



## Second Congregational UCC/First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

*Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God's grace*

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023

Order of Worship

10:00 am

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

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

### PRELUDE

"The Church in the Wildwood"  
Church Street String Band

W. PITTS

### WELCOME

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

Becky Erbe

**All: And also with you.**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP♦

Roman Ramirez

Leader: We've come to worship God,

**All: who loved us before we were yet born,**

Leader: who knows us even better than we know ourselves,

**All: whose presence never leaves us,**

Leader: and whose love for us never ceases.

**All: This is our God. Let's worship together!**

### \*HYMN #645 vs 1-4

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation. With healing balm, my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled: to God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth; by morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth. Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing, an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing, as with a mother's gentle hand, God leads the chosen band: to God all praise and glory!

Thus, all my toilsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises, that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises. Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part: to God all praise and glory!

### CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION♦♦

#### PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

**It is said that confession is good for the soul, but there are times, O Lord, when we just don't want to confess, we don't want to own up to the many ways in which we have failed to be your faithful disciples. Be with us. Forgive us when we have failed to love and treat others with respect and compassion. Turn our hearts back toward you, who always reaches out to us offering healing and love. These things we prayer to you in this silence...**

*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

Aubrey Barnett

## SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 28:10-19a

Darlene Riddle

## ANTHEM

“Sweet By and By”  
Church Street String Band

S. F. BENNETT

## SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:1-8

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Movie Series Part Three-Cinderella Man

Becky Erbe

### \*HYMN #649 vs 1-5

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come. ‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

## 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](http://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](mailto:becky.erbe@secondfirst.org).*

## SONG OF OFFERING

“Put Your Hand in the Hand”  
Church Street String Band

G. MACCLELLAN

## \*DOXOLOGY #606

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

Leader: May our offerings of money, time, and energy be instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred

**All: Let our offerings sow love;**

Leader: Where there is injury, pardon.

**All: Where there is doubt, faith.**

Leader: Where there is despair, hope.

**All: Where there is dimness, illumination.**

Leader: Where there is sadness, joy.

**All: For it is in giving that we receive. Amen.**

## HYMN #623 vs 1-3

“I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

I’ve got peace like a river; I’ve got peace like a river; I’ve got peace like a river in my soul. **REPEAT**

I’ve got joy like a fountain; I’ve got joy like a fountain; I’ve got joy like a fountain, in my soul. **REPEAT**

I’ve got love like an ocean; I’ve got love like an ocean; I’ve got love like an ocean, in my soul. **REPEAT**

## \*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

“I Saw the Light”  
Church Street String Band

H. WILLIAMS, ARR. J. BURRIGHT

*please remain seated for the postlude*

♦re:Worship

♦♦written by Nancy Townly-Ministry Matters

Church Street String Band: Jim Burright, guitar, vocals; Marilyn Hartzog, guitar, vocals; Bill Zartman, fiddle; Joyce Zartman percussion, vocals; Molly Doolittle, flute, Doug Phillips, bass, vocals; Valerie Blair, hammered dulcimer.

Val Blair, organist, pianist, director of music

Tim Riddle, van driver

Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, sound, video

*The Flowers on the Altar are given by Cynthia Johnson,  
in memory of Hugh and Tottie Johnson.*

## **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.

**Happy August Church Family!! Annual Picnic Sunday, August 20, 11:30 am Paige Park Pavilion**  
Deacons Fellowship are excited to announce the return of the “potluck” portion of the church picnic. We will be returning to Anna Paige Park for our annual church picnic! Dig out your go to dish to pass recipes and join us us August 20th after church. The bus will be running and we will be offering snacks to those waiting for festivities to begin. We will be having some children’s activities led by our Christian Ed Ministry team and are excited to ask everyone to stay for our new annual drone photo.

We are so excited to see everyone and go back to a great time of fellowship and gathering. We will be providing brats, hot dogs, and vegan hot dogs. We will also have water and lemonade. Desserts, salads, and other favorite dishes will be up to you! We cannot wait to see you all there!

