

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Becky Sisk
Elders ~ Sandy Surface/Beth Cox
Layreader ~ Kate Spielman
Greeters ~ Tim Dougherty/Sandy Surface
Acolyte ~ Clara Truelove
Deacons
 Chancel – Kelsey Reynolds
 *Lisa Cheatham, Kyle Cheatham, Beth Reynolds
* = Head Deacon (**Please count attendance**)
Counters ~ Mike & Laura Buckley



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

- 5:45-7:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (Nursery)
- 6:45-7:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (110)
- 7:00 p.m. – Cluster Meeting (Sunnyland)

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School

SATURDAY

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

NEXT SUNDAY *Installation Sunday*

- 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)
- **There will not be an End-of-the-Month Potluck in January due to the high transmissibility of Covid. MLT will monitor Covid stats to determine if it is safe in February.



January 23, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

He drew a circle that shut me out-
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle and took him In! —Edwin Markham

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 – Adagio (in Baroque Style)—Lau

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

A Moment of Silence

[†]Gathering Praise – Come, Christians, Join to Sing #90

(Sing with masks on)

[†]Call to Worship:

Leader: Come join the circle for Jesus is calling...

People: God calls us into the circle of visions and dreams where all are welcome and included.

Leader: Look around and see who's here, look at all the faces.

People: Look around, also, and see also who is not here.

Leader: God has called us to draw the circle wider; and to celebrate the wideness of God's community and grace.

People: Let us worship the God of love for all times and places and people together. Let us pray...

[†]Opening Prayer

Holy God, You call us together because you have welcomed one and all, sinner and saint, old and young. Your house is not just for the holy, or the wise, or those who fit in. Your house is for me; your house is for us. We are included because of your grace. There are still others who wait by the door. Open our eyes and hearts to the needs of those who wait. And we are grateful for the

(continued)

wideness of your mercy and love. We pray in the name of the one 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 – Mark 1:40-42

Matthew 19:13-14

Luke 19:1-6

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Anthem – How Sweet the Sound—arr. Ed Hogan

Sanctuary Choir

Message

Karen Merrick

The Word Becoming Flesh: Drawing the Circle Wider

[†]Hymn of Commitment – In This Very Room #295

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – Take Our Bread #413

The Lord's Supper – Nearer, My God, to Thee—Mason/Krug

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – Holy King—Dykes/Schram

(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your gift in the plate on the communion table.)

[†]Doxology

Thomas Ken, 1674

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

[†]Dedication of Offering

[†]Benediction

[†]Congregational Response #439

God, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (vs. 1)

[†]Postlude – Jesus Shall Reign—Hatton/Page

- TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)
- Because of the high numbers of those contracting Covid in Peoria County, we will be encouraging our worshipers to once again sit every other pew. Please sit in the pew with the decorated end.
 - 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.

Growing Home

This Sunday

January 23, 2022

Adopted by:

Dan Pemberton

Thank you for this generous gift supporting our priority of gathering for worship every Sunday and recognizing our desire to enhance our worship experience.

"Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple and they broke bread in their homes. And the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

-Acts 2:46a, 47b