



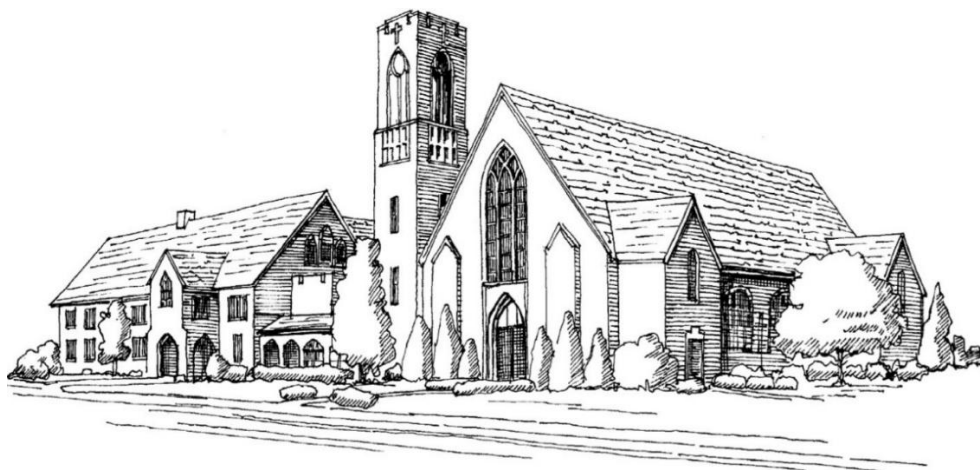
First Federated Church of Peoria

Making disciples through Worship, Teaching, Fellowship, and Missions

10 am, Sunday September 20th, 2026

Nora Fisler and Evelyn Ellis, Acolytes

John Nyman, Liturgist



* Please Stand, If Able

Welcome

"CHECK IN" using your favorite social media prior to service @ffcpeoria or #ffcpeoria
Remember to LIKE, FOLLOW and SHARE our Facebook and YouTube pages
Silence your devices during service

Pew Friendship Pads

Use the pads to sign-in, update your contact information, request a call or visit and sign up for special events.

Guests, share your contact information on our Pew Friendship Pads, we'd love to keep in touch.

Children's Worship Bags

Children's Worship bags containing quiet activities, are available in the front & back of the sanctuary by the ushers' stands. Children who are attending worship in the sanctuary are invited to borrow one of these bags.

Childcare Nursery

Nursery facilities are available for your infant or small child during our 10 am worship each Sunday. The nursery is located next to the Chapel.

Please Silence Cell Phones

Sunday School

Provided each week during 10 am worship

Preschoolers - 8th grade: Visit the chapel for announcements, offering, and are led to their classrooms for lessons and activities, ending at apx. 11 am.

9th - 12th grades: Senior High students remain in worship Sunday mornings. They gather at various times throughout the week for lessons, activities, and fellowship events. Schedule varies during summer months.

Questions?

Look for the Red "Ask Me" nametags of our Hospitality Team, or our ushers, staff members, or visit our information tables in the Narthex of the Sanctuary or Chapel

Pastoral Care

Contact us to pass along a prayer request, announce a birth, share a health update, news of a hospitalization, or let us know a loved one has completed this part of life.

Office: 309.685.5258, or e-mail: info@ffcpeoria.com.

Rev. Steve Barch: 309-361-0182

Or email sbarch@ffcpeoria.com

Emergency Contact Cards are available at Welcome Tables

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Yo Quiero Ser

No. 520, Chalice Hymnal

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Liturgist

Responsive

One: Call on God with praise and thanksgiving. Tell of God's wonderful works.

All: Today we open ourselves to God's presence. Let the hearts of all who seek God rejoice.

One: When we eat, we are reminded of God's provision. When we drink pure water, we give thanks.

All: Surely God has blessed us with food and drink. Daily we are strengthened for tasks we face.

One: We are guided by God's laws and statutes. We benefit from God's generosity.

All: Let all the people worship with joy! Let all whom God has chosen sing together!

* OPENING HYMN

Christians, We Have Met to Worship

No.277, Chalice Hymnal

TIME WITH THE GROWING CHURCH

Children of all ages are invited to come forward for a children's message.

Following the Children's Message all children are invited to Sunday school.