Sincerely,

Your Deacons Fellowship Team

## **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](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.

## Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, August 27

Our annual Blessing of the Backpacks will be August 27, during Sunday Worship. Make sure to invite anyone who has a child who might benefit from a positive sending off into the new school year, so of course make sure to bring your backpacks on that day!

## We are Seeking... Maybe it's YOU!

Firstly, we are seeking any adults who have a passion for fishing and a knowledge of local spots! We have fishing rods and lures enough to take all the kids out for a fall fishing trip, but we need experts to come along to guide us. If you are interested, please contact Aubrey at [aubrey.barnett@secondfirst.org](mailto:aubrey.barnett@secondfirst.org) right away. We are hoping to have a late September date.

Additionally, we are looking for a mini refrigerator for our upstairs youth space. If you are or a loved one has such an item you might be willing to donate, please reach out to Family CE, we would be incredibly grateful!

### Calendar at a Glance July 23,-July, 30 2023

|                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <b>Sunday, July 23 String Band</b><br>10:00 AM – Worship Service<br>10:20 AM – Sunday School<br><br><b>Monday, July 24</b><br>11:30 AM – Serious Soup<br>6:30 pm – Worship/Music | <b>Tuesday, July 25</b><br>7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast<br><br><b>Wednesday, July 26</b><br>10:00 AM – Staff Meeting<br><br><b>Thursday, July 27</b><br>No Governing Council | <b>Friday, July 28</b><br>No Scheduled Activities<br><br><b>Saturday, July 29</b><br>10:00 AM – Jubilee Soup Kitchen<br><br><b>Sunday, July 30</b> Dorothy Paige-Turner<br>10:00 AM – Worship Service<br>10:20 AM – Sunday School |
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### Second Congregational (UCC) / First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) *Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God’s grace*

#### Ministers: All Members

**Moderator:** Darlene Riddle [moderator@secondfirst.org](mailto:moderator@secondfirst.org)

**Acting Senior Pastor:** Becky Erbe [becky.erbe@secondfirst.org](mailto:becky.erbe@secondfirst.org)

**Children and Family Coordinator:** Aubrey Barnett [aubrey.barnett@secondfirst.org](mailto:aubrey.barnett@secondfirst.org)

**Youth Director:** Rachel Huffman [rachel.huffman@secondfirst.org](mailto:rachel.huffman@secondfirst.org)

**Director of Music, Organist/Pianist:** Valerie Blair [valerie.blair@secondfirst.org](mailto:valerie.blair@secondfirst.org)

**Choir Director:** Richard Stiltner [rlstiltner@aol.com](mailto:rlstiltner@aol.com)

**Director of Handbell Ministries:** Julie Cook Ramirez [julie.cookramirez@secondfirst.org](mailto:julie.cookramirez@secondfirst.org)

**Director, Peanut Bells:** Sarah Hallberg [sarah.hallberg@secondfirst.org](mailto:sarah.hallberg@secondfirst.org)

**Director, Carillons:** Joyce Zartman [joyce.zartman@secondfirst.org](mailto:joyce.zartman@secondfirst.org)

**Bookkeeper/Business Manager:** Nancy Yoeckel [nancy.yoeckel@secondfirst.org](mailto:nancy.yoeckel@secondfirst.org)

**Office Manager:** Debbie Wise [debbie.wise@secondfirst.org](mailto:debbie.wise@secondfirst.org)

**Graphic Designer:** Mitzi Muntz [mitzi.muntz@secondfirst.org](mailto:mitzi.muntz@secondfirst.org)

**Building Manager:** Jeff Byrne [jeff.byrne@secondfirst.org](mailto:jeff.byrne@secondfirst.org)

318 N. Church Street Rockford, IL 61101 • 815.963.8431 • [www.secondfirst.org](http://www.secondfirst.org)