

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Jenny Tripses
Elders ~ Mason Fitch & Kevin Wolf
Lay reader ~ Sandy Surface
Greeters ~ Jake & Laura Cohen
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods

Deacons
Chancel – Laura Cohen
*Jake Cohen, Joe Rex, Kyle Cheatham & Darren Woods
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Jim & Beth Smittkamp



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:
Rev. Hank Anderson, Interim Minister
Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries
Brian Woods, Organist
Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator
Brandy Cox, Child-Care

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Calendar

- TODAY**
9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. – Worship Service (S)
12:00 p.m. – Potluck (FH)
7:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- MONDAY**
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- TUESDAY**
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- WEDNESDAY**
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- THURSDAY**
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- FRIDAY**
6:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (FH)
- SATURDAY**
7:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- NEXT SUNDAY – FATHER’S DAY**
9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
10:30 a.m. – Worship Service (S)
7:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



June 25, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Today's Meditation

The Lord showed them the way; during the day he went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud, and during the night he was in a pillar of fire to give them light.

Exodus 13:21a NCV

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 – *O God Beyond All Praising*

– Holst/Giamanco

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

A Moment of Silence

*Gathering Praise – *We've a Story to Tell to the Nation* #484

*Call to Worship

Leader: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

People: We rejoice in God, who made a way through the wilderness.

Leader: Let us worship God, who offers direction even when we have lost our way.

People: We rejoice in God, who never leaves us or abandons us.

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

People: We praise God for the grace that has saved us.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

ALL: God, you reign! Robed in majesty and armed with strength, you hold our world and our lives securely. Your throne has stood for all eternity. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God. Even when the waters rise up, we know that you are mightier.

We know that your love for us is complete and never ending. We lift this to you in the name of the One who taught us to pray... Our Father...

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

Scripture Readings – Luke 24:13-27

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

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

Special Music – *Awake! My Soul!* – Lee Black & Tony Wood

Ange Bertucci, Cindy Bridges & Mason Fitch

Message – *Smoke and Fire*

Rev. Hank Anderson

*Hymn of Invitation – *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* #622

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *The Old Rugged Cross* #548

The Lord's Supper – *Hear Now My Humble Prayer* - Smith

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Christ, We Adore and Worship Thee*

- arr. Wilson

(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 – *Here I Am, Lord* vs. 1 #452

*Postlude – *Rise Up and Serve the Lord* – Walter/Harris

- 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.
 - 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.
 - Book Club ~ June's book is "The Silver Ladies of Penny Lane" by Dee MacDonald. Join us June 27th at 7 p.m. at Margaret Goulden's home. Sign up at the information desk.
 - Celebrate ~ Steve and Chere Peters 50th Anniversary is June 30th at 6:30 p.m. at Elisa and Mark's home: 6412 N Brookwood Ln. Please join them in the celebration. No gifts please.
 - Get to know Hank ~ In order to get to know the congregation better we are setting up small groups of 8 to 10 people to meet and get acquainted with one another. Please sign up at the information desk.
 - Fun in the Sun – Illinois Valley Cluster Picnic is August 19 12-5p.m. at Lake Wildwood, Varna IL. Deadline to RSVP is August 17. Sign up at the information desk.
 - Potluck ~ Today after the service. Please join us for great food and conversation.