

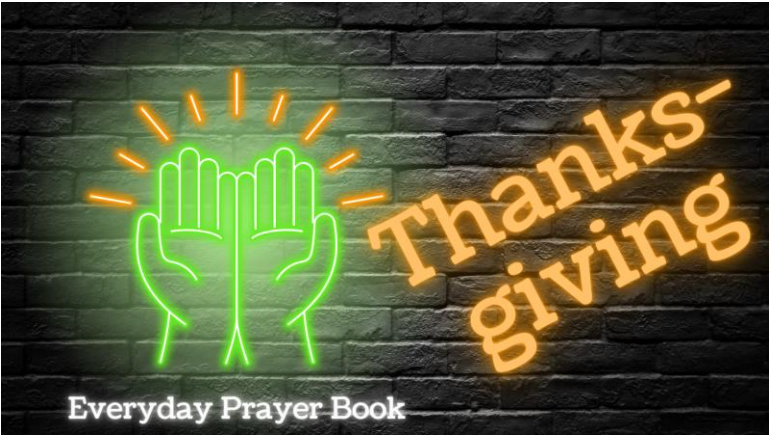
**MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .**  
Presiding Elder ~ Mason Fitch  
Elders ~ Roger & Vickie Baker  
Lay Reader ~ Sandy Surface  
Greeters ~ Kathy Fenton & Connie Sinn  
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods  
Deacons  
    Chancel – Geraldine Runkle  
            \*Alice Jury  
    Victoria Truelove, Oliver Truelove & Larry Weber  
    \* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**  
Counters ~ Owen & Alice Jury  
Sunday School/Grades 1-8 ~ Cheryl Davis

◆————◆  
**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, Digital Ministry 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) 12:00 p.m. - EOM Potluck (FH) 2:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH) 7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
MONDAY	6:00 p.m. - Book Club (Off Site)
TUESDAY	6:00 p.m. - PACC (S/L/N) 6:30 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH) 6:30 p.m. – Cluster Council Meeting (Sunnyland)
WEDNESDAY	10:30 a.m. - Bible Study (110) 6:30 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	6:00 p.m. - Tamil (FH/Classrooms/L/S/N)
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) 12:00 p.m. - Elders Meeting 7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)



August 25, 2024

Today's Meditation

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

— John F. Kennedy

Fellowship of the Church

(Please sign in online or on the red pad in your pew)

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

Music for Meditation – *The King of Love* - Gounod

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

A Moment of Silence

\*Opening Hymn – *They'll Know We Are Christians* #494

\*Call to Worship

Leader: O God, you called us by name to come, and we respond with delight and gladness.

**People: In joyful obedience, we come to worship our God.**

Leader: Rising out of the depths of despair, we gratefully gather for worship.

**People: In joyful hope, we come to worship our loving God.**

Leader: Our God has given us a new song of praise to sing to our Awesome God!

**People: In joyful trust, we come to worship our God. Amen**

\*Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

**All: Faithful God, you draw near to us in our joy and in our grief, in our hope and in our despair. When we are bowed down, you raise us anew. God of compassion and love, move among us this hour. Open our eyes, and show us the life you have to offer. We pray this in the name of the One who taught us...Our Father...**

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

Scripture Reading – Psalm 40:1-10

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

Children's Message Hannah Fitch

Special Music – Vocal Quartet

Ange Bertucci, Cindy Bridges, Laura Buckley & Mason Fitch

*We Bless Your Holy Name* – Barfoot/Peck

Message – Everyday Prayerbook: *Thanksgiving*

Hank Anderson

\*Hymn of Commitment – *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

vss. 1,3,4 #73

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Break Thou the Bread of Life* #321

The Lord's Supper – *My Jesus, As Thou Wilt* – von Weber

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Adagio* - Mendelssohn

(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 – *Savior, Like a Shephard Lead Us*

vs. 1 #558

\*Postlude – *Sortie* - 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.
  - 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's at 10:30 a.m. with Hank. The study is on the Book of Mark.
  - Sunday Morning Study September ~ The study is on *Wresting with Doubt, Finding Faith* by Adam Hamilton. The class will be led by Becky Sisk.
  - Book Club ~ August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. The book is *My Antonia* by Willa Cather. We will meet at the home of Margaret Goulden, 133 Eastwood Dr. East Peoria. Sign up at the information desk or online.
  - Tasting Peoria ~ September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. We will be going to Obed & Isaac's: 321 NE Madison Ave, Peoria. Sign up at the information desk or online.
  - Movie Night ~ September 27th at 6 p.m. The movie is *The Music Man*. Sign up at the information desk or online.
  - Illinois Valley Cluster 5K Mission Dash ~ September 21<sup>st</sup> at 10 a.m. at the Rock Island Trail. The funds raised will go to hospital beds in the DR Congo. Registration forms are on the information desk.