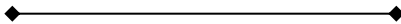


MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Kevin Wolfe
Elders ~ Kevin Cheatham/Steve West
Layreader ~ Becky Sisk
Greeters ~ Geraldine Runkle/Aldine Allen
Acolyte ~ Elliot Truelove
Deacons
 Chancel – Laura Cohen
 *Tim Dougherty, Jake Cohen, Victoria Truelove,
 Oliver Truelove
* = Head Deacon **(Please count attendance)**
Counters ~ Owen & Alice Jury



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

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 12:00 p.m. – End-of-the-Month Potluck (FH). Please bring a dish to share. Please join us for good food and fellowship!
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes)

MONDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

- 2:00 p.m. – Straight Up Solar Site Visit
- 7:00 p.m. – GLGC Book Club (Zoom)

SATURDAY

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

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick preaching
- 11:45 a.m. – Elders Meeting (110)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes)



July 31, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

There are two kinds of climbers: those who climb because their heart sings when they're in the mountains, and all the rest.

—Alex Lowe

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

(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

#2

*Call to Worship

Leader: “Hear what the Lord says: ‘Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.’” (Micah 6:1)

People: Mountains and hills are God’s witnesses.

Leader: Isaiah prophesied, “the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” (Isaiah 55:12b)

People: Hills rejoice and trees applaud our God.

Leader: Jesus said, “I tell you, if these disciples were silent, the stones would shout out.” (Luke 19:40)

People: Let all nature proclaim you Lord!

*Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together...

Holy God, we join the rocks and trees, the hills and valleys that cannot keep quiet but must praise you. From something deep within us, we recognize our unity with all creation as we join our voices to honor your name. We offer ourselves to you now, as we come into this holy space to meet you here. Hear us as we pray the prayer your son taught us to pray, singing... Our Father...

The Lord’s Prayer – #307

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 55 (selected verses)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

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

Special Music – The Light of Glory—Martin/Angerman

Ange Bertucci, Cindy Bridges, Mason Fitch

Message – Because It’s There: The Great Smoky Mountains

Karen Merrick

*Hymn of Commitment

words on screen

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – Holy Ground

#112

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

#46

*Dedication of Offering

*Benediction

*Congregational Response – Go in Peace

#445

*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.
- Summer Music Schedule ~ If you would like to share your talent with us this summer, please see the sign-up on the choir room door. There are still several dates available.
- August Sunday Study – Historical Evidence for the Christian Faith ~ Ilene Tegg will be leading the study Sunday mornings in August at 9:00 a.m. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Mission Dash 5K ~ Join the Cluster on Saturday, August 13, at 10:00 a.m. on the Rock Island Trail to walk for creation. **Please sign up at the information desk by today, July 31.**
- Illinois Valley Cluster “Fun in the Sun” Sunday Old Fashion Potluck ~ August 21, 3:00-5:30 p.m. at Lake Wildwood (Beach 1) in Varna, IL. Fried chicken, drinks and dinnerware are provided. Please bring a side dish to share. Swim at the pool or beach, fishing also available. **This is an RSVP ONLY event.** Please sign up at the information desk by **August 18.**
- Pet Blessing? ~ We are considering having a pet blessing this fall on October 1st. Please sign up at the information desk if you are interested.