



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

Remembering Our Loved Ones
Order of Worship

November 5, 2023
10:00 am

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

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

PRELUDE

“Elegy”

G. T. Thalben-Ball

WELCOME

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP♦**

Phil Davidson

Leader: This morning we remember our loved ones who have died,

All: And we remember God's promise of eternal life.

Leader: This morning we mourn the absence of many,

All: And we celebrate God's continuing presence.

Leader: We listen for the Divine voice in ancient words of scripture,

All: And we hear of miracles, we hear that death will be swallowed up forever.

Leader: Through sorrow and through joy, let us worship our Holy God.

All; Let us be glad and rejoice in our salvation.

***HYMN # 65 vs 1-3**

“Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah”

CWM RHONDDA

Guide me O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art 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 deaths, 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.

CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION♦♦

Phil Davidson

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Eternal God in every age, You have raised up women and men to live and die in faith. Forgive our indifference to your will. You have commanded us to speak, but we have been silent. You have called us to do what is just, but we have been fearful. Have mercy on us, your faithful servants. Keep before us faithful people for us to follow so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to the praise of your holy name...

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

“I Carry You In My Heart”
Sanctuary Choir

K. Burdette/D. Butler

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 7:9-17

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Saints, Not Just a Football Team”

Becky Erbe

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. I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

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 are satisfied; I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Becky Erbe

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

REMEMBERING OUR SAINTS

Richard H. Baker

Lois E. Calhoun

Dale F. Conde

Carl E. Dickow

Donald Freedlund

Elizabeth V. Haegg

Coe E. Johnson

Cara M. Keller

Sherry Lynn McDonald
Donald E. Pierce
Phyllis G. Seeman
Arlene J. Snap
Mary S. Young

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: It is right, a good and joyous thing...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn singing...

The musical score is written on five staves in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The first staff is labeled 'Organ:' and the second 'All:'. 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!' The score ends with a double bar line.

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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

“Family of Faith ”
Sanctuary Choir

J. MARTIN

***DOXOLOGY #606**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

HYMN #326 vs 1-5

“For All the Saints”

SINE NOMINE

For all the saints, who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; thou in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia, Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia, Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia, Alleluia!

***BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Sing With All the Saints in Glory” W. ROBERTS/ARR. AK. ORGAN
please remain seated for the postlude

- ◆ Written by Joanna Harader *Spacious Faith*
- ◆◆ *The Worship Sourcebook*

Val Blair, organist, pianist, director of music

Richard Stiltner, choir director

Bob Langford, van driver

Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, sound, video

Prayer Requests

- **We offer prayers, sympathy, and support for friends and family of Arlene Snap who passed away Tuesday, October 31.**
- Continue prayers for, Judy Diehl, Lenore Lund, Sharon Ockerlander, Bethany Stiltner, Linda Miller, Kathy Moton, Ann Stites, Katy Paterson, Peter Joachim, 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, Jeanne Page, Joyce Pennow, Marsha Martin, Billye Vernam, Nancy Gallegos, Willene Ziebell, Jan Elliott, Wally Gayle, Charles Rosche, Lillian Smith, Carol Eggleston, and Ruby Beckman.

Do you like to play Euchre? Here is your chance. Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 6:30 in the Dining Room.

Join your friends at an evening of Euchre. Please bring a snack to share and your own drink. Call the office, 815-963-8431 to register so we know how many are coming.

Our 2023 Final Neighborhood Soup Kitchen at the Jubilee Center will take place on Saturday, November 25,

Yes, that is right after Thanksgiving! Hopefully we will all be refreshed after some good naps and energized for preparing and serving our neighbors. Marge will organize our day so let her know if you are able to help. Maybe you will be hosting out of town guests who would like to participate? Thanks and hope to see YOU there! Marge Maynard

Because of YOU our Church Changes lives.

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 November 5,-November 12, 2023

<p>Sunday, Nov. 5 Communion Remembering Loved Ones 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 11:00 AM – New Member Class</p> <p>Monday, Nov. 6 11:30 AM - Serious Soup 1:00 PM – Hospitality Team</p> <p>Tuesday, Nov. 7 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM – Thrift Shop 12:00 PM – Bible Study 6:00 PM - DVT</p>	<p>Wednesday, Nov. 8 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM – Martin Ringers 6:30 PM – Euchre Night</p> <p>Thursday, Nov. 9 9:30 AM – Carillons 6:00 PM - Belcantos 7:00 PM - Choir</p> <p>Friday, Nov. 10 No Scheduled Activities</p>	<p>Saturday, Nov. 11 8:00 AM – Boot Sorting 9:00 AM – Bridge Clinic 11:00 AM – Carillons Rehearse</p> <p>Sunday, Nov. 12 Peanuts Carillons 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</p>
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Second Congregational (UCC) / First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God’s grace

Ministers: All Members

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

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