



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

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Order of Worship

March 17, 2024
10:00 am

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

PRELUDE

“O Traurigkeit, O Herzeleid”

J. Brahms

WELCOME

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Becky Erbe

INTROIT #314 v. 1-5 and refrain “Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”

B. Farrell

***CALL TO WORSHIP◆**

Leader: Holy One, dwell within us.

All: Whisper in our ears;

Leader: Glimmer in our vision;

All: Write upon our hearts.

Leader: We wait

All: with open ears, open eyes, open hearts.

***HYMN # 81** vs 1-3

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

AUSTRIAN HYMN

CALL TO TRANSFORM◆◆

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Leader: God of the blazing chariots, the whirling wind, the sacred silence,

All: Listen softly to the confessions of our hearts.

Becky Erbe

Silence

Leader: Create clean hearts in us.

All: Renew right spirits within us.

Leader: Shelter us within your presence.

All: Sustain us by your Holy Spirit. Restore to us the joy of our salvation.

Leader: Blazing, whirling, sacred God,

All: inhabit and transform our stories.

One Minute of silent reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

***THE PEACE**

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

***GLORIA PATRI**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Becky Erbe

INVITATION

Timothy Holmes

Becky Erbe

Aubrey Barnett

Colleen McGee

Lindsey Landcaster

Kristen Duckmann

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT AND COMMITMENT TO DISCIPLSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Becky Erbe

Leader: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

All: We believe in you, O God, eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify: You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death. You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself. You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races. You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory. You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and the fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end. Blessings and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION

Darlene Riddle

Moderator: Do we, the people of Second Congregational/First Presbyterian Church, covenant with these brothers and sisters as part of our family of faith and promise to encourage them and stand with them as we all seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ?

All: We do.

Moderator: Let us, the members of SecondFirst Church express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

All: We welcome you with joy in the common of life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Welcome into the life of the Church

ANTHEM

"Down by the Salley Gardens"
Carillons
Stacey Szczepaniak, flute

Trad. Irish Melody,
Arr. Jason W. Krug

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Becky Erbe

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

LATER WORD

"The New Covenant"

Becky Erbe

*HYMN # 69 vs 1-3

"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

D. Schutte

PASTORAL PRAYER

Phil Davidson

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

"A Celtic Ring"
Incorporating "Holy Manna"

Arr. Susan E. Geschke

***DOXOLOGY #606**

***PRAYER FOR DEDICATION**

Darlene Riddle

***HYMN #223 vs 1-4**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

HAMBURG

***BENEDICTION**

Becky Erbe

POSTLUDE

“Were You There”
please remain seated for the postlude

A. A. Spiritual/arr. R. Cotter

- ◆ written by Joanna Harader, and posted on Spacious Faith. <http://spaciousfaith.com/2012/01/18/wednesday-worship-piece-isaiah/>
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Valerie Blair, organist, pianist
Karen Hill, Greg Makulec, ushers
Jean Reese, Audrey Williams, greeters
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video

Katy Paterson, van driver

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers **Jim Delmore**, Linda Miller, Richard Lierman, Jacob Crow (Adrian and Joshua Crow’s nephew), 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, 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.

New Member Meet and Greet in the Atrium Narthex immediately following Weekend Worship today. Please plan to join our new members for coffee hour and welcome them into our church family.

Our next **Lenten Worship Experience** is this Wednesday, March 20. Starting with a Soup Supper in our Dining Room at 5:30 pm. The worship experience will be in the Sanctuary beginning at 6:45pm and ending at 7:30 pm. Come and join us for a night of fellowship, music, prayer and meditations.

Join us in the Sanctuary for Palm Sunday on Sunday, March 24. Our youth members will be handing out palm leaves as you enter the Sanctuary. Lemon Bar Fellowship will be immediately after worship in the Dining Room.

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 Burrig via

phone (815-218-9131 or email jnlburr@comcast.net) or the church office if you are interested.

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 customers. Place your donations in the crate in the sanctuary. Thank you!

The Thrift Shop is accepting donations for these items; kitchen pots and pans, coffee pots, bake ware, curtains, dish towels, bath towels and men's jeans.

Calendar at a Glance March 17, 2024 – March 24, 2024

<p>Sunday, March 17 Carillons 8:30 AM – Coffee Class/Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:00 AM – New Member Commitment 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store 11:00 AM – New Member Meet & Greet</p> <p>Monday, March 18 11:30 AM – Serious Soup</p>	<p>Tuesday, March 19 7:00 AM – Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM – Thrift Shop 12:00 PM – Bible Study 5:30 PM – Missions</p> <p>Wednesday, March 20 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 5:30 PM – Soup Supper 5:30 PM – Martins 6:00 PM – Trustees 6:45 PM – Lenten Worship</p> <p>Thursday, March 21 9:30 AM – Carillons 6:00 PM – Bellcantos 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>Friday, March 22 No Scheduled Activities</p> <p>Saturday, March 23 No Scheduled Activities</p> <p>Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday 8:30 AM – Coffee Class/Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store 11:15 AM – Lemon Bars Fellowship</p>
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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

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