# MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Mike Buckley

Elders ~ Kevin Cheatham/Steve West

Layreader ~ Becky Sisk

Greeters ~ Laura & Jake Cohen

Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods

Deacons

Chancel – Laura Cohen

\*Jake Cohen, Tom Davis, Cheryl Davis, Darren Woods

\* = Head Deacon (Please count attendance)

Counters ~ Steve West/Ralph Tegg



## **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
- 12:30 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**

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

#### WEDNESDAY

Montessori Book Fair Set-Up in PM (1/2 FH)

#### **THURSDAY**

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study ~ A Visual Walk Through Genesis (110)
- Montessori Book Fair (During Day) (1/2 FH)
- 6:00 p.m. Tasting Peoria (Rhythm Kitchen)

# **FRIDAY**

• 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School

## **SATURDAY**

• 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

# **NEXT SUNDAY** Palm Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Responders Class
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Cantata ~ Hallelujah! What A Savior
- 12:30 p.m. Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 6:00 p.m. Illinois Valley Cluster Palm Sunday Service hosted on the Eureka Christian Church Facebook page
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. Private Group (Landes) (110)



**April 3, 2022** 

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m.

April 3, 2022 <sup>†</sup>*indicates standing, if able* 

Today's Meditation

Don't be afraid of the shadows, it only means there's a light nearby. -Amy Lee

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.

A Minute for Mission ~ Easter Offering

Becky Sisk

#27

Music for Meditation – Larghetto—Giordani
(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

<sup>†</sup>Gathering Praise – Come, Thou Almighty King

<sup>†</sup>Call to Worship:

Leader: Come away and rest for a while. Leave behind your busyness to be fully present to God.

People: We have come for relief from life's turmoil.

God gathers us as a shepherd gathers her sheep.

Leader: God's steadfast love surrounds us here. We are reminded of God's enduring faithfulness.

People: This is God's house, and we are God's children. God invites us to feel at home in this place.

Leader: We have a covenant with our Creator. This is a time for renewal of our promises.

People: God calls for righteousness and justice. God offers us goodness and mercy all our days.

<sup>†</sup>Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

With joy we come this day to the house of the Lord. God provides for us abundantly even when we doubt and fear, even when we turn away. God is faithful. Open our hearts

(continued)

today, O Lord, to hear your word for us that we may become faithful disciples of our Lord all our days. This we ask as we pray the prayer your son taught us to pray, saying... Our Father...

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

<sup>†</sup>Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

#36

Scripture Readings – Isaiah 51:12, 15-16 Psalm 23:4a This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Special Music – *And He Never Said a Word*—Michael Ryan Jubilate Ringers

Message – The Valley of Shadows

Karen Merrick

<sup>†</sup>Hymn of Commitment – *Heavenly Sunlight* words on screen

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross #195

The Lord's Supper – Come, O Jesus, Savior Mine—Cherubini

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – Be Near Us Still—Hiller
(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your gift in the plate on the communion table.)

†Doxology

#46

<sup>†</sup>Dedication of Offering

†Benediction

<sup>†</sup>Congregational Response #323 *Wonderful Words of Life* (vs. 2)

<sup>†</sup>Postlude – *Jubilate Deo!*—Nordman

# 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. We are still looking for volunteers to hide the eggs. Please sign up at the information desk if you can help.
- Can you help with Easter Brunch? ~ Easter morning, April 17, from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We still need a few remaining volunteers. Please sign up at the information desk if you are able to help.
- 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.
- Vacation Bible School, June 27-30 ~ We have quite a
  bit of help, but we will need a few others for us to say
  we can offer this to our children and those in the
  community. Please sign up at the information desk if
  you are able to help.