



**Second Congregational UCC/First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)**

*Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God's grace*

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Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
Order of Worship

February 4, 2024  
10:00 am

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

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

**PRELUDE**

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

arr. M. Hayes

**WELCOME**

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP◆**

Kris Harden

Leader: Celebrate God's grace!

**All: How comforting it is to know God always accompanies us.**

Leader: Approach God in awe!

**All: How amazing it is to consider that God has created each of us  
and each star in the heavens.**

Leader: Praise the living God!

**All: How good it is to sing praises together.**

**\*HYMN # 645 vs 1 - 4**

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

MIT FREUDEN ZART

**CALL TO TRANSFORM◆◆**

Becky Erbe

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

Leader: Merciful God, how many John the Baptists, how many prophets of your light, have we ignored because they were not what we were looking for? How many times have we ignored voices crying in the wilderness,

**All: "Make straight the way of the Lord." How many times have we breathed a sigh of relief, and turned our backs on your messengers, because they did not speak the message we expected to hear? Help us hear anew, the cry of those who would lead us to Christ. Tune our ears to your heralds, that we might also testify to your light.**

*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**

“Prayer to Jehovah”  
Sanctuary Choir

M. Ijames

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Mark 1:29-39

Jim Ozee

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **SERMON**

“Are We There Yet”

Jim Ozee

### **\*HYMN # 819 vs 1 - 3**

“Be Still My Soul”

FINLANDIA

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Becky Erbe

### **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

Leader: Jesus calls us to the well,  
inviting us to drink of the Living Water, and the life eternal.

**All: Jesus calls us out of the shadows, out of the graves,  
to be entirely known, and entirely filled with God’s presence.**

Leader: Jesus calls us all:

all who were made in God’s own image,  
all who breathe the breath of God’s spirit:  
the Spirit of Life.

**All: Jesus calls us to the table, to the meal that nourishes our bodies  
and binds our dry bones into one Body, living in Christ.**

Leader: Jesus calls us, here and now.

Come to this table, you who are beloved in Christ.

Come, not because you must, but because you may.

## **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: God, you are before all things; You are beyond all things...

... acclaiming your power in goodness and your might in compassion,  
as we sing:



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!

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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](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

“Sweet Hour of Prayer”  
Sanctuary Choir

Walford/Bradbury  
/ arr. J. Schrader

### \*DOXOLOGY #606

### \*PRAYER FOR DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

### \*HYMN #542 vs 1 - 4

“God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

GOD BE WITH YOU

## \*BENEDICTION

Becky Erbe

## POSTLUDE

“Voluntary in G”

H. Heron

*please remain seated for the postlude*

◆ written by Rev. Andy James, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Whitestone, New York. Posted on the liturgy link website

◆◆ adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2008, © 2007 Abingdon Press by B.J. Beu. Posted on the Ministry Matters website

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist  
Richard Stiltner, choir director  
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video  
John Maynard, van driver

## Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers Randy Beeman (Holly Beeman's brother), Brian and Patty Breuhaus and family (Lenore Lund and John DeWaters Son), Hayden Hallberg, Lenore Lund, 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.

## Service of Installation

You are cordially invited to a Service of Installation for The Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer. Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer will be installed as the Senior Pastor of First Congregational Church of Dekalb this Sunday February 4 at 3pm. Rev. Dorhauer is the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ

**Ash Wednesday** falls on February 14 this year. Join us for a special Ash Wednesday service from 6:45pm - 7:30pm. We will offer the Dispensation of Ashes.

**Lenten Worship Experience** is from Wednesday, February 21 through Wednesday, March 20. We invite all to our Lenten Worship Experience. The evening starts with a Soup Supper at 5:30pm. in our Dining Room. The service will be in the Sanctuary beginning at 6:45pm and ending at 7:30pm. There will be music, prayer and meditation.

**Mission Ministry field trip to Rock River Valley Food Pantry** is on Thursday, February 22 at 11:00 a.m. Call or text Karen Hill for details on meeting time and place. Karen's phone number is 815-742-0873.

**Serious Soup** has been serving an increasing number of people on Mondays. We are in need of donations of saltine crackers, ranch dressing, and Thousand Island dressing. Thank you for your generosity.

**Overnight Café guests** numbers have been very high this year resulting in shortages of coffee, creamer, sugar and individual packets of hot chocolate. Please consider donating any/all of these items. Thank you all who have prepared a meal or donated ingredients for a meal.

## Calendar at a Glance February 4, 2024 – February 11, 2024

<p><b>Sunday, February 4 Jim Ozee</b>  <b>Choir</b>  <b>Communion</b>              8:30 AM – Coffee Class              10:00 AM – Worship Service              10:20 AM – Sunday School              11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store</p> <p><b>Monday, February 5</b>              11:30 AM – Serious Soup              1:00 PM – Hospitality</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, February 6</b>              7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast              9:00 AM – Thrift Shop              12:00 PM – Bible Study</p> <p><b>Wednesday, February 7</b>              10:00 AM – Staff Meeting              6:00 PM – Martins</p> <p><b>Thursday, February 8</b>              9:30 AM – Carillons              7:00 PM – Bellcantos              7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>Friday, February 9</b>              No Scheduled Activities</p> <p><b>Saturday, February 10</b>              No Scheduled Activities</p> <p><b>Sunday, February 11 Cal Culpepper</b>              8:30 AM – Adult Ed              10:00 AM – Worship Service              10:20 AM – Sunday School              11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store              11:15 AM – Valentines Fellowship</p>
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**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)  
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**Housekeeper:** Maria Mandujano  
**Gatekeepers:** Todd Wilson, Christoffer Banks

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