



Second Congregational UCC/First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)
Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God's grace

Reign of Christ
Order of Worship for Digital Service

November 22, 2020
10:00am

**= please rise, whether in body or in spirit*

PRELUDE "Give Thanks, With a Grateful Heart" H. SMITH, ARR. J. SANBORN

CENTERING Rebecca White Newgren

CALL TO WORSHIP* David Noel

Leader: Know that the Holy One is God.

All: We are God's people.

Leader: Worship the Holy One with gladness;

All: Come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

All: Make a joyful noise!

Leader: For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.

All: Let us worship with thanks and joy! Let us praise God in song and word and prayer!

HYMN "We Gather Together" E. KREMSER

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; He chastens and hastens His will to make known.

The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing; sing praises to His Name; He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;

So from the beginning the fight we were winning; Thou, Lord, were at our side, all glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant, and pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.

Let Thy congregation escape tribulation; thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

CALL TO CONFESSION** Becky Erbe

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Grace, we bring to you our ingratitude for all that you have done for us, our impatience when prayers seem to be ignored, our selfishness when prompted to give or share, our unfaithfulness when wandering from your way. We ask for your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ who gave all, that we might learn to do likewise. We revel in your grace in this silence...

One Minute of Silent Reflection

ASSURANCE AND PEACE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT "Three Great Loves: Love of Creation" Terry and Linda Mohaupt

EARLY WORD Becky Erbe

SONG

"O God We Bear the Imprint"
Paul Laprade, baritone, guitar, piano

MURRAY-TUCKER

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; then 31:31-34

SERMON

"Ripped and Ready"

Rebecca White Newgren

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO 2021 STEWARDSHIP

Jennifer Archer

With gratitude to for all we are and have done as a church, with your pledge to give we begin to dream of the possibilities for 2021. Please bring your pledge card to the pumpkin bar drive through at 11:30 today or mail it to the church office.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

There are three ways to give of yourself to the church: 1. The obvious, money. You can mail in your offering or click the orange DONATE button top right at secondfirst.org. Text to give is live! Text Give \$__ to 815-335-9911 and follow the instructions. 2. Send your prayer requests to Pastor Becky: becky.erbe@secondfirst.org. 3. Make yourself known to this community or offer your time/talent by emailing Rev. Rebecca: rebecca@secondfirst.org.

SONG OF OFFERING

"For Everyone Born"
Paul Laprade, guitar, bass, piano, voice

MURRAY-MANN

PRAYER FOR OFFERING**BLESSING AND BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

J. CRUGER/A. J. TRAVIS

**Worship Ways UCC*

***written by John Birch, and posted on Faith and Worship*

Thank you to our participants!

Rebecca White Newgren, welcome, sermon
David Noel, call to worship
Pastor Becky Erbe, call to confession, early word
Terry and Linda Mohaupt, stewardship moment
Paul Laprade, baritone, guitar, bass, piano, voice
Valerie Blair, organist, pianist
Andy Newgren, prayer, video
Wes Hegge, sound

Prayer Requests

Please keep these members and friends of the congregation in your prayers. Additions to the prayer list are always welcome. Prayer requests will be listed for one month. If you would like to remain on longer, please notify the office.

- We offer prayers, sympathy and support for friends and family of G. W. Lanford, (brother in law of Sue Saunders) who passed away Friday, November 20.
- We pray for with Shamika Williams whose sister died this week. Sympathy cards may be sent to church office.
- We offer prayers, sympathy, and support for friends and family of Ruthann Lenard, who passed away Sunday, November 15. No service information at this time.
- Continue prayers for Marsha Martin, Lenore Lund, Walt & Joyce Pennow, Charles Costello, Katy Paterson, Roman Campa, Ron Schaad, Barbara Smith (daughter of Alice Pampe), Terri Keller (daughter in law of Cara Keller), Jean Herro, Pastor Rebecca, Jackie Chamberlain, Cathy Toepfer (daughter of Jackie Chamberlain), Leah Baskin, Doris Rowald, and Philip & Shirley Davidson.
- And we pray for all those at home and in long-term care facilities, who may not be in worship regularly, but who remain part of our family of faith: Nancy Gallegos, Miriam Richardson, Jan Elliott, Willene Ziebell, Norman Fry, Darlene Miller, Wally Gayle, Lois Calhoun, Claude Vernam, Susan Dodillet, Charles Rosche, Arlene Snap, Lillian Smith, and Betty Haegg.

