



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

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Order of Worship

April 28, 2024
10:00 am

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

PRELUDE

“Priere”

J. Langlais

WELCOME

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Becky Erbe

***CALL TO WORSHIP◆**

Phil Davidson

Leader: Come to us even now O Lord of Life,

All: And fill this place with your presence!

Leader: We praise your name and rejoice in your love,

All: We stand in utter amazement of who you are!

Leader: Everyone who calls upon you will find fulfillment,

All: They will rejoice forever, because you are God!

Leader: Rejoice and give thanks!

All: Halleluiah! Amen!

***HYMN #761 vs 1-4**

“Called As Partners in Christ’s Service”

BEECHER

CALL TO TRANSFORM◆◆

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION

Becky Erbe

Merciful One,

you know when we are afraid to love; you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love.

One Minute of silent reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

*THE PEACE

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

*HYMN 15 vs 5

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

LASST UNS ERFRUEN

And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darlene Riddle

EARLY WORD

Aubrey Barnett

ANTHEM

“Jesus Shall Reign”
Bellcantos

J. Hatton/arr. S. Eithum

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8

Becky Erbe

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

LATER WORD

“Life in the Vine”

Becky Erbe

*HYMN #729 vs 1-4

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

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

“With Praises Ring”
Martin Ringers

B. Kinyon

*DOXOLOGY #606

*PRAYER FOR DEDICATION

Darlene Riddle

*BENEDICTION

Becky Erbe

please remain seated for the postlude

POSTLUDE

“Llanfair”

setting A. J. Travis

*The flowers on the Chancel are
in memory of Daniel Barnhart
from Bill and Norma Lee Barnhart.*

◆ from the Lectionary Sermons Archive page

◆◆ Posted on the Worship Elements page of the Ministry matters website

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

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 30**.

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

Annual Program Meeting is today 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 review.

Spring has sprung-and you know what that means! Our annual **Ring in Spring concert is today 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.

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!

Calendar at a Glance April 28, 2024 – May 5, 2024

<p>Sunday, April 28 8:30 AM – Coffee Class/Adult Ed 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School 11:15 AM – Annual Program Meeting 3:00 PM – Ring In Spring</p> <p>Monday, April 29 11:30 AM – Serious Soup</p>	<p>Tuesday, April 30 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM – Thrift Shop 12:00 AM – Bible Study Zoom</p> <p>Wednesday, May 1 No Scheduled Activities</p> <p>Thursday, May 2 No Scheduled Activities</p> <p>Friday, May 3 No Scheduled Activities</p>	<p>Saturday, May 4 No Scheduled Activities</p> <p>Sunday, May 5 Jim Ozee Dorothy Paige-Turner 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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