

**MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .**

Presiding Elder ~ Mike Buckley  
Elders ~ Becky Sisk/Carmen Nicoll  
Layreader ~ Kate Spielman  
Greeters ~ Debbie Presnell/Geraldine Runkle  
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods  
Deacons  
    Chancel – Katie Fitch  
    \*Laura Buckley, Jan Cusac, Nick Wronkiewicz,  
    Terrie Wronkiewicz  
\* = 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  
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

[www.fccpeoria.org](http://www.fccpeoria.org)  
[www.facebook.com/fccpeoria](https://www.facebook.com/fccpeoria)

**Calendar**

**TODAY**

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 11:45 a.m. – Elders Meeting (110)
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service at Mackinaw Christian Church. Guest Speaker – Rev. Dwight Winnett.
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

**MONDAY**

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class
- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

**TUESDAY**

- 10:00 a.m. – Adam Hamilton DVD Lenten Study (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S/110)

**WEDNESDAY**

- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

**THURSDAY**

- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

**FRIDAY**

- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School (Classrooms)

**SATURDAY**

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

**NEXT SUNDAY** *Third Sunday in Lent*

- 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)
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service at First Christian Church, Henry. Guest Speaker – Rev. David James.
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



**March 5, 2023**

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

*Founded in 1845*



Today's Meditation  
*Never mistake knowledge for wisdom. One helps you make a living; the other helps you make a life.* —unknown

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 – *Prelude on “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”*  
—Wilson/McConnell  
*(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)*

A Moment of Silence  
\*Gathering Praise – *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* #66

\*Call to Worship  
*Leader: Who is wise and understanding among us?*  
**People: Those who seek wisdom and understanding each and every day.**  
*Leader: Come, let us learn more about the wisdom from above, a wisdom that yields a harvest of righteousness.*  
**People: O God, your wisdom is more precious than jewels! We draw near to you.**

\*Opening Prayer  
*Leader: Let us pray together...*  
**We ask for your wisdom, O God, not the earthly wisdom that we hear and see every day. Let your understanding flow through our lives like a stream, so that we may bear the good fruits of welcome and compassion. This we ask as we pray the prayer your Son taught us, 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 – 2 Chronicles 1:1, 7-13  
*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, Jenny Tripses, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)*

Anthem Sanctuary Choir  
*Be Thou My Vision*—John Ferguson

Message – *What Solomon Prayed* Karen Merrick

\*Hymn of Invitation – *God of Grace and God of Glory* #464

A Time of Prayer

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

The Lord's Supper – *Meditation on “The Lord's My Shepherd”*  
—Irvine/McDonald  
**All: “Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God's grace.”**

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Savior, Your Dying Love*—Lowry/Smith  
*(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 – *Postlude on “Pange Lingua”*—Plainchant

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)

- St. David's Day ~ Today we celebrate St. David's Day, the patron saint of Wales. Please have a Welsh teacake, enjoy the daffodils, and lift your voices in song to the Welsh hymn tunes throughout our worship.
- 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.
- March Sunday Morning Study ~ Becky Sisk is teaching our 9:00 a.m. Sunday School class in March. Her topic is “Jesus and Women”. Who were the women Jesus encountered and loved? What can we learn from Jesus and his interactions with the women he knew? Join us in March to find out!
- Elders Meeting ~ There is an Elders meeting today at 11:45 a.m. All Elders are encouraged to attend.
- Disciples Women ~ Join us on Tuesday, March 14, at 12:00 noon. Our speaker is from the Peoria Public Library and the topic is History of Peoria. Please bring your own lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. Please sign up at the information desk. All are welcome!
- Tasting Peoria ~ Thursday, March 16, at 6:00 p.m. at Slow Hand. Slow Hand serves up slow-smoked Midwestern BBQ. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Movie Night ~ Friday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. Join us for popcorn and the movie, “Matilda”. Please sign up at the information desk.