



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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship

September 8, 2024
10:00 am

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

PRELUDE "Jesus Loves Me" arr. J. Raney

ANNOUNCEMENTS Marge Maynard

WELCOME Becky Erbe

CALL TO WORSHIP♦

Leader: Let's stand and praise God today.

All: Listen and look. Sing and pray.

Leader: The music starts. Time to sing.

All: Let God hear our voices ring.

Leader: Listen and look. Sing and pray.

All: Let's share the bread and cup today.

Leader: Blessed be God; Father and Son,

All: Holy spirit, three in one.

HYMN #853 "We Are Marching in the Light of God" SIYAHAMBA

CALL TO TRANSFORM♦♦

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

Sometimes we hurt each other a lot. There are things we can fix and things we cannot.

God is kind and will show us the way to heal the hurt- in God's time and in God's way.

Silence is kept

WORDS OF GRACE

Leader: Come, dear friends and receive God's grace; see all that God is doing for you; follow Jesus, as he leads you closer to God.

All: We will sing of God's love for us; We will sing a new song of hope and wonder. Thanks be to God! We have been transformed! Amen.

And now as a forgiven people, let us stand, cross the room and share the Peace of Christ with one another. May the Peace of Christ be with you!

***THE PEACE**

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen Amen.

ORDER OF BAPTISM**BAPTISMAL PROMISES*****PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION**

Marge Maynard

Leader: SecondFirst Church, how will you fulfill your responsibility to assist Karson Alejandro Austin to become a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ?

All: We will welcome Karson Alejandro Austin into our lives, worship, and service; we will nurture him in the faith and encourage him to know and follow Christ as faithful servants of the world.

PRESENTATION OF GIFT**INTRODUCTION TO THE CONGREGATION**

COMMUNION HYMN #533 vs. 1-2

“In the Singing”

BREAD OF PEACE

LATER WORD

Becky Erbe

***HYMN #20** vs 1-4

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

ROYAL OAK

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**INVITATION TO THE TABLE****THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: We give you thanks and praise, O God....Joining our voices to the great cloud of witnesses as we sing together



Organ: *All:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you,
 God of pow - er and might; heav - en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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

BREAKING THE BREAD AND POURING THE WINE

SHARING THE FEAST

An Open Table! When we celebrate Holy Communion, we are all guests at the table, and Jesus himself is our host. We have not earned a place at the table, rather we are invited because of the amazing grace of God. For that reason, this celebration of Holy Communion is open to all, including children, and not merely members of this congregation or denominations. This is a joyful feast for all the people of God. In order to extend hospitality to more of God's children, the cup is non-alcoholic and the bread is gluten free.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

“Jesus Loves Me”
Peanut Ringers

Traditional

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Marge Maynard

*HYMN #539 vs 1-3

“We Will Go Out With Joy”

A. Donaldson/ H. Donaldson

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“All Hail the Power”
please remain seated for the postlude

O. Holden/arr. J. Raney

*The flowers on the chancel are in loving memory of our parents:
Ruth and Henry Pieper and Jane and William Wyatt from the Wyatt-Parker family.*

◆~ Call to Worship and Prayer of Transformation taken from the book; Let us pray A Little kid's guide to the Eucharist by Jennie Turrell

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist

Judy Wyatt, greeter

Steve and Peg Showers, Doug and Karen Phillips, Terry Mohaupt, communion servers

Karen Hill, Greg Makulec, ushers

Wes Hegge sound, video

John Maynard, van driver

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers for Joyce Pogue, Peg Joachim, Chris Bayar (son-in-law of Holly Beeman), Brad Delmore, John Livermore, Jeanne Page, Ron and Donna Schaad, Linda Miller, 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, Sharon Ockerlander, Bethany Stiltner, Kathy Moton, Ann Stites, Katy Paterson, Sally Baker, 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, Jan Elliott, Wally Gayle, Charles Rosche.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A memorial service for Nancy Gallegos is **Saturday, September 14** at 11:00 pm. Visitation begins at 10:00am and a luncheon to follow in the dining room.

