



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

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Third Sunday of Easter  
Order of Worship

April 14, 2024  
10:00 am

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

**PRELUDE**

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

arr. V. Labenske

**WELCOME**

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Becky Erbe

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP◆**

Leader: Peace be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Kris Harden

Leader: Come and see the love God has given to us.

**All: Come and see what it means to be children of God.**

Leader: Come with this hope, that Christ's presence is real.

**All: With joy, we come to see the Lord.**

**\*HYMN #248 vs 1-3**

“Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna! ”

**HYMN TO JOY**

**CALL TO TRANSFORM◆◆**

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

Leader: God, You have told us to trust in you with all of our hearts.

**All: You have told us not to lean on our own understanding.**

Leader: And so we try to trust,

**All: but we get very nervous when we don't understand.**

Leader: We don't understand what you mean by

**All: “This bread is my body.” “This cup is the new covenant in my blood.”**

Leader: We don't understand who will betray you

**All: or why or what that will mean for us.**

Leader: We don't understand how death is victory.

**All: We don't understand post-resurrection life—yours or ours.**

Leader: We don't understand why you ask us to stay here,

**All: And we're afraid we will somehow miss the power when it comes down from on high.**

*One Minute of silent reflection*

Becky Erbe

## WORDS OF GRACE

### \*THE PEACE

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

### \*HYMN 15 vs 3

“All Creatures Great and Small”

LASST UNS ERFRUEN

O brother fire so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way,  
Sing praises Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marge Maynard

## EARLY WORD

Aubrey Barnett

## ANTHEM

“Cry No More”  
Sanctuary Choir

D. Forrest

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:36b-48

Becky Erbe

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## LATER WORD

“Ghosts Don’t Eat Do They?”

Becky Erbe

### \*HYMN #630 vs 1-4

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

CRUSADERS'S HYMN

## 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

Marge Maynard

*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

“When the Poor Ones”  
Sanctuary Choir  
Julie Cook Ramirez, classical guitar

D. Cherwien

### \*DOXOLOGY #606

### \*HYMN #246 vs 1-5

“Christ Is Alive”

TRURO

## \*BENEDICTION

Becky Erbe

## POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Tune”  
*please remain seated for the postlude*

J. Dixon

◆ Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009

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*The flowers on the Chancel are given by Jim Burrignt and family  
to the glory of God and in memory of  
Leon Burrignt, Burley Grigsby, and Lester Schave.*

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist  
Richard Stiltner, choir director  
Liz Dickson, greeter  
Karen Hill, Greg Makulec, ushers  
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video  
Peter Joachim, van driver

## Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers **Ron and Donna Schaad, Bruce and Joanne Johnson**, 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.

For **Coffee Class in the month of April, Jim Ozee will be leading** a Bible study entitled, “Encouragement from Philippians.” This letter from Paul likely surfaced around 60 A.D – about 10 years after his visit to Philippi. It is sometimes referred to as the “epistle of joy” and encourages the reader to center one’s life around Christ and embrace his transformative love and grace. Each week will feature scripture readings, spiritual practices, and discussion questions. Come join us in the Gathering Room! We begin at 8:30 a.m. and wrap up in plenty of time for you to make it to the Sanctuary for our worship service.

**Euchre Party this Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 in our Dining Room.** Please bring a treat to share and your own beverage. Contact Katy Paterson or Linda Johnson to let them know if you plan to attend and/or if you have any questions.

**Bible Study and Lunch with Pastor Becky.** Join Pastor Becky for a 6-week discussion study on the Lord’s Prayer. We will meet Tuesdays from Noon until 1pm. Our next time together will be **April 16.** Let Becky know if you are interested and she will send you the readings.

**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 know if you are interested and especially if you have questions. We can accommodate every schedule, every ability!

**Annual Program Meeting will be on Sunday, April 28** in our sanctuary right after worship. Please plan on attending so that we have a quorum.

Spring has sprung-and you know what that means! Our annual Ring in Spring concert is just around the corner. **Ring In Spring will be on Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 p.m.** in our sanctuary. Please join for an afternoon of music and mission as our handbell/handchime ensembles present an array of enjoyable selections.

### Calendar at a Glance April 14, 2024 – April 21, 2024

<p><b>Sunday, April 14</b>  <b>Choir</b>              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><b>Monday, April 15</b>              11:30 AM – Serious Soup</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, April 16</b>              7:00 AM – Men's Prayer Breakfast              9:00 AM – Thrift Shop</p> <p><b>Wednesday, April 17</b>              10:00 AM – Staff Meeting              6:00 PM – Martins              6:30 PM – Euchre Party</p> <p><b>Thursday, April 18</b>              9:30 AM – Carillons              6:00 PM – Bellcantos              7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>Friday, April 19</b>              No Scheduled Activities</p> <p><b>Saturday, April 20</b>              10:00 AM – Jubilee Soup Kitchen</p> <p><b>Sunday, April 21</b>              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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**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