

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Jenny Tripses

Elders ~ Pat Grate/Becky Sisk

Layreader ~ Larry Weber

Greeters ~ Laura & Jake Cohen

Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods

Deacons

Chancel – Laura Cohen

\*Jake Cohen, Tom Davis, Cheryl Davis, Darren Woods

\* = Head Deacon (Please count attendance)

Counters ~ Steve & Monica Hinrichs



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](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. – The Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 12:00 p.m. – End-of-the-Month Potluck (FH)
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 2:00-4:30 p.m. – CST Rehearsal (Ulrich) (FH)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 10:00 a.m. – PAMTA Meeting (110)
- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (classroom)
- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – CST Rehearsal (Ulrich) (FH)

TUESDAY

- 6:00-7:00 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S)
- 6:30 p.m. – Cluster Meeting (Sunnyland)

WEDNESDAY

- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – CST Rehearsal (Ulrich) (FH)

THURSDAY

- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – CST Rehearsal (Ulrich) (FH)

FRIDAY

- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School
- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – CST Rehearsal (Ulrich) (FH)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 10:30 a.m. – Baby Shower (L/K)  
Elisa (Peters) & Mark Rogers  
Katie (Fitch) & Nick Wronkiewicz

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship in Sanctuary and on Facebook
- 11:45 a.m. – Elders Meeting
- 1:00-6:00 p.m. – Recital (Pittenger) (S/L)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



April 24, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Second Sunday of Easter  
Sunflower Sunday

10:30 a.m.

April 24, 2022  
\*indicates standing, if able

Today's Meditation

*God is at home; it is we who have gone for a walk.*

—Meister Eckhart, 14<sup>th</sup> century

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 – *Sabbath Reverie*—Hiles

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

A Moment of Silence

\*Gathering Praise – *Crown Him with Many Crowns* #234

\*Call to Worship:

*Leader: In the breaking of bread and in prayer,*

**People: Jesus is among us!**

*Leader: In the telling and singing of God's story,*

**People: Jesus is among us!**

*Leader: In the sharing of resources and in justice,*

**People: Jesus is among us!**

*Leader: In this holy place and in this sacred moment,*

**People: Jesus is among us!**

\*Opening Prayer

*Leader: Let us pray together...*

**Elusive God, companion on the way, you walk behind, beside, beyond; you catch us unawares. Break through the disillusionment and despair clouding our vision, that, with wide-eyed wonder, we may find our way and journey on as messengers of your good news. This we ask in the name of your son, who taught us to pray, singing...**

*The Lord's Prayer – #307*



Sunflower Sunday: Growing Hope  
Praying for Peace

Scripture Reading – Luke 24:13-35

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Special Music – *Here I Am to Worship*—arr. Douglas E. Wagner  
Jubilate Ringers

Message – *Unanswered Answered Prayers* Karen Merrick

\*Hymn of Commitment words on screen  
*Come to Us, Beloved Stranger*—Edith Sinclair Downing  
Tune: *Beach Spring*

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Ancient Words* words on screen

The Lord's Supper – *Andante Cantabile*—Beethoven

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Meditation*—Gottschalk  
*(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your gift in the plate on the communion table.)*

\*Doxology #46

\*Dedication of Offering

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response – *Living for Jesus* (vs. 1) #610

\*Postlude – *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*—Holden

**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 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.
- New Studies being offered:  
(sign up at the information desk)

Sunday Morning Bible Study on the New Testament Book of Philippians to begin May 1 at 9:00 (five sessions). Randy Williams will be guiding the class.

Mid-Week Study: The Lord's Prayer. Karen is offering this study based on Adam Hamilton's book. It is a six-week study on Thursday mornings at 10:00 beginning May 5.

- Disciples Women ~ Please join us for lunch at the Longhorn Steakhouse, 7401 Grand Prairie Drive, Peoria on Tuesday, May 10, at 12:00 noon. This is our last meeting until September 13. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Tasting Peoria ~ On Thursday, May 12, we're headed back to Kelleher's Irish Pub. This is a Peoria favorite, and one of ours too! Meet us at 6:00 p.m. for good food and even better company. Please watch for a sign-up at the information desk.
- 2022 Clarice May Scholarship Applications are now available. Please pick one up at the information desk.