



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

Third Sunday in Lent
Order of Worship

March 3, 2024
10:00 am

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

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

PRELUDE

“O Mensch, Bewein Dein Sunde Gross”
“People, lament your heavy sins”

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Becky Erbe

INTROIT #314 vs 1-3 and refrain “Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”

B. Farrell

***CALL TO WORSHIP◆**

Leader: The world finds no proof of God.

All: But the heavens tell of God's glory.

Leader: God's message is foolishness to the world.

All: But God's folly trumps human wisdom.

Leader: The freedom of the world brings us death.

All: But obedience to God's ways brings life.

Leader: We gather in the name of Christ crucified.

All: The Word made flesh brings life to God's people!

Phil Davidson

***HYMN** # 463 vs 1-5

“How Firm a Foundation”

FOUNDATION

CALL TO TRANSFORM◆◆

Becky Erbe

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Prayer of Transformation

Truth be told, Jesus, there are lots of tables that need overturning in our lives; beneath the veneer of respectability, the tidy rows and neat regulations, hide dark addictions and angry judgements, hungry greeds and heartless rejections we know the pain—and so do those around us— of keeping up the facade; What a relief it would be to have it all upset, smashed, scattered, destroyed So, perhaps, Jesus, today you could pay us a visit and help us to radically rearrange the furniture of our lives

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darlene Riddle

ANTHEM

“Look at the World”
Sanctuary Choir

J. Rutter

SCRIPTURE READING

John 2:13-22

Becky Erbe

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

LATER WORD

“Anger is an Energy”

Becky Erbe

***HYMN # 14 vs 1-5**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Becky Erbe

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Phil Davidson

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.

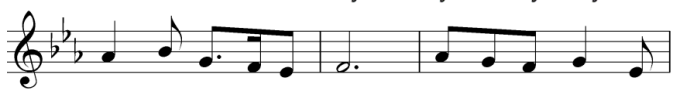
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: We give you thanks and praise, O God...

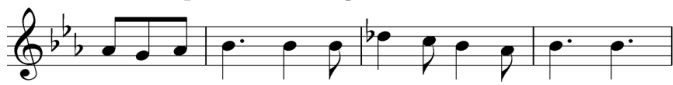
...Joining our voices to the great cloud of witnesses as we sing these words:



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

"The Whisper"
Sanctuary Choir

S. Boersma/C. Courtney

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER FOR DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

*HYMN #652 vs 1-4

"How Great Thou Art"

HOW GREAT THOU ART

*BENEDICTION

Becky Erbe

POSTLUDE

"What Wondrous Love is This"
please remain seated for the postlude

Southern Harmony/arr. J. Rouse

◆ adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press. Posted on the Ministry Matters website.

◆◆ written by John van de Laar, and posted on Sacredise.

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist

Richard Stiltner, choir director

Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video

Karen Hill, Greg Makulec, ushers

Holly Beeman, Rick Gallegos, David Noel, Arlene Noel, Karen Olson, Jim Ozee, Communion servers

Tim Riddle, van driver

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers **Jacob Crow (Adrian and Joshua Crow's nephew)**, **Barbara Huber (Eleanor Babel's niece)**, 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.

The next **Lenten Worship Experience** is this Wednesday, March 6. Starting with a Soup Supper in our Dining Room at 5:30pm. The worship experience will be in the Sanctuary beginning at 6:45pm and ending at 7:30pm. Come and join us for a night of fellowship, music, prayer and meditations.

The High School City Choir Concert with guest artist **Dorothy Paige-Turner** will be Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 6pm at East High School. Dorothy will lead the Choir in the Evolution of Gospel Music. Open to the public and it is free!

Calling all folks with bright smiles and friendly greetings. We would like to re-institute the practice of having greeters in the narthex before our Sunday Worship service. It would require arriving 20 to 30 minutes early and greet those arriving to welcome them to our worship. Please contact Jim Burrigh via phone (815-218-9131 or email jnlburr@comcast.net) or the church office if you are interested.

Easter Flower orders are being taken now! Mary has put together a wonderful list of plants to choose from:

Double stemmed white Easter lilies - \$18.00

Deep Rose Pink Hydrangeas - \$18.25

Tulips: Purple, Light Pink or Yellow - \$11.00

Complete an order form envelope and place it in the offering basket or office by March 10th to make sure your color request is available. Order Form Envelopes are on the Ushers table, in the Atrium Narthex on the tables, and on the Information Center. Please indicate if you are honoring loved ones when ordering your flowers.

One Great Hour of Sharing- March 10

Join with the PCUSA and the UCC in sharing God's love with our neighbors. In a world of disasters, hunger and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food, clean water, sanitation. Please consider donating to this worthy joint mission. Envelopes are on the Usher Table. Note OGHs- and which denomination you would like to receive your donation in the memo line of your checks.

Wondering what you can bring to help the **Rock River Valley Pantry**? They are asking for canned meats, fruits, and vegetables and/or pasta and pasta sauces. AND plastic grocery bags, yes that's right, they need plastic grocery bags for their shoppers. Place your donations in the crate in the sanctuary. Thank you!

AAUW Panel Discussion on Immigration on Saturday, March 9, 2024 in SecondFirst Church sanctuary at 1:00 PM. Please join us for this informative session. See Katy Paterson or Jean Herro with questions.

Calendar at a Glance March 3, 2024 – March 10, 2024

<p>Sunday, March 3 Communion Choir 8:30 AM – Coffee Class/Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store</p> <p>Monday, March 4 11:30 AM – Serious Soup 1:00 PM – Hospitality</p> <p>Tuesday, March 5 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM – Thrift Shop 12:00 PM – Bible Study</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 6 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 5:30 PM – Soup Supper 5:30 PM – Martins 6:45 PM – Lenten Worship Experience</p> <p>Thursday, March 7 9:30 AM – Carillons 6:00 PM – Bellcantos 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>Friday, March 8 No Scheduled Activities</p> <p>Saturday, March 9 1:00 PM – AAUW Panel Discussion</p> <p>Sunday, March 10 Kristine Delmore Julie Cook Ramirez – Guitar Leon Crow Baptism 8:30 AM – Coffee Class/Adult Ed 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
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
Music Director, Organist/Pianist: Valerie Blair valerie.blair@secondfirst.org
Choir Director: Richard Stiltner richard.stiltner@secondfirst.org
Director, Peanut Bells: Sarah Hallberg sarah.hallberg@secondfirst.org
Director, Carillons: Joyce Zartman joyce.zartman@secondfirst.org
Bookkeeper/Business Manager: Nancy Yoeckel nancy.yoeckel@secondfirst.org
Graphic Designer: Mitzi Muntz mitzi.muntz@secondfirst.org
Building Manager: Jeff Byrne 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