems to me an insurmountable obstacle. Grant that I may discern the body of Christ in my sisters and brothers. Melt my icy heart with the cross, because I cannot forgive without knowing anew how much I have been forgiven. Help my unbelief that I may find my reputation, respect, security and welfare in you. May mercy triumph over judgment in my life. Amen.

the sacred supper

COMMUNION SONG

What Child Is This

William Chatterton Dix

VERSE 1

What Child is this, who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping
This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary

VERSE 2

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and lamb are feeding?
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through
The cross be borne for me, for you
Hail, hail the Word made flesh
The Babe, the Son of Mary

VERSE 3

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh
Come peasant, king, to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him
Raise, raise the song on high
The Virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born
The Babe, the Son of Mary

SENDING SONG

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear / What Child Is This

Edmund Hamilton Sears and Richard Storrs Willis / William Chatterton Dix

VERSE 1

It came upon a midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven's all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

VERSE 2

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing

CHORUS 1

This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard
And angels sing
Haste, haste to bring Him laud
The Babe, the Son of Mary

VERSE 3

And ye beneath life's crushing load
Whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow
Look now for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing

VERSE 4

For lo the days are hastening on
By prophet long foretold
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling
And the whole world
Give back the song
Which now the angels sing

CHORUS 2

Raise, raise the song on high
The Virgin sings her lullaby
Hail, hail the Word made flesh
The Babe the Son of Mary

VERSE 5

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong
And man at war with man hears not
The love song which they bring
O hush the noise ye men of strife
And hear the angels sing

CHORUS 3

Nails, spear shall pierce him through
The cross be borne for me, for you
Hail, hail the Word made flesh
The Babe, the Son of Mary

BENEDICTION & SENDING

LEADER: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you his peace.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

LEADER: Go forth to love and serve the city.

PEOPLE: **Alleluia! Amen.**

Life shouldn't be lived alone.

CONNECT TO COMMUNITY AT IRON WORKS



VISIT THE WELCOME TABLE

Get more info & ask questions at
the table in the cafe



CHURCH DIRECTORY APP

Scan the QR code to download the
app & connect with others at
Iron Works



NEWCOMERS' DINNER

Start making connections at IWC
over dinner at Pastor Kent and
Anna's home, Jan. 18 at 6:30p.

Let them know you're coming:
thosewoodrows@gmail.com
(703) 919-5683

join a home group

Home groups meet every other week for
dinner, to read the scriptures together,
and to pray for one another's needs.

People are meeting all across the area,
from Chester Springs to Royersford, to
live life together—and you could be, too!

Want to check out a home group?

Pastor Kent Woodrow can help you find
a group that fits your schedule. Contact
kent@ironworkschurch.org.

community groups

Find more ways to connect by visiting
ironworkschurch.org/community,
or contact the church office at hello@ironworkschurch.org.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Now—March 1st

Nominate the men you want to serve as your leaders (ruling elders and deacons) for training, review by the session, and potential election to office next year.

MORE: ironworkschurch.org/nominate

PRAYER MEETING

January 7th, 7p

Join your church family to pray for God's provision and power in the life and mission of Iron Works Church.

NEWCOMERS' DINNER

January 18th, 6:30p | the Woodrow home

Iron Works is a community where you can be deeply known. Pastor Kent and Anna Woodrow warmly invite you to start making connections with a newcomers' dinner at their home. Just let them know you're coming by contacting Anna.

RSVP: Anna Woodrow | (703) 919-5683

thosewoodrows@gmail.com

MEN'S BREAKFAST

January 24th, 7–9a

Be encouraged by fellowship, food, and time in the Word with the other men of IWC. Please RSVP sooner rather than later to help with planning.

RSVP: ironworkschurch.org/breakfast

CONTACT: Vic Arata | vicarata@comcast.net

GIVING UPDATES

2025 Average Weekly Offering

\$11,719 \$12,298

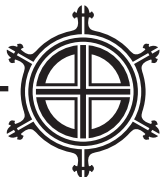
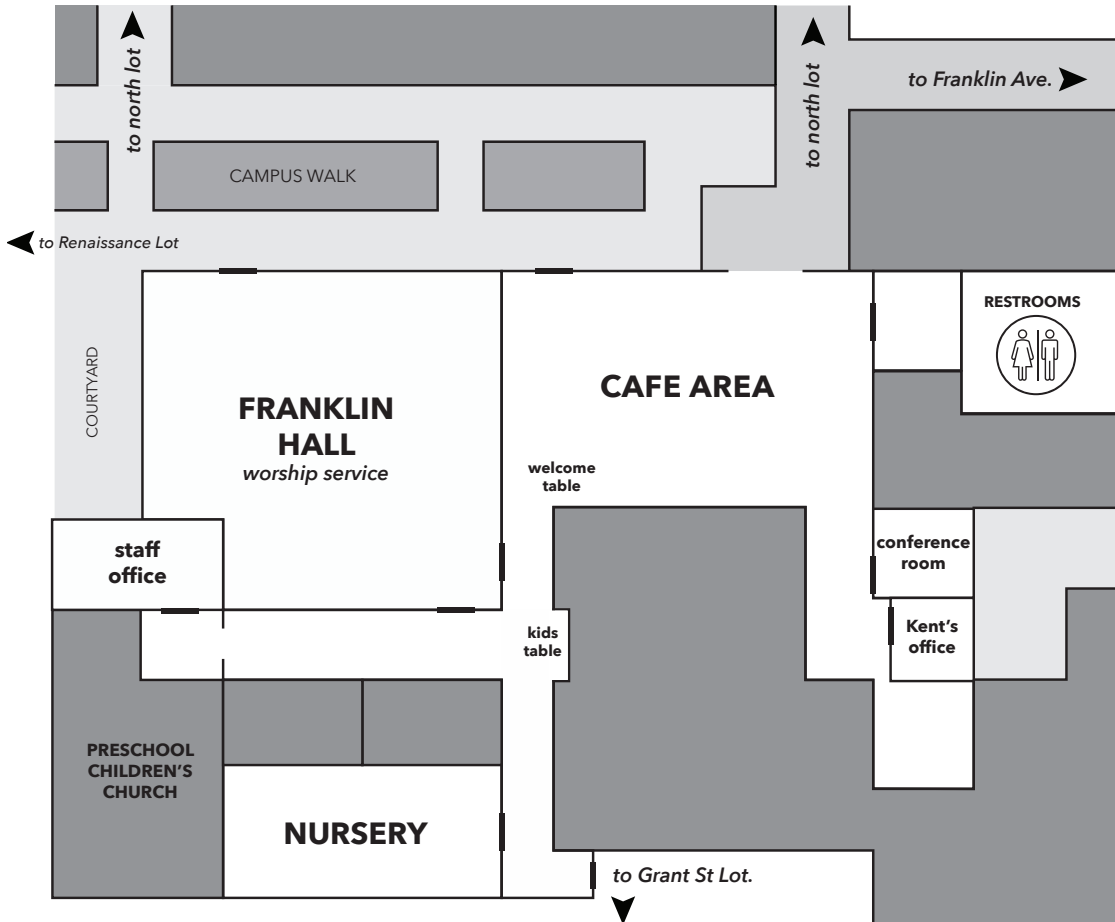
Received Expected

Offering can be received in the box in the back of the Hall or at ironworkschurch.org/give

SERVE

Looking to find your stake in the IWC community? Try out Sunday service teams by emailing administrator **Annika Griffith** at annika@ironworkschurch.org

map



Pastor Kent Woodrow: kent@ironworkschurch.org
church office: hello@ironworkschurch.org
call or text: 484.928.0560

ironworkschurch.org