

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .
Presiding Elder ~ Kevin Cheatham
Elders ~ Becky Sisk/Carmen Nicoll
Layreader ~ Larry Weber
Greeters ~ Pete Clausen/Jan Cusac
Acolyte ~
Deacons
 Chancel – Monica Hinrichs
 *Steve Hinrichs, Cheryl Davis, Tom 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:
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
www.facebook.com/fccpeoria

Calendar

TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Responders Class
- 10:30 a.m. – The Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 12:00 p.m. – End-of-the-Month Potluck (FH). Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Please join us for good food and fellowship!
- **No Bells or Choir rehearsals today**
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class (classroom)

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY *Ash Wednesday*

- 6:00 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Service (Glen Oak Christian Church)

THURSDAY

- 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study ~ *A Visual Walk Through Genesis* (110)

FRIDAY *World Day of Prayer*

- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

NEXT SUNDAY *First Sunday in Lent*

- 9:00 a.m. – Responders Class
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship in Sanctuary and on Facebook
- 11:45 a.m. – Elders Meeting
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



February 27, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

In the midst of winter, I find within me the invisible summer...

–Leo Tolstoy, *The Kingdom of God Is Within You*

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.

A Minute for Mission

Becky Sisk

Music for Meditation

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

A Moment of Silence

†Gathering Praise – *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

(Sing with masks on)

#2

†Call to Worship:

Leader: The kingdom of God is here.

People: Found in the little things.

Leader: The kingdom of God is here.

People: Found in the surprising things.

Leader: The kingdom of God is here.

People: Found within us. Thanks be to God.

†Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

Eternal God, we often find ourselves searching for you in your world around us. And yet, you are our still small voice within; you are the buried treasure in our hearts seeking to be uncovered. Meet each of us here in worship this hour and teach us to throw off the layers of fear, confusion, and all that the world has laid upon us. We seek your kingdom. We seek you within. We open our hearts and minds to the teachings of your Son, Jesus, who was one with you. Hear us as we sing together the prayer Jesus taught us...Our Father...

The Lord's Prayer - #307

Scripture Reading – Luke 17:20-21

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Special Music – *Lord, Be Glorified*—arr. Michael Ryan

Jubilate Ringers

Message

Karen Merrick

The Word Becoming Flesh: Finding Authenticity

†Hymn of Commitment – *Come and Find the Quiet Center* #575

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken* #387

The Lord's Supper

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings

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

†Doxology

Thomas Ken, 1674

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

†Dedication of Offering

†Benediction

†Congregational Response

Help Us Accept Each Other (vs. 1)

#487

†Postlude

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.
- Please Note: There will not be Bells or Choir rehearsals today, February 27th.
- New Church Telephone Directory ~ Our February 2022 Church Telephone Directory is now available. Please pick one up at the information desk.
- Ash Wednesday Service ~ Glen Oak Christian Church will be having an Ash Wednesday service on March 2nd at 6:00 p.m. We, and other Cluster churches, are invited to participate. It's a nice way to start the Lenten season with intentionality. Note: Masks are required.
- Lenten Devotional ~ Pick up your copy of this year's Lenten Devotional, *Gifts of the Spiritual Wilderness*, by J. Dana Trent. The devotionals are available at the information desk.
- Disciples Women ~ Tuesday, March 8, 12:00 noon. Disciples Women and Faith in Justice Task Force will present Matt Fuller from The Center for Prevention of Abuse. Matt will speak to us about Human Trafficking. Bring your own lunch. Dessert and drinks provided. Please sign up at the information desk. All are welcome!
- Tasting Peoria ~ Thursday, March 10, 6:00 p.m. at Weaver's Fresh Food & Drink. Please sign up at the information desk.