



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

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship

October 15, 2023
10:00 am

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

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

PRELUDE

“Sanctuary”

K. Olson

WELCOME

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP♦

Katy Paterson

Leader: Look around at this wondrous world!

All: God's mighty acts in creation are magnificent!

Leader: Look around at the diversity of God's people!

All: Diversity is to be celebrated for we have much to learn from each other.

Leader: Come, let us offer praise and prayer to God.

All: Let us celebrate all God's goodness, for even in the midst of the horrible storm, God is with us.

HYMN #804 vs. 1-4

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

MARION

Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing! Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With voice as strong as ocean's surging praise, send forth the sturdy hymns of old, the psalms of ancient days. Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go, from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest; the pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest. Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION♦♦

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

God of mercy,

in our impatience for answers, we sometimes turn to idols of our own making and forget our covenant with you. Passionate for what is right, we wrong those with whom we differ. Pleased at the invitation to your banquet, we fail to arrive with humility and thanksgiving. Forgive us when our faith is weak and our zeal too strong. In Jesus' name we 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

Rachel Huffman

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Darlene Riddle

ANTHEM

“O Praise Ye”
Sanctuary Choir

arr. M. Wilberg

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 32:1-14

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Remember the Red Bull Beanie Baby?”

Becky Erbe

HYMN #39 vs 1-3

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not; thy compassion they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

PASTORAL PRAYER

David Jones

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

“This little Light of Mine”
Sanctuary Choir and Children

arr. J. Raney

***DOXOLOGY #606**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

HYMN #853

“We Are Marching in the Light of God”

SIYAHAMBA

We are marching....

We are singing....

We are praying....

We are dancing....

We are marching....

***BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Italian Hymn”
please remain seated for the postlude

arr. A. J. Travis

◆*Re:Worship*

◆◆*Ministry Matters*

Val Blair, organist, pianist, director of music

Richard Stiltner, choir director

Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, sound, video

Peter Joachim, van driver

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers for **Carl Dickow, Judy Diehl**, Lenore Lund, Bob Bates, Sharon Ockerlander, Sherry Lynn McDonald, Linda Roy, Bethany Stiltner, Marianne Marlow, Linda Miller, Kathy Moton, Ann Stites, Katy Paterson, Peter Joachim, Roseva Massenat, Richard Lierman, Sally Baker, Stephanie Cooper, Beckett Krieg, 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.

Today Stanley Campbell Honored at CROP Hunger Walk Riverfront Museum Park beginning 1:00 pm, with registration at Riverfront Museum Park.

The singing duo, Trinadora will entertain as the 2 p.m. step-off approaches. A quality tote bag will be given to the first 150 walkers. Stanley brought the CROP Hunger Walk to Rockford 38 years ago while

executive director of Rockford Urban Ministries, a position from which he retired this summer. Over 300 people attended a dinner in our dining room and program to celebrate his achievements.

Donations support the Greater Rockford Pantry Coalition and Church World Service which originated the nationwide event shortly after World War II. Both organizations are dedicated to fighting hunger ‘one step at a time.’ Go to crophungerwalk.org/rockfordil or bring your donation to the walk itself.

Pumpkin Bars and Cider Sunday, October 22, after Church in the Dining Room

Back by popular demand. Please join us for fellowship, Pumpkin Bars and Cider. Cannot wait to see you all!

New Member Class Coming Soon! Sunday, November 5, After Church

We will be offering a New Member class after church for those interested in joining Secondfirst Church. Lunch will be provided. New Member Sunday will be November 19, during worship. Please contact Pastor Becky or call Debbie in the office if you are interested.

Because of YOU

When we look to the future as a congregation we travel the road to mission clarity - an increasing awareness of and commitment to the role our church must play in God’s kingdom, the one we ask for in the Lord’s prayer. As this clarity grows so does the need for increased fund raising. Many of us give to make a difference in the world – and want to know what kind of impact our ministry is making.

Our congregation has addressed this question. We have created the vision – “Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God’s grace.” Because of you our church changes lives.

It is this mission clarity that assures our next called pastor will have the visionary skills to shepherd us as visionary Christians. It is this mission clarity that excites and motivates us to offer more dollars assuring that skilled pastor is called.

Blessings on you, faithful one, as you help our church raise resources to continue energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God’s grace.

Calendar at a Glance October 15,-October 22, 2023

<p>Sunday, Oct. 15 CROP Walk 8:30 AM – Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Kid Choir 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store 1:00 PM – CROP Walk</p>	<p>Tuesday, Oct. 17 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM – Thrift Shop 12:00 PM – Bible Study 5:30 PM – Missions Teams</p>	<p>Friday, Oct. 20 No Scheduled Activities</p>
<p>Monday, Oct. 16 11:30 AM – Serious Soup 1:00 PM – Hospitality Team</p>	<p>Wednesday, Oct. 18 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM – Trustees 6:00 PM – Martin Ringers</p>	<p>Saturday, Oct. 21 8:00 AM – Church Landscape Cleanup</p>
	<p>Thursday, Oct. 19 9:30 AM – Carillons 6:00 PM – Bellcantos 7:00 PM – Choir</p>	<p>Sunday, Oct. 22 Peanuts 8:30 AM – Adult Ed 10:00 AM –Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Cider and Pumpkin Bars 11:00 AM – Kid Choir 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store</p>

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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