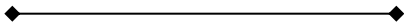


MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .
Presiding Elder ~ Kevin Cheatham
Elders ~ Roger Baker/Beth Smittkamp
Layreader ~ Becky Sisk
Greeters ~ Pete Clausen/Jan Cusac
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Monica Hinrichs
 *Steve Hinrichs, Oliver Truelove, Victoria Truelove
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Steve West/Ralph Tegg



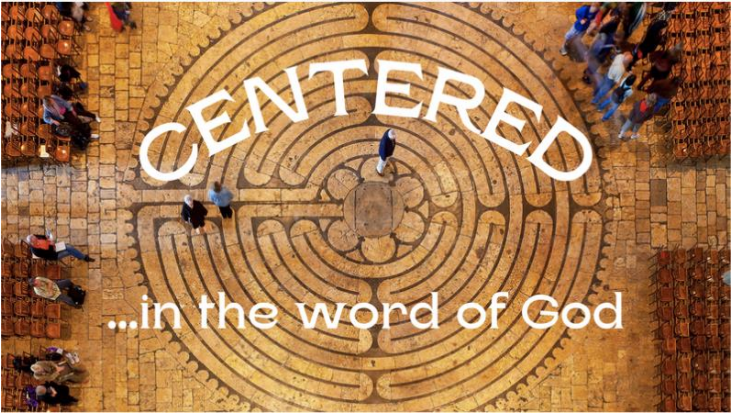
OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT
First Christian Church Peoria, as an open and affirming church, believes that all people are sacred creations of a loving God. We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to all. In that 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
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

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

Calendar

- TODAY**
- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
 - 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be preaching
 - 11:45 a.m. – Elders Meeting (110)
 - 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
- TUESDAY**
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal and New Member Night (S/110/L)
- FRIDAY**
- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School (Classrooms)
- SATURDAY**
- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- NEXT SUNDAY**
- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
 - 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be 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)



February 5, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Scout Sunday

10:30 a.m. February 5, 2023
+indicates standing, if able

Today's Meditation
I've read the last page of the Bible. It's all going to turn out all right. —Billy Graham

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.

Scout Sunday Recognition
Presentation of the Colors
Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Pledge to the Christian Flag
Pledge to the Bible

Boy Scout Oath
Girl Scout Promise

Music for Meditation – *Call to Worship*—Grichetchkine
(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence
+Gathering Praise – *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* #6

+Call to Worship
Leader: Here we are this day, gathered together so we can worship our God together.

People: Some of us are here for the music, and some for the friends, and some for the cookies and coffee.
Leader: And we are all here because of God.

People: Now is the time to give thanks, to unload our hearts, to share our lives, and to hear the Story again.
Leader: So, friends, let us worship God as we pray together:

+Opening Prayer
Open our hearts today, O Lord, to feel the powerful strength and love you have for us. Help us to listen, not only with our ears, but with our spirits for your words of compassion and healing. Enable us to become more faithful disciples for you; for we ask this in the name of 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 – John 3:11-21
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, Christina Truelove, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Anthem Sanctuary Choir
Precious Lord, Take My Hand—Dorsey/arr. Schrader

Message – *Centered...in the word of God* Karen Merrick
+Hymn of Invitation words on screen
Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Loving Lord, as Now We Gather* #427

The Lord's Supper – *I Must Tell Jesus*—Hoffman/Mansfield
All: "Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God's grace."

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*
—Converse/Williamson
(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate on the communion table.)

+Doxology #46
+Dedication of Offering
+Benediction
+Congregational Response #431
Go, My Children, with My Blessing (vs. 1)
+Postlude – *Praise and Glory*—arr. Schram

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.
- February Sunday Morning Study ~ Frank Wheeler is offering our 9:00 a.m. Sunday School class in February. His topic is "Getting to Know People from the Book of John". Please note: The class Frank was to teach in March, on "Archaeology and the Bible", is postponed. A sign-up for the February study is on the information desk.
- There is an Elders meeting today at 11:45 a.m. All Elders are encouraged to attend.
- Adam Hamilton DVD Study for Lent – *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws* ~ This study will be offered on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. on February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4. Facilitated by Karen Merrick. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Disciples Women ~ Please join us on Tuesday, February 14, at 12:00 noon. Susie Ryan will help us make Christmas plates for our shut-ins (and one for yourself if you wish). Bring your own lunch. Dessert and drinks provided. Please sign up at the information desk and indicate how many plates you will make.
- Cluster Lenten Services – Save the Date! ~ We will host the service on February 26 at 4:00 p.m. Vy Nguyen, the director of our denomination's Week of Compassion office, will be present to preach. The service is followed by a cookie reception. Please plan to come and to be another welcoming face to our guests.