

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Kevin Wolfe
Elders ~ Chere Peters/Jenny Tripses
Layreader ~ Kate Spielman
Greeters ~ Carney Lewis/Geraldine Runkle
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Lisa Cheatham
 *Lisa Cheatham, Adam Woods, Oliver Truelove,
 Victoria Truelove
* = 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
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

www.fccpeoria.org
www.facebook.com/fccpeoria

Calendar

TODAY

- 8:30-10:00 a.m. – Easter Brunch (FH)
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (classroom)
- 5:30 p.m. – Worship Meeting (110)
- 6:30 p.m. – Personnel Meeting (ECR)

TUESDAY

- 12:00 p.m. – Disciples Women (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Open Rehearsal (S/110/L)

FRIDAY

- 5:00-10:00 p.m. – CCT Auditions (Buckley) (FH/110/L)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – CCT Auditions (Buckley) (FH/110/L)
- 10:30 a.m. – MLT Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



April 9, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Easter Sunday

10:30 a.m.

April 09, 2023

** indicates standing, if able*

Today's Meditation

Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime. —*Martin Luther*

Preparing for Worship

We joyously welcome you to First Christian Church of Peoria. We are glad you're here on this Easter morning. For about 2000 years, people of every background, circumstance and mood have made their way to a tomb, to a church, to a community of faith to discover one thing: *He is risen!* And with that rising, hope has risen too. Dead places of our life are stirring again and new life is found. So, welcome!

Music for Meditation – *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*
—Sullivan/Smith

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

A Moment of Silence

Praising God

*The Good News according to Luke – Luke 24:1-12

*Easter Proclamation

Leader: He is Risen!

All: He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Gathering Praise – *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* #216

*Responsive Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

Roll away the stone, O God – roll away the stones that seal us in old patterns like a tomb. Work a resurrection in us today.

Raise our faith up to new life; fill us with the courage that comes from conviction.

Raise our church up to new life; fill us with the joy that comes from the possibilities of a new day.

Raise our nation up to new life; fill us with harmony, trust and mutual care.

(continued)

Raise our world up to new life; fill us with a spirit of peace and friendship and plenty.

Resurrecting and resurrected God, roll away the stones and raise us up to new life.

This we pray in the name of our Risen Lord, who taught us to pray, singing...Our Father...

The Lord's Prayer – #307

Passing of the Peace

Welcome

Hearing God's Word

Scripture Reading – Old Testament: Hosea 6:1a, 2-3

Congregational choral response:

Morning Has Broken (vs. 1) – #53

Scripture Reading – New Testament: John 1:1-5

Congregational choral response:

Morning Has Broken (vs. 3) – #53

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

(Following the children's message, children ages 5 and up are welcome to meet their teacher, Lexy Buckley, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Anthem

Sanctuary Choir

Christ Is Risen from the Dead!—Lloyd Larson

Easter Message ...Nonsense...

Karen Merrick

Easter Affirmation

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn of Invitation – *Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* #222

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *In the Garden*

#227

The Lord's Supper – *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

—Maker/Mansfield

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Ah, Holy Jesus*—Cruger/Hamilton

(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your gift in the plate on the communion table.)

*Doxology (tune: *All Creatures of Our God and King*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

*Dedication of Offering

Going Forth to Serve God

*Benediction

Leader: Christ is risen!

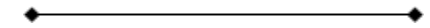
All: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: Go now as risen people.

All: Alive in the spirit and in the Way of Christ!

*Congregational Response – *Christ Arose!* (vss. 1, 3) #224

*Postlude – *Thine is the Glory*—Handel/Thygeson



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.