



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

Third Sunday after Epiphany
Order of Worship

January 23, 2022
10:00am

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

Thank you for being vaccinated and for wearing your mask to protect our children and immunocompromised.

PRELUDE

"How Firm a Foundation"

HAYES/WAGNER

CENTERING

Rebecca White Newgren

Leader: God be with you,

All: and also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP ♦**

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord is upon us!

All: God has anointed us to bring good news to the poor.

Leader: to proclaim freedom for the prisoners

All: and recovery of sight for the blind,

Leader: to set the oppressed free.

All: Let us worship the God of justice and peace!

***HYMN #409 vs 1,2**

"God Is Here!"

F. P. GREEN

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, All our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Becky Erbe

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ♦

Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives: The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely places, see the world with new and gracious eyes. Move to those places where love is needed, have faith that you are with us. This we continue to pray in silence...

One Minute of Silent Reflection

ASSURANCE AND PEACE

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

***SONG OF PRAISE**

"The Gloria Patri"

GREATOR EX

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Katy Paterson

EARLY WORD

Rachel Huffman

*SONG

"All Is Well"
Carillons

ARR J. RANEY

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-21

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Good Question"

Rebecca White Newgren

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Andy Newgren

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 THE OFFERING

There are three ways to give of yourself to the church: 1. The obvious, money. There are baskets in the front of the sanctuary. You can mail in your offering or click the orange DONATE button top right at secondfirst.org. Or text "Give \$__" to 815-335-9911 and follow the instructions. 2. Drop a prayer card in the basket or send your prayer requests to Pastor Becky: becky.erbe@secondfirst.org. 3. Make yourself known to this community or offer your time/talent with a Welcome card or by emailing Rev. Rebecca: rebecca@secondfirst.org.

*SONG OF OFFERING # 100 vs, 1,2

"Canticle of Turning"

R. COONEY

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast: God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp. This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.

Refrain:

*DOXOLOGY #606

PRAYER FOR OFFERING

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"This Little Light of Mine"
Carillons

ARR. J. HONORÉ

The flowers on the chancel are given this morning in memory of Bob Herro by his wife Jean, sons, Michael and Gregory, and their families for the enrichment of everyone here today, especially the Green Bay Packer Fans.

*"All Is Well" "This powerful setting expresses the message that in both life and death, all is well"

◆posted on *Waiting for Walter*

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist

Jim Burright, head usher

Wes Hegge, sound

Bob Langford, van driver

Fudge Sunday!!

It is a real thing and coming to us on Sunday, February 13. Enjoy take home fudge for Valentine's Day or eat while you view the Annual Budget Meeting.

Chancel Flowers Calendar

We have Sundays available for anyone who wants to participate in providing flowers for the chancel area. Just select a date and contact Debbie & Mary to confirm which open Sunday you want to donate an arrangement.

Pepper Creek is the florist that we use as they will deliver on Saturday and the flowers are freshest. (you may use any florist or greenhouse you wish), and if you prefer to pick up and bring the arrangement in by 9:30 on Sunday that's just fine. Please let the office know by if you want to participate this year.

Jubilee Soup Kitchen

Our next date for serving lunch will be February 26. I am heading up the team and am anticipating preparing 'to go' lunches again, so a crew of about 5 masked souls will be sufficient for this day. Contact: Marge Maynard mtm.home@me.com or the church office if you can participate that day. FYI future dates are April 23, June 18, August 27, October 29 and November 26.

Rockford Overnight Café

The Café is open! It will be open for anyone needing to get out of cold from 8:00 pm-7:00 am daily. We hope we can stay open through Sunday March 13. There are plenty of opportunities to support the Café. We will be seeking volunteers from 7:30 pm-10:30 pm and again from 5:30 am-7:00 am. We are also seeking donations of meals, soups, casseroles or carry-ins are appreciated. We have a Meal Train sign up. If you have any questions contact Becky Erbe.

Coffee Class

Coffee Class continues in the new year 8:30 am Sunday mornings. Upcoming topics include Stories of Faith featuring our own Second First members, women in ministry, baptism, and much more. Contact Andy Newgren (andy.newgren@secondfirst.org) for the Zoom link and to get on the distribution list, with ideas for what you would like to see discussed, and if you have a session you would like to lead or facilitate.

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 Helen Millikin, friend of the church, who passed away Tuesday, January 18.
- We offer prayers, sympathy, and support for friends and family of Ken Beeman, brother of Holly Beeman, who passed away Saturday, January 15.
- Continue prayers for **Cara Keller, Alice Pampe**, Dustin Eklund, Julie Cook Ramirez, Bill and Becky Kallmann, Jeanne Page, Joyce Pennow, Greg Makulec, Beckett Krieg (great nephew of Sandy Williams), Jacob Crow (nephew of new members Josh and Adrian Crow), Doris Rowald, Ron Schaad, Katy Paterson, Barbara Smith (daughter of Alice Pampe), Cathy Toepfer (daughter of Jackie Chamberlain), 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: Marsha Martin, Billye Vernam, Nancy Gallegos, Willene Ziebell, Norman Fry, Arlene Snap, Jan Elliott, Wally Gayle, Lois Calhoun, Charles Rosche, Lillian Smith, and Betty Haegg.

Annual Budget and Foundation Meeting Announcement

Join together (method TBA) at 11:00 am Sunday, February 13, 2022 for the Annual Budget and Foundation Meeting. Budget packets will be available February 6.

Calendar at a Glance January 23-January 30

Sunday, Jan. 23 Carillons 8:30 AM – Coffee Class* 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store 11:15 AM – Family CE Monday Jan. 24 11:30 AM - Serious Soup 6:30 PM – Worship Team	Tuesday, Jan. 25 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 12:00 PM – Narrative Bible Study* Wednesday Jan. 26 10:00 AM - Staff Meeting 11:30 AM - Covid Committee 12:00 PM – JD Executive Meeting 5:00 PM – Safety Town Hall Thursday Jan. 27 9:30 AM - Carillons 7:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM – Governing Council No Choir Rehearsal	Friday, Jan. 28 No Scheduled Activities Saturday, Jan. 29 1:30 PM – String Band Rehearsal Sunday Jan. 30 Church Street String Band 8:30 AM – Coffee Class* 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store
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Second Congregational (UCC) / First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

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Ministers: All Members

Moderator: Katy Paterson moderator@secondfirst.org

Senior Pastor: Rev. Rebecca White Newgren rebecca.whitewnewgren@secondfirst.org

Associate Pastor, Member Care and Neighborhood Connections: Becky Erbe becky.erbe@secondfirst.org

Children and Family Coordinator: Rachel Huffman rachel.huffman@secondfirst.org

Director of Theological Engagement: Andy Newgren andy.newgren@secondfirst.org

Organist/Pianist: Valerie Blair valerie.blair@secondfirst.org

Director of Handbell Ministries: Julie Cook Ramirez julie.cookramirez@secondfirst.org

Director, Peanut Bells: Sarah Hallberg sarah.hallberg@secondfirst.org

Director, Carillons: Joyce Zartman joyce.zartman@secondfirst.org

Bookkeeper/Business Manager: Nancy Yoeckel nancy.yoeckel@secondfirst.org

Office Manager: Debbie Wise debbie.wise@secondfirst.org

Building Manager: Jeff Byrne jeff.byrne@secondfirst.org

Housekeeper: Maria Mandujano

Gatekeepers: Todd Wilson, Christoffer Banks