

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.

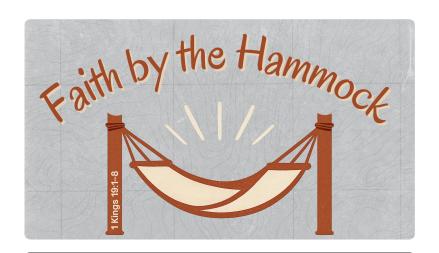
Rest is not weakness. It is holy resistance against the lie that our worth is measured by what we produce. It is a radical trust that God can hold the world together while we breathe, nap, sing, or simply be. Faith is not always about racing forward. It's about knowing when to stop, to lean back, and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



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

#537

My Hope Is Built

†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

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

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 Praise Team
Let the Peace of God Reign Darlene Zschech

Sermon Rev. Mason Fitch

Faith by the Hammock

†Hymn of Commitment #575

Come and Find the Quiet Center

A Time of Prayer

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Communion Hymn

Sweet Hour of Prayer vss 1, 3

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 #610

Living for Jesus vs 1

Postlude

#357

Christ, Above All Glory Seated - Mansfield

Ministering Today

Presiding Elder Becky Sisk Carmen Nicoll Sandy Surface

Deacons

Chancel Joe Rex Head John Best Dan Cox

Debbie Presnell

Lay Reader Acolyte Greeters

Connie Sinn Natalie Woods Connie Sinn Kathy Fenton Owen & Alice

Jury

Counters

#570

Adult SS Roge Youth SS Kathl

Roger Baker 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 Heather Woods Brian Woods Brandy Cox Diane Pfoff Lynn Hutton Sung Kim

Pastor Music Ministry Coordinator Organist

Organist
Child Care
Office Manager
Bookkeeper
Custodian