MINISTERING IN WORSHIP...

Presiding Elder ~ Mason Fitch

Elders ~ Beth Cox/Becky Sisk

Layreader ~ Liz White

Greeters ~ Debbie Presnell/Tim Dougherty

Acolyte ~ Clara Truelove

Deacons

Chancel – Jim Smittkamp

*Laura Buckley, Darren Woods, Adam Woods

* = Head Deacon (Please count attendance)

Counters ~ Jim & Beth Smittkamp

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 Madison Dillerud, Child-Care

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

Calendar

TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. Responders Class
- 10:30 a.m. The Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 12:00 p.m. End-of-the-Month Potluck (FH). Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Please join us for good food and fellowship!
- 12:30 p.m. Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

• 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (classroom)

TUESDAY

- 1:00 p.m. VBS Meeting
- 6:00-7:00 p.m. PACC Rehearsal (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. PACC Rehearsal (S)

THURSDAY

• 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study ~ A Visual Walk Through Genesis (110)

FRIDAY

 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon – Michael McGruder (Private Event) (FH)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 1:00-4:00 p.m. PAMTA Recital (Gebbink) (S/L)

NEXT SUNDAY Fifth Sunday in Lent

- 9:00 a.m. Responders Class
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary and on Facebook
- 12:30 p.m. Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. Private Group (Landes) (110)

RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL GO BEFORE HIM, AND WILL MAKE A PATH FOR HIS STEPS.



March 27, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m.

March 27, 2022 [†]*indicates standing, if able*

Today's Meditation

What keeps most of us from God is not the sin we know we have; but the righteousness we think we have. -Nate Larkin

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 – *Hope*—Benedict

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

A Moment of Silence

[†]Gathering Praise – Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

#15

[†]Call to Worship:

Leader: Though the way seems long and the road rough

People: Yet will we trust the One who leads us.

Leader: Though the direction is unknown and we don't know the outcome

People: Yet will we place our lives in Christ's loving care.

Leader: It is Christ who brings us out to green pastures and guides us on righteous paths.

People: It is Christ who gives us hope and peace.

[†]Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

All: We are standing at the gate, loving Shepherd, not sure about the journey. But you have called our names, and in your voice we hear such love and surety. Lead us safely on the path and strengthen us that we may serve you in all that we do. We pray this in the name of the one who taught us to pray, singing...Our Father...

The Lord's Prayer – #307

Scripture Readings – Matthew 1:18-21 Psalm 23:3b This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Special Music – *Take My Life and Let It Be*—arr. Ron Mallory
Jubilate Ringers

Message - The Righteous Way

Karen Merrick

†Hymn of Commitment words on screen *God, Your Love is Everlasting*—Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross #587

The Lord's Supper – Priere—Salome

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – Sunday-Song—Mendelssohn
(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 – *Lead Me, Guide Me #583*

[†]Postlude – *Marche*—Grieg

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.
- If you would like to adopt an Easter Lily to decorate the chancel for Easter, please use the insert in today's worship bulletin.
- Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt at First Christian Church ~ Saturday morning, April 16, 10:00 a.m. Hear the Easter Story – Hunt for eggs – and back inside for snacks. Please sign up at the information desk if you can help. We will need to have all our volunteer positions filled by April 3 so that we can announce this event to the community.
- Can you help with Easter Brunch? ~ Easter morning, April 17, from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up at the information desk if you are able to help. We will need to have our volunteers lined up by April 3 so that we can get the promotion out for Holy Week that includes the breakfast.
- Tasting Peoria ~ Join us as we revisit an old favorite, the Rhythm Kitchen! We're going on Thursday, April 7, at 6:00 p.m. The food is some of the best in Peoria, and so is the company! Please sign up at the information desk.