



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

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship

August 13, 2023
10:00 am

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

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

PRELUDE

“Simple Gifts”

SHAKER HYMN / ARR.J.COTTER

WELCOME

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP♦**

Darlene Riddle

Leader: Here, in this place,

All: God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

Leader: here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

All: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

Leader: here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!

All: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown and say God be with us!

***HYMN #8 vs 1 - 4**

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

MELITA

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave, who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep: O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard, who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid the rage did sleep: O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude, and bade their angry tumult cease, and give for fierce confusion, peace: O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour; from rock and tempest, fire, and foe, protect them where-so-e'er they go; thus, evermore shall rise to Thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION♦♦

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION

Leader: God, we confess that we do not always understand Your ways.

We are easily discouraged when life takes unexpected turns
and our carefully laid plans and dreams come to nothing.

We confess that we are quick to give up when things get difficult,
and quick to question Your presence and Your power.

All: Forgive us.

Grant us patience to wait for Your good timing.

**Open our eyes to recognize Your leading in our lives—
to listen for Your gentle whisper when we least expect it.
And then give us courage to step out in faith and obedience,
trusting in Your leading even when we cannot yet see the outcome.**

Leader: We praise You for Your faithful love, and pray that You would make us worthy to bear Your name as we continue to pray 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

ANTHEM

“God Leads His Dear Children Along”
Joyce Zartman, bell tree, Bill Zartman, violin

G. YOUNG / ARR. T. DORAN

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 10:5-15

Pastor Becky Erbe

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Pulpit Talk

Liz Dickinson

***HYMN #175**

“Seek Ye First”

K.LAFFERTY

Seek ye first the kingdom of God alleluia, and its righteousness, alleluia, and all these things shall be added unto you. Alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; alleluia, seek, and you shall find; alleluia, knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, alleluia, and but by every word alleluia, that proceeds from the mouth of God. Alleluia! Allelu, alleluia!

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Becky Erbe

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

“For the Beauty of the Earth”
Joyce Zartman, bell tree, Bill Zartman, violin

PIERPOINT / ARR T. DORAN

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

HYMN # 837 vs 1 - 3

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

SHOWALTER

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.

[Refrain]

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.

[Refrain]

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Morning Mood”

E.GRIEG / ARR. B. BOCK AND R. PEARSON

please remain seated for the postlude

◆Re:Worship Blog

◆◆Re:Worship Blog

Joyce Zartman, bell tree, Bill Zartman, violin
Val Blair, organist, pianist, director of music
Katy Paterson, van driver
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, sound, video

*The Flowers are given by
John and Lenore in celebration of life.*

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers for **Sherry Lynn McDonald**, Mary Young, Ivory, 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, 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: Betty Klingensmith, 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

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 right away. We are hoping to have a late September date.

Calendar at a Glance August 13,-August 20 2023

Sunday, August 13 10:00 AM – Worship Service Pulpit Talk Liz Dickinson 10:20 AM – Sunday School	Wednesday, August 16 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 5:30 PM – Trustees Thursday, August 17 No Scheduled Activities Friday, August 18 5:30 PM – Governing Council Retreat	Saturday, August 19 9:00 AM – Bridge Clinic 10:00 AM – Love Rockford Sunday, August 20 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:30 AM – Church Picnic
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Second Congregational (UCC) / First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
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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 Huffman rachel.huffman@secondfirst.org

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

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

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

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