

# This Week...



## Tasting Peoria

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm  
1209 W Main St, Peoria



## PIC Concert

Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm  
FCC Sanctuary

Check out our full  
calendar of events here



Please always check with the church office if you are wanting to use the church building. Thank you!




# The Ministry of Paying Attention

## *Seeing What's Invisible*

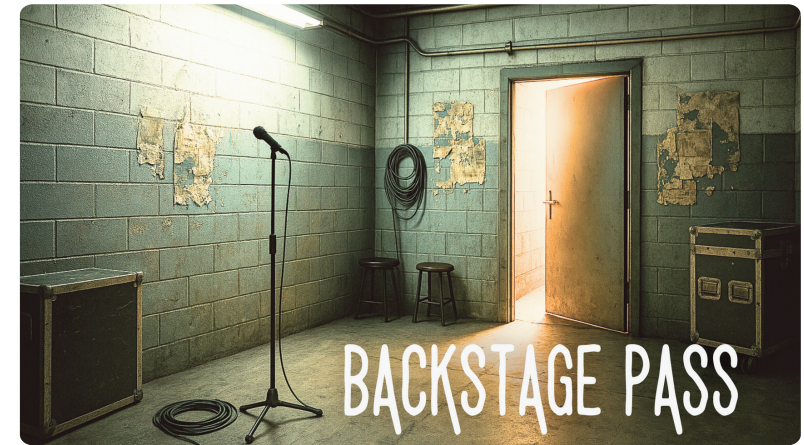
In Genesis 16, Hagar — a woman exploited and cast aside — names God as El Roi, “the God who sees me.” Justice begins here: not in grand statements, but in the sacred act of noticing. Who do we walk past without seeing? Whose labor, pain, or dignity goes unseen?

Jesus always saw what others ignored — Zacchaeus in the tree, the bleeding woman in the crowd, the child in the corner. To be disciples of Jesus is to pay attention on purpose.

This week, make it your mission to notice the unnoticed. Try:

-  Looking eye-to-eye with everyone you come across.
-  Saying the name of someone others overlook.
-  Asking yourself: “Who is invisible here?” in each space you enter.

“Remembering is an act of  
resistance against erasure.”  
– Clint Smith



May 4, 2025  
10:30am

## First Christian Church



[fccpeoria.org](http://fccpeoria.org)  
socials: @FCCPeoriaIL

Third Sunday of Easter

† indicates standing, if able

Today’s Meditation

Following Jesus' crucifixion, the disciples were living in fear as they gathered in the Upper Room. But when Jesus appeared to them, their fear was transformed into bold living.

-Angela N. Parker

†Fellowship of the Church

(Please sign in online or on the red pad in your pew)

Greetings from the Region

Rev Dr Alex Ruth

Music for Meditation

I Love to Tell the Story - Wood/Fischer

Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

A Moment of Silence

†Opening Hymn

#218

Thine Is the Glory

†Call to Worship

Leader: God is alive...

**People: New birth is given.**

Leader: Hope is alive...

**People: A new age is dawning.**

Leader: Joy is alive...

**People: Redemption is here.**

Leader: Love is alive...

**People: Death cannot harm us.**

Leader: We are alive...

**People: New life is within us.**

Leader: The church is alive...

**People: God’s spirit is among us.**

Leader: God of resurrection, we come to celebrate you.

†Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

**All: God, whose love and care for us extends far beyond our human understanding, whose presence in our midst is greater than our fears and doubts, we come offering ourselves to you – our weaknesses and our strengths, our faith and our fears. We seek to know the risen Christ among us in this gathering, and trust you to reveal him to us once again, as we wait upon you in hope and expectation. We lift this to you praying as Jesus taught us to pray. . .Our Father...**

†Vision Response

For the Healing of the Nations vs 4

#668

Scripture Reading

John 20:19-23

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message

Hannah Fitch

Special Music

Sanctuary Choir

Love, Mercy and Grace

arr. Joel Raney

Sermon

Hank Anderson

The Waiting: A Post-Resurrection Tour

Backstage Pass

†Hymn of Commitment

#559

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

A Time of Prayer

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Communion Hymn

#546

Amazing Grace

The Lord’s Supper

**All: Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God’s grace.**

Sabbath Visions - Stairs

Offering Statement

Tithes & Offerings

If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate in front of the communion table.

Glory and Grace - Lemmel/Schram

†Doxology

#46

†Dedication of Offering

†Benediction

†Congregational Response

#487

Help Us Accept Each Other vs 1

Postlude

Go Joyfully - Williamson

Ministering Today

Presiding Elder  
Elders

Steve West  
Kathleen Wheeler  
Frank Wheeler

Deacons

Chancel  
Head

Geraldine Runkle  
Joe Rex  
Ange Bertucci  
Cheryl Davis  
Tom Davis

Lay Reader  
Greeters

Kevin Wolfe  
Terrie Wronkiewicz  
Margaret Goulden

Counters

Jim & Beth  
Smittkamp

Adult SS

Youth SS

Preschool

Frank Wheeler  
Connie Julien  
Jenny Tripses

First Christian Church Peoria, as an open and affirming church, believes that all people are sacred creations of a loving God. We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to all. In that spirit we open our family of faith to people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family structure, physical and mental ability, race, socio-economic status, age, and gender identity. We welcome all people to participate fully in the life and ministry of First Christian Church

Staff

Hank Anderson  
Heather Woods  
Brian Woods  
Mason Fitch  
Brandy Cox  
Diane Pfoff  
Lynn Hutton  
Sung Kim

Interim Minister  
Music Ministry Coordinator  
Organist  
Digital Ministry Coordinator  
Child Care  
Office Manager  
Bookkeeper  
Custodian