



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

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship

September 3, 2023
10:00 am

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

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

PRELUDE "Christians We Have Met to Worship" arr. M. Hayes

WELCOME Darlene Riddle

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP♦** Darlene Riddle

Leader: God said, "Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

All: But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord."

Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden,

All: And I will give you rest."

Leader: We come in the name of the Spirit, resting from our labors,

All: Let us worship God this day!

***Hymn #610 vs 1-5** "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" AZMON

O for a thousand tongues to sing, my dear redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace.

The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease, sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.

Christ speaks, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive; the mournful waken to rejoice; the poor in heart believe.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given, by saints below, and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION♦♦

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION Phil Davidson

Leader: God, we humble ourselves now in confession:

All: We want to be followers of Jesus, but we do not always want to follow Jesus.

All: We don't even want to listen when the conversation turns toward darkness and death.

All: We prefer to indulge ourselves.

All: We are eager to put down our crosses.

All: We cling tightly to our lives.

All: We grasp at worldly rewards.

Leader: Holy and loving God, forgive all of our thoughts and actions that would protect us from the path of Christ.

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

ANTHEM

“In the Garden”
Just the Four of Us

C. AUSTIN MILES/ARR. VICKI UHR

SERMON

“Hymn Sing”
David Jones, Valerie Blair

HYMN #65 vs 1-3

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

CWM RHONDA

Guide me, O though great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but thou are mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow. Let the fire, and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside. Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

HYMN #687 vs 1-6

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past, our Hope for years to come, our Shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal Home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure; sufficient in thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame, from everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our Help in ages past, our Hope for years to come, be thou our Guard while life shall last, and our eternal Home!

HYMN #488 vs-1-4

“I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry”

WATERLIFE

“I was there to hear your borne cry; I’ll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a child with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.”

“When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on. You were raised to love the living Lord, to whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I’ll be there to make your verse rhyme from dusk till rising sun.”

“In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I’ll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I’ve begun. When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes, I’ll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise.”

“I was there to hear your borne cry; I’ll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.”

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

David Jones

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: When the time was right...again and again and again. And let us sing praises to the Lord singing;

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The first staff is for the organ, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. It contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff is for all voices, also with a treble clef and two flats, containing the melody for the second line of lyrics. The third staff continues the melody for the third line of lyrics. The fourth staff continues for the fourth line of lyrics. The fifth staff continues for the fifth line of lyrics and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "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!"

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.

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

“Turn Your Radio On”
Just the Four of Us

TRADITIONAL

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

Hymn #69 vs 1-3

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

D. SCHUTTE

I, the Lord, of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN**

REFRAIN: Here I am, Lord, is it I, Lord? I have heard you, calling in the night. I will go, Lord if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN**

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN**

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

“The Irish Blessing”
Just the Four of Us

TRAD. IRISH/ARR. D. GRAY

POSTLUDE

“When I Can Read My Title Clear”
please remain seated for the postlude

SCOTTISH/ARR. M. HAYES

◆ Unknown

◆◆ written by Terri and posted on RevGalBlogPals. <http://revgalblogpals.blogspot.ca/>

Barbershop Quartet “Just the Four of Us:” Doug Phillips, Keith Morse, Fred Gahl, Charlie Woodworth
Val Blair, organist, pianist, director of music
Bob Langford, van driver
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, sound, video

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers for the family and friends of Mary Young who passed away August 12th, Memorial Service will be Saturday, September 9, 2023 at 11:30; Sharon Ockerlander, Sherry Lynn McDonald, 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, 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.

Neighborhood Soup Kitchen: Sept 16!

Our next day to serve lunch at the Jubilee Center is Saturday Sept 16. Last week we prepared 100 lunches and all were distributed within 20 minutes! The line was long! Whether you are a first time volunteer or an old hand at it, you are needed! We work preparing and serving a nutritious and delicious meal from 10 am to about 1 pm. Let Marge Maynard know if you can be part of the team or if you have questions. Thanks!

Church/Neighborhood Pig Roast Good Food!! and Fellowship!!! September 16, 3:00 pm

Join the Mission Ministry for freshly roasted pulled pork, rice and red beans, green bean casserole, cornbread, cookies, and water!! To help make this another successful event, we NEED your help with the cornbread and cookies!!! If you can bake one of these, let us know! A Sign-up poster will be available on Sundays! Come meet our church neighbors and catch up with friends!! See you there!!!!
By Karen Hill

UCC and PCUSA Special Offerings

Our two denominations ask our gifts to their October 1st Special Offerings. Neighbors in Need (NIN) is an offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. Gifts to the Presbyterian (USA) Peace & Global Witness Offering promotes the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

Watch for more information as we approach the October 1st World Communion Sunday.

The Thrift Store

The Thrift Store is gearing up for fall. We are in need of men's large and extra-large clean and gently used clothing items; men's t-shirts, men's jeans, men's everyday shirts long and short sleeve. Pots and pans that are in good cooking shape are needed as well. Please see Alice or Ann with questions.

Calendar at a Glance September 3,-September 10, 2023

Sunday, Sept. 3 Hymn Sing 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store	Wednesday, Sept. 6 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM – Martin Ringers	Saturday, Sept. 9 11:30 AM -Mary Young Memorial Service in the Sanctuary
Monday, Sept. 4 Labor Day Office Closed No Serious Soup	Thursday, Sept. 7 9:30 AM - Carillons 6:00 PM – Bellcantos 7:00 PM – Choir Begins	Sunday, Sept. 10 8:30 AM – Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store
Tuesday, Sept. 5 7:00 AM – Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00 PM - DVT	Friday, Sept. 8 No Scheduled Activities	

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Ministers: All Members

Moderator: Darlene Riddle moderator@secondfirst.org

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