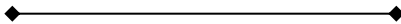


MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ Becky Sisk
Elders ~ Beth Smittkamp/Linda Rex
Layreader ~ Becky Sisk
Greeters ~ Debbie Presnell/Geraldine Runkle
Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods
Deacons
 Chancel – Katie Fitch
 *Laura Buckley, Jan Cusac, Nick Wronkiewicz,
 Terrie Wronkiewicz
* = 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
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
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service at First Christian Church, Henry. Guest Speaker – Rev. David James.
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class
- 5:30 p.m. – Worship Meeting (110)
- 6:30 p.m. – Personnel Meeting (ECR)
- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

TUESDAY

- 10:00 a.m. – Adam Hamilton DVD Lenten Study (110)
- 12:00 p.m. – Disciples Women (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S/110)

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

THURSDAY

- 6:00 p.m. – Tasting Peoria (Slow Hand BBQ)
- 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Peoria Players (Hunt) (FH)

FRIDAY

- 6:00-8:30 p.m. – Tamil School (Classrooms)

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 10:30 a.m. – MLT Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY *Fourth Sunday in Lent*

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be preaching
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 4:00 p.m. – Cluster Lenten Service at Eureka Christian Church. Guest Speaker – Rev. April McClure Stewart.
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



March 12, 2023

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Today's Meditation

If your theology doesn't lead you to love people more, you should question your theology.

—Anonymous

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 – *Songs of Hope*—Smith

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

A Moment of Silence

**Gathering Praise – All Creatures of Our God and King* #22

**Call to Worship*

Leader: In this season of Lent, we make our way to the cross,

People: We remember the steps that led Christ there: betrayal and fear, but also trust in God, and love for humanity.

Leader: In this season of Lent, as we make our way to the cross, we strive to follow Christ's example: to admit betrayal and fear that are part of life,

People: To embrace trust in God and love for humanity.

Leader: Let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us to pray. Our Father...

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

**Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)* #36

Baby Dedication

Valerie Rose Rogers

Parents: Mark and Elisa Rogers

Lily Hannah Wronkiewicz

Parents: Nick and Katie Wronkiewicz

Scripture Reading – 1 Chronicles 4:9-10

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, Tim Dougherty, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Special Music Jubilate Ringers

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise—Michael Ryan

Message – *What Jabez Prayed* Karen Merrick

**Hymn of Invitation* words on screen

The World Is Full of Stories

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Surely the Presence of the Lord* #263

The Lord's Supper – *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

—Douglas

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

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Peace Unending*—Becket

(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* #434

God Be with You Till We Meet Again (vs. 1)

**Postlude – To God All Praise and Glory*—arr. Wilson

- 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.
 - March Sunday Morning Study ~ Becky Sisk is teaching our 9:00 a.m. Sunday School class in March. Her topic is "Jesus and Women". All are still welcome!
 - Disciples Women ~ Join us on Tuesday, March 14, at 12:00 noon. Our speaker is from the Peoria Public Library and the topic is History of Peoria. Please bring your own lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. Please sign up at the information desk. All are welcome!
 - Tasting Peoria ~ Thursday, March 16, at 6:00 p.m. at Slow Hand. Slow Hand serves up slow-smoked Midwestern BBQ. Please sign up at the information desk.
 - Movie Night ~ Friday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. Join us for popcorn and the movie, "Matilda". Please sign up at the information desk.
 - Monthly Book Club ~ We will meet at Margaret Goulden's home on Tuesday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. The book we will be discussing is "Tending Roses" by Lisa Wingate. Please sign up at the information desk.
 - Sunday Funday! ~ Peoria Rivermen game on Sunday, March 26, at 3:15 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. Please sign up at the information desk. See Jake Cohen to pay for tickets and for any questions.