

Don't Forget...

Wedding Shower - TODAY after worship

Cluster Meeting - Tuesday @ 6:30pm

Bible Study - Wednesday @ 10:30am

Potluck - Next Sunday @ 12pm



Movie Night

Thursday @ 6pm



**Check out our full
calendar of events here**



Please always check with the church office if you are wanting to use the church building. Thank you!

A Beautiful Mess

Rest as Resistance

*He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
Psalm 23:2-3a*

We live in a culture that prizes productivity; always doing, always proving, always moving. But Scripture reminds us that God is also found in stillness. Even Elijah, God's fiery prophet, collapsed under the weight of exhaustion and despair. What did God do? Not scold him. Not demand more. God gave him food, water, and rest.

Rest is not weakness. It is holy resistance against the lie that our worth is measured by what we produce. It is a radical trust that God can hold the world together while we breathe, nap, sing, or simply be. Faith is not always about racing forward. It's about knowing when to stop, to lean back, and to let God restore us.

When we choose rest, we declare that the world is not ours to carry alone. We remember that God is the Creator, and we are creatures - finite, fragile, and yet deeply loved. And it's in that honesty that renewal happens. Like a hammock swaying in the breeze, rest reminds us: we are held, we are loved, and we are enough.

This Week's Practice: Try a New Angle

- Set aside 20 minutes to rest without multitasking, without agenda. Just be.
- Choose one restful ritual at home: a walk, a nap, reading, or quiet listening.
- Resist the urge to feel guilty about resting. Instead, receive it as God's gift.

Before You Go...

If you're tired, you're not alone. The Church is called to be a community of healing, not hustling. Take rest seriously. It's not selfish, it's sacred. And sometimes, the most faithful act is simply to stop.



**August 24, 2025
10:30am**

First Christian Church



**fccpeoria.org
socials: @FCCPeoriaIL**

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

† indicates standing, if able

Today’s Meditation

If we attempt to rest without including God in that time, we will fail. Truly resting physically and mentally means surrendering our circumstances to God.

†Fellowship of the Church

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

Music for Meditation

Sweet Hour of Prayer - Bradbury/Mansfield

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

A Moment of Silence

†Opening Hymn

My Hope Is Built

#537

†Call to Worship

Leader: Come, weary ones, who are carrying too much and moving too fast.

People: We are here, tired and honest.

Leader: God meets us with shade and stillness, with silence and grace.

People: This is not a pause in our faith. This is our faith.

Leader: So exhale. Be here. Let God hold what you can’t.

People: In rest, in quiet, in trust. We are met by God.

†Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

All: God, we are tired. Some of us are running on empty, some of us are pretending we’re fine, and some of us don’t know what we need; only that we need you. Help us to rest, to release, to breathe again. Remind us that we don’t have to hold it all because you are already holding us. Still and steady, we lift our voices saying...

†Vision Response

We Call Ourselves Disciples vs 4

#357

Scripture Reading

1 Kings 19:1–8

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message

Rev. Hannah Fitch

Special Music

Let the Peace of God Reign

Praise Team

Darlene Zschech

Sermon

Faith by the Hammock

Rev. Mason Fitch

†Hymn of Commitment

Come and Find the Quiet Center

#575

A Time of Prayer

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Communion Hymn

Sweet Hour of Prayer vss 1, 3

#570

The Lord’s Supper

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

Meditation on “Gott sei Dank” - Smith

Offering Statement

Tithes & Offerings

If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate in front of the communion table.

There’s a Spirit in the Air - McConnell

†Doxology

#46

†Dedication of Offering

†Benediction

†Congregational Response

Living for Jesus vs 1

#610

Postlude

Christ, Above All Glory Seated - Mansfield

Ministering Today

Presiding Elder

Becky Sisk

Elders

Carmen Nicoll

Sandy Surface

Deacons

Chancel Head

Joe Rex

John Best

Dan Cox

Debbie Presnell

Lay Reader

Connie Sinn

Acolyte

Natalie Woods

Greeters

Connie Sinn

Kathy Fenton

Counters

Owen & Alice

Jury

Adult SS

Roger Baker

Youth SS

Kathleen Wheeler

Preschool

Linda Rex

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

Staff

Rev. Mason Fitch

Pastor

Heather Woods

Music Ministry Coordinator

Brian Woods

Organist

Brandy Cox

Child Care

Diane Pfoff

Office Manager

Lynn Hutton

Bookkeeper

Sung Kim

Custodian