



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

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Sixth Sunday in Lent  
Order of Worship

March 24, 2024  
10:00 am

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

**PRELUDE**

“Ellacombe”

A. J. Travis

**WELCOME**

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*HYMN #196 vs 1-4**

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP♦**

Darlene Riddle

Leader: We raise our voices and wave with joyful hope the palms of deliverance of God's people.

**All: Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!**

Leader: Our hearts are filled with expectation as we welcome the coming king.

**All: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Leader: We receive into the crowded streets of our lives the one who is Savior, not only of us, but of all the earth.

**All: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

**\*HYMN #197 vs 1-3**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

ELLACOMBE

**CALL TO TRANSFORM♦♦**

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

Becky Erbe

Leader: Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

**All: Eternal God,**

**we confess that often we have failed to be an obedient church:**

**we have not done your will;**

**we have broken your law.**

Leader: Jesus said: "You shall love the Lord your God

with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind”

and “you shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

**All: We have rebelled against your love;**

**we have not loved our neighbors;**

**we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Free us for joyful obedience.**

**Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

*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

Darlene Riddle

## EARLY WORD

Aubrey Barnett

## ANTHEM

“A New Hosanna”  
Sanctuary Choir

J. Purifoy

## LATER WORD

“The Passion According to the Gospel”

Many Voices

## \*HYMN #221 vs 1-3

“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

PASSION CHORALE

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Becky Erbe

Leader: Jesus, you set your face towards Jerusalem and walked alongside those who suffer. Be our vision, that we too may walk the way of compassion and extend a hand to those we meet. Lord, hear our prayer,

**All: and in your love, answer.**

Leader: Lord, you stopped to heal the sick and tend to those broken in body, mind or spirit. Be our vision, that we too may be a source of healing to all in need of your grace.

Lord, hear our prayer,

**All: and in your love, answer.**

Leader: Jesus, you said, “The first shall be last and the last first.”

Be our vision, that we too may work towards your realm – when the marginalized and oppressed will be raised up and know that they are indeed beloved children of the Holy.

Lord, hear our prayer,

**All: and in your love, answer.**

Leader: Jesus, you took the time to pray and to be silent.

Be our vision, that through our prayers, meditation and reflection we may draw closer to you and find our way on this journey of faith.

Lord, hear our prayer,

**All: and in your love, answer.**

Leader: Lord, you entered Jerusalem with peace in your heart.

Be our vision, that we too can live as people of peace in the face of the world’s many conflicts. May we hold your vision of justice and peace ever before us.

Lord, hear our prayer,

**All: and in your love, answer.**

Bless us, O Blessed One, as we enter into the days ahead of us. We will need your power and presence to sustain us as we move through these difficult days together. Spirit of Love and Life, stay close.

*These and all the prayers of our hearts we offer in faith, as we pray the way you taught us to pray:*

## 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](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

“Blessed One, Messiah!”

R. Aspinall/M. McDonald

Sanctuary Choir

## \*DOXOLOGY #606

## \*PRAYER FOR DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

## \*HYMN #219 vs 1-5

“They Crucified My Lord”

CRUCIFIXION

## \*BENEDICTION

Becky Erbe

## CLOSING SONG

“Thy Will Be Done”

C. Courtney

Sanctuary Choir

*please remain seated for the Closing Song*

*Please Join us for Coffee and Lemon Bars in the dining room immediately after the Closing Song.*

*The flowers on the Communion Table are given today in memory of Virgil & Barbara Keeling.  
Longtime members of 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church.*

- ◆ posted on Life in Liturgy, from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). <https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/>
- ◆◆ Re;Worship.blogspot
- ◆◆◆ adapted liberally from a prayer written by Annabel Shilson-Thomas (UK). Posted on RevGalBlogPals. <https://revgalblogpals.org/2008/03/16/palm-sunday-prayer/>

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist  
Karen Hill, Greg Makulec, ushers  
Jean Herro, Dick Lapp, greeters  
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video  
Peter Joachim, 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.

**Join us for Lemon Bar Fellowship** immediately after worship in the Dining Room. Thank you Deacons/Fellowship for these freshly made delicious treats. Thank you Hospitality for your hospitality.

**Maundy Thursday Service March 28 at 6:30pm.** Our choir will be singing and communion will be offered. Please join us for this moving worship.

**Good Friday Service and Mediation** will be in the Sanctuary on March 29 at noon. Please join us for this simple yet meaningful service.

**Easter Service** will be Sunday, March 31 in our Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome here. Invite your neighbors, friends, and family.

**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 Burright via phone (815-218-9131 or email [jnlburr@comcast.net](mailto: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 24, 2024 – March 31, 2024

<p><b>Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday</b>  <b>Choir</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 – Lemon Bar Fellowship</p> <p><b>Monday, March 25</b>              11:30 AM – Serious Soup</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, March 26</b>              7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast              9:00 AM – Thrift Shop</p> <p><b>Wednesday, March 27</b>              10:00 AM – Staff Meeting              6:00 PM – Martins</p> <p><b>Thursday, March 28 Maundy Thursday</b>  <b>Choir</b>              6:30 PM – Maundy Thursday Service</p> <p><b>Friday, March 29 Good Friday</b>              12:00 PM – Good Friday Meditations</p>	<p><b>Saturday, March 30</b>              9:00 AM – Bridge Clinic              10:00 AM – Choir Rehearsal</p> <p><b>Sunday, March 31 Easter</b>  <b>Choir and Brass</b>              8:30 AM – Adult Ed              10:00 AM – Worship Service              10:20 AM – Sunday School              11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store</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)  
**Director, Carillons:** Joyce Zartman [joyce.zartman@secondfirst.org](mailto:joyce.zartman@secondfirst.org)  
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**Housekeeper:** Maria Mandujano  
**Gatekeepers:** Todd Wilson, Christoffer Banks

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