

MINISTERING IN WORSHIP . . .

Presiding Elder ~ David Sinn

Elders ~ Jerry & Val Hornbacker

Layreader ~ Connie Sinn

Greeters ~ Ilene & Ralph Tegg

Acolyte ~ Natalie Woods

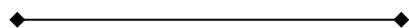
Deacons

Chancel – Lisa Cheatham

*Lisa Cheatham, Joe Rex, Adam Woods

* = Head Deacon (**Please count attendance**)

Counters ~ Steve & Monica Hinrichs



OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

First Christian Church Peoria, as an open and affirming church, believes that all people are sacred creations of a loving God. We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to all. In that spirit, we open our family of faith to people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family structure, physical and mental ability, race, socio-economic status, age, and gender identity. We welcome all people to participate fully in the life and ministry of First Christian Church.

Ministry Programming Staff:

The Rev. Karen Merrick, Pastor

Heather Woods, Coordinator of Music Ministries

Brian Woods, Organist

Mason Fitch, Social Media Coordinator

Brandy Cox, Child-Care

www.fccpeoria.org

www.facebook.com/fccpeoria

Calendar

TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Rev. Karen Merrick will be preaching
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)

MONDAY

- 5:00 p.m. – Tae Kwon Do Class
- 7:00 p.m. – Administrative Board (110). All voting members are encouraged to attend.

TUESDAY

- 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Montessori Thanksgiving Feast (11:00) (FH) (Private Event)
- 6:00-7:45 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (110)
- 6:00-9:30 p.m. – PACC Rehearsal (S)

THURSDAY *Thanksgiving Day*

- **Alarm System Reminder:** Please be reminded that on holidays when church staff is not present, the alarm will be armed. Please have your code with you if you need to enter the building; you must enter through the front doors. The office is closed **Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25.**

FRIDAY

- The church office will be closed

SATURDAY

- 7:00-9:00 a.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)
- 10:00 a.m. – Decorating the Church

NEXT SUNDAY *First Sunday of Advent*

- 9:00 a.m. – Studies/Adult SS
- 10:30 a.m. – Hanging of the Greens Service
- 12:30 p.m. – Jubilate Ringers (S)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir (S)
- 7:00-9:00 p.m. – Private Group (Landes) (110)



November 20, 2022

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Founded in 1845



Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Thanksgiving Sunday

10:30 a.m.

November 20, 2022
† indicates standing, if able

Today's Meditation

Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others. —Marcus Cicero

Fellowship of the Church

(Please register on pads at end of each pew.)

We want to extend a special welcome to our first-time visitors. You are invited to stop at the Visitor's Table before you leave to receive more information about our church and a little something extra.

Music for Meditation – *All Thanks and Praise to God!*—arr. Smith

(Please use the music and the moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

A Moment of Silence

†Gathering Praise – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* #718

†Call to Worship

Leader: The world is filled with the glory of God, and we say,

People: Thank you!

Leader: The hills and valleys are filled with color, and we say,

People: Thank you!

Leader: The vines and trees are filled with fruit, and we say,

People: Thank you!

Leader: For tables that have the food we need, we say,

People: Thank you!

Leader: For lives enriched with love of family and friends, we say,

People: Thank you!

Leader: For opportunities to pay it forward, we say,

People: Thank you, God. Open our eyes to those who are in need of food, friendship and hope. This we ask as we pray the prayer you taught us to pray, saying...Our Father...

(Words to The Lord's Prayer may be found in the hymnal – #307)

†Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

#36

Scripture Reading – Ezra 8 – selected verses

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment for the Children

Hannah Fitch

(Following the children's message, children ages 5 and up are welcome to meet their teacher, Laura Cohen, at the front of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.)

Anthem

Sanctuary Choir

Blessing After Blessing—Stratton/Courtney

Message – *A Thanksgiving Prequel*

Karen Merrick

†Hymn of Invitation

words on screen

Praise God for the Harvest of Orchard and Field

A Time of Prayer

Communion Hymn – *Let All Things Now Living*

#717

The Lord's Supper – *Hymn of Thanksgiving*—Kremser

All: "Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table of God's grace."

Offering Statement

Tithes and Offerings – *Pilgrim's Song of Hope*—Batiste

(If you are able, please come forward at this time to place your offering in the plate on the communion table.)

†Doxology – *A Grateful Heart*

(Tune: *O Waly Waly*)

A grateful heart is what I bring;
a song of praise, my offering.
Among the saints I lift my voice:
In you, O God, I will rejoice.

†Dedication of Offering

†Benediction

†Congregational Response

words on screen

†Postlude – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*—Norman

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (Weekly Calendar on back)

- Communion Elements ~ For those who feel they need an extra level of protection, there are sealed bread and juice containers with the bread sealed in clear plastic on top of the foil lid for the juice. We ask that everyone else use the double-cupped wafer and juice that will be passed through the pews.
- We are a church of prayer. There are prayer request forms in your bulletin. They can be put in the offering plate, hung on the prayer wall in the east end of the lounge, or if you want to maintain confidentiality, hand directly to the pastor. If you want your prayer concern shared via the prayer chain, please indicate that on your form.
- Our sound system is equipped with a hearing assistance technology system. Pick up a receiver at the sound booth prior to worship. After the service, please return the receiver to the sound booth.
- Adam Hamilton Advent Study ~ Beth Cox will lead a DVD study/discussion presented by Adam Hamilton on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on November 27, December 4, 11, and 18. The study is called "Prepare the Way of the Lord" and is focused on John the Baptist. Please sign up at the information desk. Books are available in the church office.
- College Care Packages ~ Please check the information desk for a list of items for the packages. Sign up for what you would like to donate. Please bring that item by November 27.
- Order Your Poinsettias ~ If you would like to order a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary for Advent, please use the order form in today's worship bulletin.
- Book Club in November ~ We will meet on Tuesday, November 29, at 7:00 p.m. at Margaret Goulden's home. November's book is "The Christmas Train" by David Baldacci. Please sign up at the information desk.
- Coming Home Sunday, December 4 ~ Invite your families and neighbors to join you in worship that day. It's also a potluck Sunday, and there will be light entertainment from the Peoria Area Civic Chorale.