



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

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
Order of Worship

February 16, 2025
10:00 am

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

No matter where you are on life's journey, no matter who you are, where you are from, whatever doubts and joys you bring, no matter who you love you are and always will be welcome here to worship at SecondFirst Church!

PRELUDE

“Happiness Is the Lord”
String Band

I. Stanphill/arr. J. Burright

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP♦

Marge Maynard

Leader: Happy are we

All: when our treasures cannot be quantified.

Leader: Happy are we

All: when our knowledge is tempered by mystery.

Leader: Happy are we

All: when our pain is held in the balm of love.

Leader: Happy are we

All: when our delight comes from beyond ourselves.

HYMN #772 vs. 1-4

“Live Into Hope”

TRURO

Beatitudes Litany

(inspired by Matthew 5:3-12, Luke 6:20-22)

Leader: Blessed are we when we let go of possessions for the kingdom of God unfolds in open places.

All: Woe to us when we gather into barns for soon this life will be over.

Leader: Blessed are we who know the ache of hunger for the empty places in body and soul are the fertile soil for new growth.

All: Woe to us who fill our lives to capacity for we fail to recognize what is missing.

Leader: Blessed are we who know sorrow for the ache of love lost is witness to the seed planted.

All: Woe to us who have yet to know the pain of grief for the fullness of love is woven with sorrow.

Leader: Blessed are we who know scorn for the rejection of humans keeps us mindful of that beyond.

All: Woe to us who depend on the approval of others for to dance with Spirit appears foolish.

Leader; Blessed are we who live in the harmony of life in the Spirit,

All: For we will recognize abundance.

One Minute of silent reflection

WORDS OF GRACE

*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.

EARLY WORD

ANTHEM

“O Come, Angel Band”
String Band

R. Stanley/arr. J. Burright

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:17-26

Reader: The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

LATER WORD

“Traveling Thru Luke Continued...”

Becky Erbe

HYMN #172 vs. 1-5

“Blest Are They”

BLEST ARE THEY

PASTORAL PRAYER

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. 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

“Keep On the Sunny Side”
String Band

Carter family/arr. J. Burright

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN #838 vs. 1-4

“Standing on the Promises”

PROMISES

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“I’ll Fly Away”
String Band

A. Brumley

please remain seated for the postlude

◆ written by Katherine Hawker (2006), and posted on *Liturgy Outside*.

◆◆ written by Katherine Hawker (2004), and posted on *Liturgy Outside*.

Valerie Blair, organist, pianist, director of music

Hayley Gotzsche, choir director

Linda Oshita, greeter

Wes Hegge, sound, video

Tim Riddle, van driver

The flowers on the chancel are for Kyle.

Prayer Requests

- Continue prayers for Richard Cook, Christopher Scharnweber (John Lindblade’s cousin in law), Bethany Stiltner, Rick Gallegos, Jean Reese, Joyce Pogue, John Livermore, Jeanne Page, Linda Miller, Jacob Crow (Adrian and Joshua Crow’s nephew), Randy Beeman (Holly Beeman’s brother), Hayden Hallberg, Lenore Lund, Kathy Moton, Ann Stites, Katy Paterson, Sally Baker, 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

Please Join the Deacons-Fellowship and Hospitality Teams after worship for brownies, cookies, coffee and conversation in the dining room.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: At SecondFirst Church we feel it is important for families to worship together. Do not feel that your child must be absolutely quiet and still. We can’t overlook children’s ability to worship even though they wiggle, giggle and drop hymnals. We are glad to have our children in worship! As Christ taught us, “Whoever welcomes one of these children in my name welcomes me.” (Matt. 18:5) For those who prefer, we do offer Sunday school for preschool through elementary school age children. Class meets on the third floor. We also offer childcare which is also on the third floor.

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.

Calendar at a Glance
February 16, 2025- February 23, 2025

<p><u>Sunday, February 16</u> 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School</p> <p><u>Monday, February 17</u> 5:30 PM- Missions</p> <p><u>Tuesday, February 18</u> 7:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:00 AM - Thrift Shop</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, February 19</u> 10:00 AM – Staff Meeting 6:00 PM- Martin Ringers 6:00 PM- Trustees</p> <p><u>Thursday, February 20</u> 9:30 AM- Carillons 7:00 PM- Choir</p> <p><u>Friday, February 21</u> Office is closed</p>	<p><u>Saturday, February 22</u> No Scheduled Activities</p> <p><u>Sunday, February 23</u> 10:00 AM – Worship Service 10:20 AM – Sunday School</p>
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Second Congregational (UCC) / First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
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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
- Choir Director:** Hayley Gotzsche choirdirector@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
- Childcare:** Tantalaya (TT) Ford
- 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

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