Pilgrim Potluck is now a Pumpkin Bar Drive Thru! Today from 11:30-12:30

How fun is this?! Come on down to church and drive thru under the portico for pumpkin bars. It is also a great opportunity to say hi to a few folks (masks required for all open car windows). This is also a great time to drop off your pledge card. Hope to see you all driving through!

Help Celebrate Jayne Pheiffer's 100th Birthday!!

Jayne's 100th birthday falls on December 18. We want to celebrate with her on Sunday, December 13, with a drive by birthday event.

We will meet in the parking lot of Lutheran High School (3411 N. Alpine Rd) at 1:45 pm. We will form a train of cars and travel to independence Village (3655 N. Alpine) to great Jayne via our cars. Please join us to make this a special day for Jayne. Feel free to make signs, bring balloons or just honk and wave. Call Debbie in the church office to let us know you want to participate.

Poinsettia Sunday, December, 20

We will be taking orders for poinsettias through Tuesday, December 8. The cost is \$14.00 and you can call or email Debbie with your order. Please mail your check to the church and note Poinsettia. Please let us know if you want the poinsettia to be in memory or in honor of a loved one.

Christmas Pageant

Family Christian Ed invites you to participate in a new sort of Christmas Pageant. It will involve recording yourself and sending it in or being recorded by one of us. Please let us know if you are interested as soon as possible. Parts for all ages! Please contact: Jennifer Archer

Christmas Prayer Stations December 21 - 23, Times varied and spaced apart

Missing the sanctuary this Christmas Eve? sign-up for your time to see the decorations and pray through the stations. Those who have come into the sanctuary after a time away have been stunned by its power to bring us before God. Come enjoy the decorations, music and be invited into prayer, confession and grace. Email debbie.wise@secondfirst.org or call the church office 815-963-8431. Masks and hand sanitizer required and offered at the door.

Virtual Christmas Eve Facebook Live 4:30 pm

The lights will be twinkling, the music flowing and the word inspiring. Join together across the bounds of space and time to worship the Christ who brings new life and joy to us in this year we desperately need him. Music featuring Nannette Felix on harp, Valerie Blair on organ and piano, Julie Cook Ramirez on classical guitar, the SecondFirst Choir making its digital debut and Paul Laprade directing and creating. Grab your own candle to light and join us for a meaningful celebration of Christmas.

Coffee Class continues to gather each Sunday at 8:30 am with a wide range of topics. Exact sessions are still being finalized, but this is a wonderful opportunity to connect with others. Contact Andy Newgren to receive the Zoom invite or be added to the email distribution list.

Boots for Haskell have been Delivered

As has been our tradition for many years now, we are providing snow boots to the students at Haskell School again this year. These boots allow the students to enjoy the outside during recess year-round. While outside play is always important, the social distancing required in the classrooms this year makes it even more important that the kids get to play outside and interact with their peers. The mission ministry team is accepting donations to help defray the costs of the boots. Please consider a donation to this wonderful cause. Checks can be mailed to the church with the memo line reading Haskell boots. Please feel free to contact Karen Olson with any questions.

Could Our Church Send 54 Children Back to School in Haiti?

This is the third year our church will be providing school funds for children in Saut-d'eau, Haiti. We have learned from James and Odette Casimir that there is no free public school, therefore each family must pay \$250 per child to provide for tuition, supplies, back-pack, uniform and lunch.

Our Mission Team has offered to donate one dollar for every two dollars given by the congregation. There are 54 children we are hoping to sponsor and at this time we still need \$3,740 to make it happen. If you would like to contribute to this project you may make a donation to SecondFirst Church with *Haiti Education Fund* in the memo line.

This project sends a message of peace, justice and joy to children who live far away but are in our thoughts and deeds.

If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to join the Haiti Interest Group at SecondFirst Church, please Contact: Roger and Carolyn Greenlaw or James and Odette Casimir

Stories of the Bible and the Stories of Our Lives Tuesdays at 12:00 noon

(no meeting Tuesday, November 24) Led by Rev. Rebecca on ZOOM

The stories of the Bible are full of pain and joy, suffering and triumph. In some ways they mirror our own stories and in other ways they seem distant and far away. Using the Narrative Lectionary text for the coming Sunday, we will study the passage and use it to reflect on our own lives. All are welcome. No Bible experience necessary. (Call the office if you need help with Zoom). Register with Debbie in the office to receive the Zoom link. Questions? rebecca@secondfirst.org

Serious Soup Monday's 11:30 am -12:30 pm

(there will no Serious Soup on November 30)

Serious Soup has begun with some changes. A few tables will be set up outside for guests to sit as they eat. Lunches will be warm to go bag lunches. Contact: becky.erbe@secondfirst.org

Second Congregational / First Presbyterian Church
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