

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Kevin Cheatham
Elders ~ Mike Buckley & Keven Cheatham
Lay Reader ~ Becky Sisk
Greeters ~ Kathy Fenton & Connie Sinn
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Laura Cohen
 *Jake Cohen, Dana Powers & Tim Dougherty
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Steve West & Lisa Best

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, Social Media Coordinator
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

www.fccpeoria.org
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Calendar

- TODAY**
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- MONDAY**
5:30 p.m. - Worship Meeting (110)
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
6:30 p.m. – Personnel Meeting (CR)
- TUESDAY**
1:00 p.m. – Faith in Justice Task Force
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
6:00 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S/N)
- WEDNESDAY**
10:30 a.m. – Interim Search Committee (Peter’s House)
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- THURSDAY**
6:00 p.m. - Tasting Peoria – Oliver’s – Peoria Heights
6:00 p.m. - Peoria Players (FH)
- FRIDAY**
6:00 p.m. – Tamil School (Classrooms)
- SATURDAY**
10:30 a.m. – MLT Meeting
7:00 a.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)
- NEXT SUNDAY**
9:00 a.m. - Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service (S)
7:00 p.m. - Private Group (Landes) (110)



August 13, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation
Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. – 1 Thessalonians 5:11

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

A Moment of Silence
†Gathering Praise – Standing on the Promise #552

†Call to Worship
Leader: Sister and brothers – Arise.
People: Lift your hearts
Lift your eyes
Lift your voices.
Leader: The living God, the living, moving Spirit of God has called us together -
People: in witness
in celebration
in struggle.
Leader: Reach out toward each other.
People: Our God reaches out toward us!
Leader: Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer
Leader: Let us pray together...
ALL: Gracious God, you have called us into being, formed us as your people, and blessed us with countless gifts. Now receive our heartfelt thanks and praise. Loving Lord, you have given us your life, showing us the meaning of love and sacrifice. Please receive our love and service, which we offer in your name. Encouraging Spirit, you have come alongside us to comfort, strengthen, and guide. May our lives bear witness to your gifts and graces. This we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying...Our Father...

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

†Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri) #36

Scripture Readings – Hebrews 10:23-25
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children Hannah Fitch

Special Music – Rock of Ages – Rita Baloché Praise Team

Message – Encourage Deann Anderson

†Hymn of Invitation – They'll Know We Are Christians #494

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – Surely the Presence #263

The Lord's Supper –
Jesus, Bread of Life, I Pray Thee - Cruger/Wagner
All: "Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God's grace."

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings –
Scriptural Reflection: Mathew 11:28 - Groden
(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 –
There's Within My Heart a Melody vs. 1 #550

†Postlude – Processional in C minor - Canales

- 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 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 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.
 - Sunday Morning Study ~ Frank Wheeler will be teaching a class during August on Abraham and Sarah, Faithful Seekers of a Promise. Sign up at the information desk.
 - Fun in the Sun ~ Illinois Valley Cluster Picnic is August 19th from 12-5p.m. at Lake Wildwood, Varna IL. Sign up at the information desk.
 - Tasting Peoria ~ August 17th at 6 p.m. at Oliver's in Peoria Heights. Sign up at the information desk if you would like to attend.
 - Movie Night ~ August 25th at 7 p.m. the movie is Secretariat. Sign up at the information desk.
 - Potluck ~ August 27th Please bring a dish and your own tableware to reduce waste. If you can help with prep and cleanup sign up at the information desk.
 - Book Club ~ August 29th at 7 p.m. at Margaret Goulden's home. The book is: Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Sign up at the information desk.