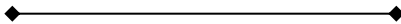


MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Liz White
Elders ~ Jerry & Val Hornbacker
Layreader ~ Terrie Wronkiewicz
Greeters ~ Kathy Fenton/Aldine Allen
Acolyte ~ Clara Truelove
Deacons
 Chancel – Laura Cohen
 *Tim Dougherty, Laura Buckley, Jake Cohen, Joe Rex
* = Head Deacon (**Please count attendance**)
Counters ~ Steve & Monica Hinrichs



OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

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.

Ministry Programming Staff:
The Rev. Karen Merrick, Pastor
Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries
Brian Woods, Organist
Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator

www.fccpeoria.org
www.facebook.com/fccpeoria

Calendar

TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – The Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes)

MONDAY 4th of July

- The church office will be closed

WEDNESDAY

- 7:00 p.m. – Great Lakes Green Chalice Book Club (Zoom)

THURSDAY

- 4:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Event (5:30-8:00) (FH)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 2:00 p.m. – Memorial Service for Barry Peters at First Christian Church, Peoria. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church.

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship in Sanctuary and on Facebook
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes)



July 3, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side. My great concern is to be on God's side.

—Abraham Lincoln, when asked if he thought God was on our side

Fellowship of the Church

(Please register on pads at end of each pew.)

We want to extend a special welcome to our first-time visitors. You are invited to stop at the Visitor's Table before you leave to receive more information about our church and a little something extra.

Music for Meditation – *America! America!*—Ward/Hughes

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

A Moment of Silence

*Gathering Praise

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

#725

Psalm of Praise for Independence Sunday

(In unison)

**How grateful we are, O God,
for our great country,
for the blessings you lavish upon our land.**

**How concerned we are, O God,
that our very nation may become our god
and that we worship the gifts
rather than the Giver!**

**Is it possible Lord,
that our laws may circumvent your will
that our freedom may place chains on others
that our wealth may impoverish some
that our power may come by way of another's weakness?**

**As we celebrate our nation, God, we bring to you our
gratitude for the vision of what we can become. We ask
that you take away all those things that come between
us and you.**

**This we ask in the name of your son and our savior Jesus
Christ, who taught us to pray, saying... Our Father...**

(Words to *The Lord's Prayer* may be found in the hymnal – #307)

*Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

#36

Scripture Reading – Deuteronomy 10:12-11:1

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

(Following the children's message, children ages 5 and up
are welcome to meet their teacher, Becky Sisk,
at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Special Music – *God Bless America*—Irving Berlin

Jerry Hornbacker

Message – *And Every Gain Divine*

Karen Merrick

*Hymn of Commitment

words on screen

America the Beautiful

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn

words on screen

God of Love, We've Known Division

The Lord's Supper – *Reflection on "America"*—arr. Wagner

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *God of Our Fathers*—Warren/Smith

(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your gift in the plate on the communion table.)

*Doxology

#46

*Dedication of Offering

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

#721

My Country, 'Tis of Thee (vs. 4)

*Postlude – *A Patriotic Quotation*—Ward/Hughes

**Psalm of Praise* adapted from a prayer written by Leslie Brandt

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)

- Communion Elements ~ For those who feel they need an extra level of protection, there are sealed bread and juice containers with the bread sealed in clear plastic on top of the foil lid for the juice. We ask that everyone else use the double-cupped wafer and juice that will be passed through the pews.
- We are a church of prayer. There are prayer request forms in your bulletin. They can be put in the offering plate, hung on the prayer wall in the east end of the lounge, or if you want to maintain confidentiality, hand directly to the pastor. If you want your prayer concern shared via the prayer chain, please indicate that on your form.
- Our sound system is equipped with a hearing assistance technology system. Pick up a receiver at the sound booth prior to worship. After the service, please return the receiver to the sound booth.
- Church Office Closed ~ Monday, July 4.
Alarm System Reminder: Please be reminded that on holidays when church staff is not present, the alarm will be armed. Please have your code with you if you need to enter the building; you must enter through the front doors. The office is closed **Monday, July 4**
- Summer Music Schedule ~ If you would like to share your talent with us this summer, please see the sign-up on the choir room door. There are still several dates available.
- Tasting Peoria ~ We are going to experience Peoria's own Broadway Lounge on Wednesday, July 27, at 6:00 p.m. Meet up with the group to enjoy naan (an Asian flatbread) pizza, or a bread bowl pasta, and singing wait staff! Watch for a sign-up on the information desk.
- Save the Date ~ Mission Dash 5K. Join the Cluster on Saturday, August 13, at 10:00 a.m. on the Rock Island Trail to walk for creation. Registration coming soon!