



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

---

The Baptism of Christ  
Order of Worship

January 7, 2024  
10:00 am

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

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

**PRELUDE**

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Johann S. Bach

*“Children may leave for Sunday School”*

**WELCOME**

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP♦**

Katy Paterson

Leader: The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

**All: Jesus emerges from the water.**

Leader: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

**All: "This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."**

Leader: Jesus is named. Claimed.

**All: We come to the water. We remember we are named. Claimed.**

Leader: Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

**All: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.**

**\*HYMN # 156 and vs**

“Sing of God Made Manifest”

SALZBURG

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest, to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them, magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound: myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and king foretold.

Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, “I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do.” Then from heaven a double sign—dove-like Spirit, voice divine—hailed the true Anointed One: “This is my beloved Son.”

Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding guest and at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine; further still was love revealed as he taught, forgave, and healed, bringing light and life to all who would listen to God’s call.

Sing of God made manifest on the cloud capped mountain’s crest, where the law and prophets waned so that Christ alone remained: glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face towards the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

**CALL TO TRANSFORM♦♦**

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**  
**Almighty God,**

Phil Davidson

**Your Spirit swept over the waters of creation; You are sweeping over us now, creating something new. Call us away from the distractions of the world to experience what You are doing now, in us, and through us, and in our world. Open us to a new awakening, a new beginning, where we look through the lens of the goodness of Your creation, experiencing all possibilities in You. Turn us away from the negative lens, and lead us to the light. In the name of Jesus, who leads us into life, we pray.**

*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**

“Antiphon #3”

Marcel Dupre

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Mark 1:4-11

Becky Erbe

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“Once Again With Feeling”

Becky Erbe

**\*HYMN #482 and vs 1 - 3**

“Baptized in Water”

BUNESSAN

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our King; heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our King; one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King; born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Becky Erbe

**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.**

*We offer our thanks and praise, O God, for the glories of creation...  
... We on earth sing with them above as we sing together these words:*

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. It is divided into two parts: 'Organ:' and 'All:'. The lyrics are written below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Organ: All:  
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!

©G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted under One License. Net #A-714025.

## 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](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

“Offertory, Mass for the Parishes”

Francois Couperin

### \*DOXOLOGY #606

### \*PRAYER FOR DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

\***HYMN** #547 and vs 1 - 3                      “Go, My Children, With My Blessing”                      Trad. Welsh/J. Vajda  
Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son’s story; here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my Spirit’s power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you. Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

### \*BENEDICTION

Becky Erbe

### POSTLUDE

“Rondeau”

Jean-Joseph Mouret

*please remain seated for the postlude*

- ◆ written by Caela Wood, Pastor at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Manhattan, Kansas
- ◆◆ written by Rev. Mindi, and posted on Rev-o-lution. <http://rev-o-lution.org/>

Bob Bates, organist, pianist  
Richard Stiltner, choir director  
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video  
Peter Joachim, van driver

*The flowers on the chancel are given by the Eggers family  
in memory of Georgeane & Gordon Eggers and their parents.*

### Prayer Requests for

- Continue prayers Lenore Lund, Alice Uphouse, Jayne Pheiffer, Sharon Ockerlander, Bethany Stiltner, Linda Miller, Kathy Moton, Ann Stites, Katy Paterson, Peter Joachim, Sally Baker, Stephanie Cooper, Beckett Krieg, 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, Marsha Martin, Billye Vernam, Nancy Gallegos, Willene Ziebell, Jan Elliott, Wally Gayle, Charles Rosche, Carol Eggleston, and Ruby Beckman.

**Office Hours Changing**

The church office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. The office will be closed on Fridays. Pastor Becky is available by cellphone in case of an emergency.

**Debbie Wise “Office Manager Extraordinaire” Retirement Coffee Hour January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Please join us, after worship, in the Dining Room as we celebrate Debbie and her retirement.

**Euchre Night is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10 at 6:30 p.m.**

Katy Paterson and Linda Johnson are coordinating another evening of Euchre. Please bring a snack to share and your own drink. Contact either of these ladies if you have questions about the Euchre night or to let them know you plan to attend.

**Overnight Café has opened.**

Our Overnight Café opened on Wednesday, January 3 at 8:00 pm. Returning staff along with new staff are in place. Look for ways to volunteer and donate on the sign-up sheets posted on easels in the South Narthex. Please keep your meals simple; single course easy to eat items like soup, pasta, tacos, and bar-b-que go over really well with our guests.

**Calendar at a Glance January 7, 2023 - January 14, 2024**

<p><b>Sunday, Jan. 7</b>        8:30 AM – Coffee Class        10:00 AM – Worship Service        10:20 AM – Sunday School        11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store        11:15 AM – Debbie Retirement</p> <p><b>Monday, Jan. 8</b>        11:30 AM – Serious Soup        5:00 PM – Deacons/Fellowship -Zoom</p> <p><b>Tuesday, Jan. 9</b>        7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast        9:00 AM – Thrift Shop        12:00 PM – Bible Study - Zoom        5:00 PM – Adult Ed - Zoom        6:00 PM – DVT - Zoom</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, Jan. 10</b>        10:00 AM – Staff Meeting        6:00 PM – Martins        6:30 PM – Euchre Night</p> <p><b>Thursday, Jan. 11</b>        9:30 AM – Carillons        4:00 PM – Delta Kappa Gamma        6:00 PM – Bellcantos        7:00 PM – Choir Kick Off</p>	<p><b>Friday, Jan. 12</b>        No Scheduled Activities</p> <p><b>Saturday, Jan. 13</b>        9:00 AM – Bridge Clinic</p> <p><b>Sunday, Jan. 14 Peanut/Special Music</b>        8:30 AM – Coffee Class        10:00 AM – Worship Service        10:20 AM – Sunday School        11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store</p>
--	---	---

**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)

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

**Choir Director:** Richard Stiltner [richard.stiltner@secondfirst.org](mailto:richard.stiltner@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)

**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)

**Housekeeper:** Maria Mandujano

**Gatekeepers:** Todd Wilson, Christoffer Banks

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