Sanctuary Choir welcomes **Hayley Gotzsche** as the new choir director. Hayley holds a master's degree in music, teaches music in the Harlem School district, and co-directs the Stateline Area Youth Singers children's choir. She sang with Sanctuary Choir several years, as a professional singer, and has sung many services for us. We are looking forward to her sharing her gifts and expertise as choir director. Welcome, Hayley!

Back To School in Saut-d'Eau, Haiti Fall 2024:

As we have strived to Share God's Grace in Downtown Rockford and Beyond (even all the way to Saut-d'Eau, Haiti), SecondFirst Church has supported self-determination of families through food security and education. In Haiti, we have family gardens producing plenty of food through our Garden Tools & Heritage Seeds program....and 52 children in school each year since 2018. Four Children have graduated on our watch! James and Odette Casimir visit with the children every year and want all of us to know these kids say: "Thank you for helping us go to school!" and "We want to meet you in person someday".

This fall our **52 Kids** are eager to return to school with our help. We know that 50% of Haitian children cannot afford to attend school. The annual \$250 (\$100 tuition and \$150 for uniforms, books, supplies and lunch) is out of reach for many Haitian families. The 54 kids who are supported by SecondFirst Church are divided among 7 different schools.

The Haiti Mission Project of SecondFirst Church needs our donations now to get 'our kids' ready for school this Fall. If you would like to support this project, please send your check to the church office with Haiti Education in the memo line.

Rock River Valley Pantry needs --- Boxes of cereal, pasta, cans/jars of spaghetti sauce, and/or canned vegetables and fruits. "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Helen Keller

Pig Roast for all! All members and neighbors are invited to join us **Saturday, October 5th** for a delicious meal of roast pork, sides and dessert. The pork is prepared by Penguin Foods. Join us at the church side yard and driveway off of Park Street. Meal begins at 3 pm and goes until there is no more!

Serious Soup is looking for volunteers to join in the fun and fellowship in the kitchen preparing and serving lunch for our neighborhood guests and travelers. Call Katy Paterson or Arlene Noel to sign up today!

Calendar at a Glance
September 8, 2024 – September 15, 2024

<p>Sunday, September 8 Children and Youth Sunday Communion Baptism 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School</p> <p>Monday, September 9 11:30 AM-Serious Soup</p> <p>Tuesday, September 10 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM - Thrift Shop</p>	<p>Wednesday, September 11 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM- Martin Ringers</p> <p>Thursday, September 12 9:30 AM- Carillons 6:00 PM- Bellcantos 7:00 PM- Choir</p> <p>Friday, September 13 No Scheduled Activities Office closed</p>	<p>Saturday, September 14 9:00 AM- Bridge Clinic 11:00 AM- Nancy Gallegos Visitation 12:00 PM- Nancy Gallegos Funeral</p> <p>Sunday, September 15 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School</p>
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Ministers: All Members
Moderator: Marge Maynard moderator@secondfirst.org
Acting Senior Pastor: Becky Erbe becky.erbe@secondfirst.org
Children and Family Coordinator: Aubrey Barnett aubrey.barnett@secondfirst.org
Music Director, Organist/Pianist: Valerie Blair valerie.blair@secondfirst.org
Director, Peanut Bells: Sarah Hallberg sarah.hallberg@secondfirst.org
Director, Carillons: Joyce Zartman joyce.zartman@secondfirst.org
Bookkeeper/Business Manager: Nancy Yoeckel nancy.yoeckel@secondfirst.org
Church Receptionist: Jacqueline Bradford receptionist@secondfirst.org
Graphic Designer: Charles Fernandez graphicdesign@secondfirst.org
Building Manager: Jeff Byrne jeff.byrne@secondfirst.org
Housekeeper: Maria Mandujano
Gatekeepers: Todd Wilson, Christoffer Banks

318 N. Church Street Rockford, IL 61101 • 815.963.8431 • www.secondfirst.org