



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

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship

July 16, 2023
10:00 am

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

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

PRELUDE

“Blessed Assurance”

G. NEAR

WELCOME

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP♦**

Nicholas Archer

Leader: Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines,

All: let's praise God together!

Leader: For listening when we call, answering our prayers, forgiving our mistakes, and providing what we need:

All: let's praise God together!

Leader: Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines,

All: let's praise God together!

***HYMN #32 vs 1-3**

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

ELLACOMBE

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day. The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food. God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye, if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known. And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne, while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care, and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION♦♦

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service.

One Minute of silent reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

***THE PEACE**

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

***GLORIA PATRI** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darlene Riddle

EARLY WORD

Rachel Dewis

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Katy Paterson

ANTHEM

“Hymn of Promise ”
Marge Maynard soprano, Donna Schaad alto

N. SLEETH

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:15-21

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Movie Series Part Two-The Color Purple

Becky Erbe

***HYMN** #531 vs 1- 3

“Seed, Scattered and Sown”

SEED SCATTERED

REFRAIN: Seed, scattered and sown; wheat, gathered and grown; bread, broken and shared as one, the living bread of God. Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands; one cup that is shared by all, the living cup, the living bread of God.

Is not the bread we break a sharing in our Lord? Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ outpoured?

REFRAIN

The seed which falls on rock will wither and will die. The seed within good ground will flower and have life. **REFRAIN**

As wheat upon the hills was gathered and was grown, so may the church of God be gathered into one.

REFRAIN

PASTORAL PRAYER

Darlene Riddle

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

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

“Alleluia”

W. MOZART

Marge Maynard soprano, Donna Schaad alto

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

HYMN #322 vs 1

“We Are One in Christ Jesus”

SOMOS UNO

REFRAIN: We are one in Christ Jesus, all one body, all one spirit, all together. We are one in Christ Jesus, all one body, all one spirit, all together.

We share one God, one mighty Lord, one abiding faith, one binding love, one single baptism, one Holy Comforter, the Holy Spirit, uniting all. **REFRAIN.**

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“All Creatures of Our God and King”
please remain seated for the postlude

ARR. V. LABENSKE

♦Christine Longhurst, *re:Worship*

♦♦written by Beth Merrill Neal

Marge Maynard soprano, Donna Schaad alto

Val Blair, organist, pianist, director of music

Katy Paterson, van driver

Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, sound, video

The Flowers on the Altar are given by Linda Oshita, in Celebration of the the Outstanding Ministry Teams of SecondFirst Church.

Donations Making A Difference!

A Shout-Out to all of you who have donated food items to the Pantry box!! Steve Showers has kindly delivered them to the Rock River Valley Food Pantry, in all 148 pounds!!! It is amazing what all our little gifts can add up to, together!! So, you know what this means-the Pantry cart is empty and has plenty of room for more donations!! Keep them coming!!

Blessings to all from our Mission Ministry Team

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers for **Linda Roy**, Bethany Stiltner, 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 and 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, Marsha Martin, Billye Vernam, Nancy Gallegos, Willene Ziebell, Jan Elliott, Wally Gayle, Lois Calhoun, Charles Rosche, Lillian Smith, Carol Eggleston, and Ruby Beckman.

Family CE Pool Party Today, July 16, 11:30 am

Annual Pool Party at Sarah L. Hallberg's house on July 16th beginning at 11:30 am! Hot dogs will be served.

It's here! The SecondFirst Merchandise Store is open!

We know you want shirts and hats to wear to church events, fellowship and volunteering and we now have many options for you to choose from. You can get the church logo on the upper right chest, the church logo full front OR you can choose the church logo on the upper right chest and a custom WordCloud on the back (Make sure to choose a shirt with "wordcloud" in the description). You can pick them up from Embroid This on North Second St. or choose to have them picked up at Church. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jennifer Archer.

Place your order at https://stores.inksoft.com/second_first

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!

Upcoming faith and the Movies

July 23- Cinderella Man- based on a true story of James Braddock, starring Russell Crowe, Rene Zellweger, and a great performance by Paul Giamatti. Movie directed by Ron Howard.

July 30- Imitation of Life- 1959 film version, cast of thousands, including a singing cameo by Mahalia Jackson. Bring Kleenex.

Calendar at a Glance July 16,-July 23, 2023

Sunday, July 16 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:30 AM – Pool Party Family CE at Hallberg's Monday, July 17 11:30 AM – Serious Soup	Tuesday, July 18 7:00 AM – Men's Prayer Breakfast No Missions Ministry Wednesday, July 19 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 5:30 PM - Trustees Thursday, July 20 No Scheduled Activities	Friday, July 21 No Scheduled Activities Saturday, July 22 9:00 AM – Habitat Lunches 9:00 AM – Bridge Clinic Sunday, July 23 String Band 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School
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Second Congregational (UCC) / First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

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Ministers: All Members

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