

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Roger Baker  
Elders ~ Chere Peters & Steve West  
Lay Reader ~ Connie Sinn  
Greeters ~ Ralph & Ilene Tegg  
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods  
Deacons  
    Chancel – Joe Rex  
        \*Alice Jury  
    John Best, Oliver Truelove & Victoria Truelove  
\* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**  
Counters ~ John & Lisa Best  
Friends of Jesus ~ Deann Anderson  
Sunday School/Grades 1-8 ~ Kathleen Wheeler



OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

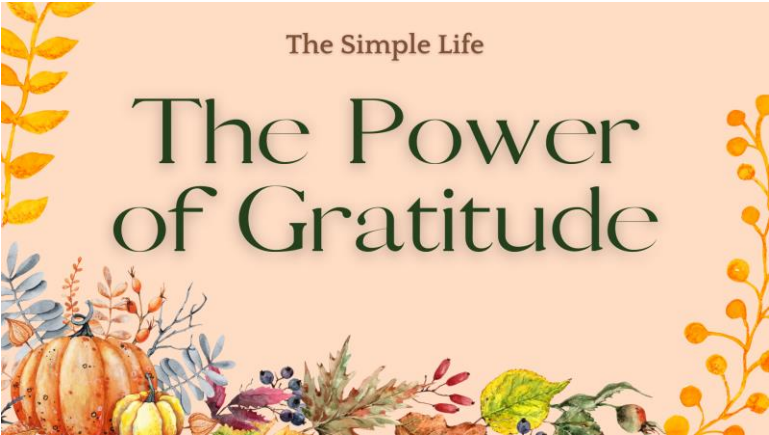
*First Christian Church Peoria, as an open and affirming church, believes that all people are sacred creations of a loving God. We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion and acceptance to all. In that spirit we open our family 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:  
Hank Anderson, Interim Minister  
Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries  
Brian Woods, Organist  
Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator  
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

[www.fccpeoria.org](http://www.fccpeoria.org)  
[www.facebook.com/fccpeoriaill](https://www.facebook.com/fccpeoriaill)

Calendar

- TODAY**  
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS  
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)  
12:30 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers (S)  
1:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir (S)  
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- MONDAY**  
7:00 p.m. - Administrative Board (110)
- TUESDAY**  
10:30 a.m. - Faith and Justice Task Force  
11:00 a.m. - Montessori Thanksgiving program (FH)  
6:00 p.m. - PACC Rehearsal (S/N/FH)
- WEDNESDAY**
- THURSDAY – THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED**
- FRIDAY – OFFICE CLOSED**
- SATURDAY**  
7:00 a.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- NEXT SUNDAY**  
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS  
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)  
12:30 p.m. - Jubilate Ringers (S)  
1:00 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir (S)  
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)



November 19, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



<sup>†</sup>indicates standing, if able

## Today's Meditation

*Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.*

- Melody Beattie

## 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 – *All Thanks and Praise to God!* – arr. Smith

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

## A Moment of Silence

†Gathering Praise – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* #718

<sup>†</sup>Call to Worship

*Leader: Give thanks to the LORD! Praise His name!*

**People: Tell the whole world what God has done – God's mighty acts on our behalf.**

*Leader: Sing to the LORD, for God has done wonderful things for us!*

**People: For great is the Holy One who lives among us!**

## Opening Prayer

*Leader: Let us pray together...*

**ALL: Loving and gracious God, your blessings are countless and your love is never-ending. As we gather for this time of worship, we pray that you will open our hearts to you and to one another, that we may share the gifts you have given us in loving service to all people. Grant us joy of heart, and may peace dwell with us. We pray this in the name of the One who taught us to pray... Our Father...**

(The Lord's prayer may be found in the hymnal - #307)

†Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri) #36

## Scripture Readings – Deuteronomy 26:1-11

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

Moment for the Children Hannah Fitch

Anthem – Sanctuary Choir  
*Bring to God the Harvest* – Berta Poorman/Sonja Poorman

Minute for Mission Video

Message – The Power of Gratitude Hank Anderson

†Hymn of Invitation – *Give Thanks* #528

## A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Let All Things Now Living* #717

The Lord's Supper – *Let Us Break Bread Together* - Birchwood  
**All: “Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God’s grace.”**

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Fairest Lord Jesus* – arr. Gawthrop  
(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate on the communion table.)

†Doxology #46

### <sup>†</sup>Dedication of Offering

<sup>†</sup>Benediction

<sup>†</sup>Congregational Response – *For the Fruit of All Creations*  
vs.3 #714

<sup>†</sup>Postlude – *Now Thank We All Our God* – arr. Sewell

**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 the pews. They can be put in the offering plate, hung on the prayer wall in 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.
- Bible Study ~ Wednesday morning Bible Study is cancelled this week. It will resume November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Sunday Morning Study ~ Jenny Tripses will be leading the class in November on "The Spirit of Ukraine." Please sign up at the information desk if you would like to attend.
- Stuff a Bus Food Drive ~ Ends November 29<sup>th</sup>. This is to help provide food for the pantry at the Friendship House. They serve an average of 150,000 meals a year. Please check the information desk for a list of food items needed and fill the box.
- Book Club ~ November 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at Margaret Goulden's home: 133 Eastwood Dr, East Peoria. The book is "*The Thursday Murder Club*" by Richard Osman. Refreshments and snacks provided. Sign up at the information desk if you would like to attend.
- Coats for Kids ~ We are partnering again with the Salvation Arm to collect gently used or new coats, hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for children of all ages and adults. This will go through January. Please fill the barrel by the information desk.
- Potluck ~ December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Christmas Potluck. This is also our *Coming Home for Christmas* Sunday and we will be joined by the Peoria Civic Chorale. Please remember to bring extra food since we will have a much larger group. Sign up at the information desk if you can help with Prep and Cleanup.