



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

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Order of Worship

April 21, 2024
10:00 am

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

PRELUDE

“How Firm A Foundation”

arr./M. Hayes

WELCOME

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Becky Erbe

***CALL TO WORSHIP◆**

Leader: Day by day, God leads us:

All: to the deep, deep pools of peace, to the green, lush lawns of grace.

Becky Erbe

Leader: Day by day, Jesus calls us:

All: to pour out ourselves in service, to anoint the stranger with hope.

Leader: Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

All: the community we could be, the family we are called to become.

***HYMN #396 vs 1-4**

“Brethren We Have Met to Worship”

HOLY MANNA

CALL TO TRANSFORM◆◆

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION**

Leader: God of many pastures, we never tire of hearing the voice of our shepherd; we never tire of hearing the call to lay our burdens down; we never tire of hearing the invitation to dwell in your house forever.

All: Forgive us, loving shepherd, when we try to keep you as our own— thinking that we alone have your love, thinking that others wander alone without your care and guidance. Open our eyes, that we may recognize the sheep of your fold wherever they may be and whatever they may look like.

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 4** “All Creatures of Our God and King” LASST UNS ERFRUEN
All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears,
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Darlene Riddle

EARLY WORD Rachel Huffman

ANTHEM “The Love of God” arr. F. Lehmann/arr. D. Forrest
Sanctuary Choir with Bill Zartman, violin

SCRIPTURE READING John 10:11-18 Becky Erbe
Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

LATER WORD “Sheep That Follow” Becky Erbe

***HYMN #802 vs 1-4** “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” ST. COLUMBIA

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 “Give Me Jesus” Trad./arr. L. Bastian
Sanctuary Choir with Bill Zartman, viola

***DOXOLOGY #606**

***HYMN #542 vs 1-4** “God Be With You Till We Meet Again” arr. J. Cotter

***BENEDICTION** Becky Erbe

please remain seated for the postlude

POSTLUDE “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” arr. J. Cotter

◆ written by Thom Shuman on Lectionary Liturgies.

◆◆ B.J.Beau on Ministry Matters Website

*The flowers on the Chancel are given by Jan Novak in memory of her parents,
Sylvan & Viola Truttmann*

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist
Richard Stiltner, choir director
Holly Beeman, greeter
Karen Hill, Greg Makulec, ushers
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge sound, video
Katy Paterson, van driver

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers for **the family of Bruce Johnson who passed away April 17th**, Ron and Donna Schaad, 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, 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. Sometimes referred to as the "epistle of joy", it 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. We begin at 8:30 a.m. Come join us in the Gathering Room!

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 23**. Let Becky know if you are interested and she will send you the readings.

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. The Annual Report Booklets are on the Usher Table for you to take with you and review before next week's meeting.

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 21, 2024 – April 28, 2024

<p>Sunday, April 21 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, April 22 11:30 AM – Serious Soup</p> <p>Tuesday, April 23 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM – Thrift Shop</p>	<p>Wednesday, April 24 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM – Martins</p> <p>Thursday, April 25 9:30 AM – Carillons 6:00 PM – Bellcantos 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Friday, April 26 No Scheduled Activities</p>	<p>Saturday, April 27 Bell Rehearsals</p> <p>Sunday, April 28 Bells Sunday Choir 8:30 AM – Coffee Class/Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:15 AM – Annual Program Mtg 3:00 PM – Ring in Spring Bells</p>
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Second Congregational (UCC) / First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
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Ministers: All Members
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