



Second Congregational UCC/First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God's grace

Easter
Order of Worship

March 31, 2024
10:00 am

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

PRELUDE

“Victory”

A. Bullard

WELCOME

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Becky Erbe

INTROIT

“An Easter Celebration”
Sanctuary Choir and Brass

W. Cameron

***CALL TO WORSHIP◆**

Leader: Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen, indeed.

Bob Langford

Leader: God is alive...

All: New birth is given.

Leader: Hope is alive...

All: A new age is dawning.

Leader: Joy is alive...

All: Redemption is here.

Leader: Love is alive

All: Death cannot harm us.

Leader: We are alive...

All: New life is within us.

Leader: The church is alive...

All: God's spirit is within us.

Leader: God of life, we worship you.

All: God of creation, we praise you.

Leader: God of revelation, we learn from you.

All: God of resurrection, we come to celebrate you.

1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
 All creation join to say, Alleluia!
 Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
 Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Lives again our glorious king; Alleluia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
 Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
 Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

3 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
 Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
 Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
 Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

4 Soar we now where Christ was led, Alleluia!
 Following our exalted head, Alleluia!
 Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

CALL TO TRANSFORM♦♦

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Becky Erbe

Leader: For those times when we move in the shadow, unaware or unwilling to be aware of how our actions affect others,

All: we come together, in the light, to find our joy in God.

Leader: For those times when we deceive ourselves –not revealing to ourselves or others the true nature of our vulnerabilities and fears,

All: we come together in the truth, to find forgiveness in fellowship.

Leader: For those times when life has been revealed, and we have ignored or denied it,

All: we come together to touch grace in the presence of the Spirit of Christ.

One Minute of silent reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

***THE PEACE**

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

***HYMN 15 vs 1**

“All Creatures Great and Small”

LASST UNS ERFRUEN

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
 Alleluia! Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,
 Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darlene Riddle

EARLY WORD

Aubrey Barnett

ANTHEM

“An Easter Cry of Praise”
Sanctuary Choir and Brass

Author/Arranger

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 16:1-8

Becky Erbe

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

LATER WORD

“Not the ending you were looking for...”

Becky Erbe

***HYMN**

“Rejoice This Easter Day”
Sanctuary Choir, Brass, Congregation

J. Bankson

Rejoice This Easter Day



1. Re - joice this Eas - ter day! Christ con - quered
2. God's pow - er can - not fail, Christ rules o'er
3. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the



sin and death! Re - joice, give thanks, and praise
earth and heav'n; The keys of death and hell
Judge, shall come To glo - ri - fy the saints



God with your ev - 'ry breath. Lift up your heart, lift
Are to our Sav - ior giv'n; Lift up your heart, lift
For their e - ter - nal home: Lift up your heart, Lift



up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!
up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!
up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

PASTORAL PRAYER

Darlene Riddle

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

“Hallelujah! Resurrection Day!”
Sanctuary Choir and Brass

L. Shackley

*DOXOLOGY #606

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

*HYMN # 314

“Christ Be Our Light”
Sanctuary Choir, Brass, and Congregation

B. Farrell

*BENEDICTION

Becky Erbe

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Sanctuary Choir, Brass, Congregation

G. F. Handel

POSTLUDE

“Toccatà”
from *Symphony V*
please remain seated for the postlude

C.M. Widor

◆ posted on Life in Liturgy, from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). <https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/>

◆◆ ~ author unknown

✱✱ Text: Stanza 1, Otis E. Young, 1931-2009, based on *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*, and written in 1981; Copyright 1981 by Otis E. Young. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, *alt.*, and written in 1746 (PD).
Tune: *DARWALL'S 148th*, John Darwall, 1731-1789, and written in 1770 (PD).
Arrangement: Newly arranged by Jeremy J. Bankson, and copyright © 2013 with this publication.

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Valerie Blair, organist, pianist
Richard Stiltner, choir director
Karen Hill, Greg Makulec
Alice Uphouse, greeter
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video
Bob Langford, 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darlene Riddle

Bible Study and Lunch with Pastor Becky. Join Pastor Becky for a 6 week discussion study on the Lord's Prayer. **Beginning April 9**, we will meet Tuesdays from Noon until 1pm. Let Becky know if you are interested and she will send you the readings.

April 7 is Youth Sunday. Join us for our 10:00 worship as we celebrate our children and youth. The youth will participate in the service and there will be a puppet performance. The sermon given by Madeline Archer.

Jubilee Center Soup Kitchen opportunity to serve. We are organizing the team that will prepare and serve lunch at the Jubilee Center on **Saturday April 20**. YOU can be part of this group who carry out Jesus' teaching to feed the hungry! This is open to members and non-members, first timers and well-seasoned workers, from middle schoolers to those who are well beyond school age! Let Marge Maynard or Mitzi know if you are interested and especially if you have questions. We can accommodate every schedule, every ability!

Calendar at a Glance March 31, 2024 – April 7, 2024

<p>Sunday, March 31 Easter 10:00 AM – Worship Service 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store</p> <p>Monday, April 1 No Serious Soup Office Closed</p> <p>Tuesday, April 2 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM – Thrift Shop</p>	<p>Wednesday, April 3 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM – Martin Ringers</p> <p>Thursday, April 4 9:30 AM – Carillons 6:00 PM – Bellcantos 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Friday, April 5 No Scheduled Activities</p>	<p>Saturday, April 6 No Scheduled Activities</p> <p>Sunday, April 7 Youth Service Communion 8:30 AM – Coffee Class/Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Fair Trade Store</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

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