



Second Congregational UCC/First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God's grace

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 2, 2023

Order of Worship

10:00am

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

Thank you for being vaccinated. Wearing masks is strongly recommended.

PRELUDE

"Eternal God the Father"

ARR. C. CALLAHAN

INTROIT

"This Little Light of Mine"

A. A. SPIRITUAL

Up North 4

WELCOME

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

Becky Erbe

All: And also with you.

Children in grades Pre-K through 5th may leave for Sunday School and will return to their parents/guardians for Communion.

*CALL TO WORSHIP♦

Jim Burright

Leader: We've come to worship, to sing and pray and hear God's Word, because:

All: God's love lasts forever!

Leader: Even when God seems far away, we know:

All: God's love lasts forever!

Leader: Even when nothing is going right, and we're ready to give up:

All: God's love lasts forever!

Leader: When people treat us badly, we know:

All: God's love lasts forever!

Leader: When we're all alone, and we feel like no one loves us, we know:

All: God's love lasts forever! Let's worship God together!

*HYMN #346 vs 1-4

"For the Healing of the Nations"

ST. THOMAS

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords; to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

CALL TO TRANSFORMATION♦♦

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

God, we confess that we have failed in your sight. Despite our best efforts and intentions, we have failed to consistently live in ways that bring honor to your name. Forgive us. Through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit, set us free from attitudes and actions that do not lead to life.

One Minute of silent reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

***THE PEACE**

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

***GLORIA PATRI**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darlene Riddle

ANTHEM

“Praise to the Lord Almighty”
Up North 4

LOBE DEN HERREN

SCRIPTURE READING

Kings 19:1-18

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

PULPIT TALK

In a Whisper

Jim Ozee

***HYMN #340 vs 1-3**

“This Is My Song ”

FINLANDIA

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine. But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine. So hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms: thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done. Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one. So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations: myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a privilege, and joy to praise you...

...we join our voices to those of the heavenly host who sing to your glory, saying:

Organ: All:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you,
 God of pow - er and might; heav - en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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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

BREAKING THE BREAD AND POURING THE WINE

SHARING THE FEAST

An Open Table! When we celebrate Holy Communion, we are all guests at the table, and Jesus himself is our host. We have not earned a place at the table, rather we are invited because of the amazing grace of God. For that reason, this celebration of Holy Communion is open to all, including children, and not merely members of this congregation or denominations. This is a joyful feast for all the people of God. In order to extend hospitality to more of God's children, the cup is non-alcoholic and the bread is gluten free.

MEDITATION SONG

"Break thou the Bread of Life"
 Up North 4

W. F. SHERWIN

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Darlene Riddle

There are many ways to give of yourself to the church: 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. Please send your prayer requests to Pastor Becky: becky.erbe@secondfirst.org

SONG OF OFFERING

"How Firm a Foundation" EARLY AMERICAN/ M. BURKHARDT

***DOXOLOGY #606**

***HYMN #339** vs 1- 3

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty; Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us. Facing the rising sun, of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won!

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our parents sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered; we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who has brought us thus far on the way; thou who has by thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”
Up North 4

RANDOLPH

POSTLUDE

“America, the Beautiful”
please remain seated for the postlude

ARR. J. RANEY

♦ written by Christine Longhurst, *Re; Worship*

♦♦ *Re; Worship*

Up North 4, John Maynard, Mark Stratemeyer, Rick Schultz, Doug Phillips
Valerie Blair, organist, pianist, director of music
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, sound, video
Peter Joachim, van driver

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.

- Continue prayers for Marianne Marlow, Linda Miller, Kathy Moton, Rick Gallegos, Lenore Lund, Ann Stites, Katy Paterson, Peter Joachim, Roseva Massenat, Richard Lierman, Sally Baker, Stephanie Cooper, Cara Keller, Vernon Carter, Dustin Eklund, Bill and Becky Kallmann, Beckett Krieg, Cathy Toepfer, 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: Shirley Anderson, Arlene Snap, Jeanne Page, Joyce Pennow, Phyllis Seeman, Marsha Martin, Billye Vernam, Nancy Gallegos, Willene Ziebell, Jan Elliott, Wally Gayle, Lois Calhoun, Charles Rosche, Lillian Smith, Carol Eggleston, and Ruby Beckman.

Peanut Butter Drive We Need Your Help!

Donations of peanut butter & SunButter (for children with peanut allergies) in plastic jars only, jelly, &/or monetary donations are requested by Rock River Valley Pantry and will be distributed to needy kids for their summer vacation time away from school. The Rock River Valley Pantry serves more than 2,500 kids every month during the summer, when school lunch is not an option. Per Exec Dir Kim Adams-Bakke, "Peanut butter is high protein. It does not require any cooking, and it is something safe [that] kids can make for themselves while at home."! Let us overflow the large container at the back of our sanctuary with jars of peanut butter and jelly.

Check donations: write "RRVP Peanut Butter" on the memo line. A donation of \$20 will buy a 12-pack of 18-ounce jars of peanut butter. Thank you in advance for your generous hearts on behalf of our community's neediest children.

Your Mission Ministry Team

Calendar at a Glance July 2-July 9, 2023

Sunday, July 2 Pulpit Talk Jim Ozee 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store Monday, July 3 Office Closed No Serious Soup	Tuesday, July 4 Office Closed Wednesday, July 5 10:00 AM - Staff Meeting Thursday, July 6 Tower Hill No Hospitality Team	Friday, July 7 No Scheduled Activities Saturday, July 8 9:00 AM – Bridge Clinic Sunday, July 9 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School
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Jubilee Soup Kitchen Saturday, July 29 10:00-1:00

Our next serving date at the Saturday Soup Kitchen at the Jubilee Center just west of the Emmanuel Episcopal church building. Marge is the Team Leader for the day, and your presence would be the perfect present for the day. We will work from 10 am to about 1 pm; whatever amount of time you can share, you will be welcomed! This Soup Kitchen is open every Saturday, year-round, holidays included, and is staffed on a rotation basis by a number of churches and service oriented groups. We here at SecondFirst are responsible for 6 Saturdays during the calendar year. Whether you are a fresh volunteer or are well-seasoned, let Marge know to expect you. Thanks!

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Ministers: All Members

Moderator: Darlene Riddle moderator@secondfirst.org

Acting Senior Pastor: Becky Erbe becky.erbe@secondfirst.org

Children and Family Coordinator: Aubrey Barnett aubrey.barnett@secondfirst.org

Youth Director: Rachel rachel.huffman@secondfirst.org

Director of Music, Organist/Pianist: Valerie Blair valerie.blair@secondfirst.org

Choir Director: Richard Stiltner richard.stiltner@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