

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Steve West  
Elders ~ Carmen Nicoll/Sandy Surface  
Lay reader ~ Terry Wronkiewicz  
Greeters ~ Aldine Allen/Shirley Fuchs  
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods  
Deacons  
    Chancel – Kelsey Reynolds  
    \*Kelsey Reynolds, John Best, Terrie Wronkiewicz,  
    Tom Davis, Cheryl Davis  
\* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**  
Counters ~ Steve West/Ralph Tegg



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:  
Speaker: Ron Crawford  
Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries  
Brian Woods, Organist  
Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator  
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

[www.fccpeoria.org](http://www.fccpeoria.org)  
[www.facebook.com/fccpeoriaill](https://www.facebook.com/fccpeoriaill)

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**  
5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (classroom)  
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- TUESDAY**  
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)  
6:30 p.m. – Cluster Meeting (Sunnyland)
- WEDNESDAY**  
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- THURSDAY**  
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- FRIDAY**  
10:30 a.m. – Montessori Graduation (FH)  
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)  
7:00 p.m. – Movie Night-Thunder Force (S)
- SATURDAY**  
7:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- NEXT SUNDAY**  
9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS  
10:30 a.m. – Worship Service (S)  
12:00 p.m. – EOM Potluck (FH)  
7:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



May 21, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

*Feelings or emotions are the universal language and are to be honored. They are the authentic expression of who you are at your deepest place.*  
— Judith Wright

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.*

Minute for Mission

Video

Music for Meditation – *Lento Religioso* - Nevin

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

A Moment of Silence

<sup>†</sup>Gathering Praise – *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

#90

<sup>†</sup>Call to Worship

*Leader: Come with your questions, come with your awe!*

**People: For the God who broods over the chaos meets us in this place**

*Leader: Come with your energy, come with your weariness!*

**People: For the God who breathes new life into the dust meets us in this place.**

*Leader: Come with your sadness, come with your joy!*

**People: For the God who dared to become human meets us in this place.**

Opening Prayer

*Leader: Let us pray together...*

**All: We come today reminded of your greatness and glory, your sovereign power and eternal purpose all expressed so wonderfully in Jesus Christ, our Lord, Risen and Ascended. We thank you for the wonder of Ascension, that marvelous yet mysterious moment in the life of the Apostles which left them gazing heavenwards in confusion yet departing in joy. We thank you for the way that it brought the earthly ministry of Jesus to a fitting conclusion; signifying his oneness with you, and demonstrating your final seal of approval on all that he had done. In Christ's name we pray ...Our Father...**

*(Words to The Lord's Prayer may be found in the hymnal – #307)*

Scripture Readings – Acts 1:6-14 & John 17:1-11

*This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Anthem

Choir

*Ancient Words* – arr. Mary McDonald

Message – *Beyond the Edge of the Map*

Ron Crawford

<sup>†</sup>Hymn of Invitation – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

#517

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

#261

The Lord's Supper – *Gentle Jesus* - Jordan

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Devotion* - Nordman

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

<sup>†</sup>Doxology

#46

<sup>†</sup>Dedication of Offering

<sup>†</sup>Benediction

<sup>†</sup>Congregational Response – *This is the Day*

#286

<sup>†</sup>Postlude – *Honor and Glory* - Rinck

**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.
- Pentecost Offering ~ Offering's given on May 21 & May 28. Half of your gift will support local new church movement through your region's ministry, the other half supports New Church Ministry efforts across the United States and Canada.
- Book Club ~ May's book is "Becoming" by Michelle Obama. Join us May 23 at 7pm at Margaret Goulden's home. Sign up at the information desk.
- Movie Night ~ May 26 at 7 pm. The movie is Thunder Force.
- Our End-of-the-Month Potluck is next Sunday, May 28. If you can help please sign up at the information desk.
- Foster Village ~ First Christian Church will be a Donation Drive Partner for the month of June. For a list of the Village Closet needs check the information desk.
- Family Pajama Party ~ June 2 at 5:30 pm. Light dinner will be provided along with popcorn, party favors and a movie. Please sign up at the information desk.
- June's Sunday Morning Study ~ "Archaeology and the Bible" starts on June 4. Frank Wheeler will lead the class and focus on issues such as "How Archaeology Works" and "How Archaeology Helps Us Have a Better Understanding of the Bible."