Parents are welcome to accompany hesitant children.

Visitors are welcome!

Sunday school classrooms ~ second floor

GATHERING HYMN

Let Them Come

(Children please come forward during the "Gathering Hymn")

Let them come, let them come, let the children come to me.

I have time, I have time, said the Savior tenderly.

Let them come, let them come, please don't send them away.

I have time, let them come, let them stay.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jessica Sheley

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Unison

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.

DEPARTING HYMN

Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children

(Please remain seated and sing this hymn for the children as they leave the Sanctuary for Sunday school.)

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,

God is love, God is love:

Praise Him, praise Him, all ye little children,

God is love, God is love

CONFESSIONAL LITANY¹

CALL TO CONFESSION

Liturgist

Like the Israelites in the wilderness, we have been heard to complain. God is often blamed for calamities more than praised for the sustaining presence that works for our good. It is easier for us to be jealous of others than to rejoice in the opportunities God gives them. Surely we need to repent.

CONFESSION

Unison

Liturgist

Oh God, we are people of the flesh more than people of the spirit. Our lives are not worthy of the gospel of Christ. We admit our resentment when some people we deem unworthy benefit from your generosity. We confess our lack of attention to your laws, your living Word, your prompting Spirit. You alone are our salvation, our healing, our high opportunity to serve. We choose to belong to you. Accept and change us, we pray. Amen.

(In silence, let us continue our prayer time as we confess our sins to God and reflect for a moment)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Stephen Barch

God has offered us a presence we have not recognized, bread we have ignored, and compassion we have not deserved. The food from heaven is offered to us daily, freely given to all who are open to receive it. Let us rejoice in this moment of God's amazing generosity, opening our lives to the gifts of God, that we might share them with others. Praise God!

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rev. Stephen Barch

Unison

We gather in worship to be impassioned by the Gospel. To bring others to Christ, to grow in our own faith, and to serve Jesus Christ in what we say and do. To share with everyone - the Good News of Jesus Christ, through our words and actions

* GLORIA PATRI

Unison

No. 35, Chalice Hymnal

***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.***

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Liturgist

We are asking everyone to register their presence at this time. Fellowship pads are started by the person nearest the center aisle, passed down the pew to each person or family to sign the pad and then return back to the center aisle. Note the names of those near you and greet them after service.

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

Liturgist

God provides generously for all of us. We are blessed with pure water and nourishing food. We have found joy in the faith that sustains our spirits. Let us now expand the circle of opportunity as we share what God has promised.

OFFERTORY*** DOXOLOGY**

Unison

No. 46, Chalice Hymnal

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Liturgist

Responsive

One: Please be seated and join me in our prayer of dedication.

***All: Receive our tithes and offerings to your honor and glory, loving God.
May fruitful results occur through and beyond our sharing. Call us all
into the vineyard of meaningful labor and constructive leisure, that your
Word, living through us, may call our neighbors to joyous reunion with
you. May we help one another to live in a manner worthy of the gospel
of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.***

SCRIPTURE

Liturgist

*Matthew 20:1-16**The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard*

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

“About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

“‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

“The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

“But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

“So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Responsive

One: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks Be to God

ANTHEM

Lead On, O King Eternal

No. 632, Chalice Hymnal

FFC Chancel Choir (Congregation beginning verse 3)

MESSAGE

“What Is Fair”

Rev. Stephen Barch

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist

Unison

Glory to your name, Holy God. We rejoice in your wonderful works, in miracles you have caused among us, and in the wealth you have entrusted to our stewardship. You have called us to important work in your vineyard.

Wherever we go, we represent your church and interpret your ways to those who observe our words and deeds. Enfold us in your presence and give us strength and courage to pass on the light you have sent to illuminate our journey through life. We are eager to be fed by your Word today. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life

No.432, Chalice Hymnal

*** SENDING FORTH**

Liturgist

Responsive

One: May you know joy and progress in your faith. May this be a week of spiritual growth for you.

All: May you know joy and progress in your faith. May this be a week of spiritual growth for you.

One: In all your struggles, know that Christ is with you. In all your labors, the love of God surrounds you. .

All: God surprises us and provides for us. Trust and give thanks for God's wonderful works.

One: There is a song on our lips and joy in our hearts. In Christ our suffering finds meaning.

All: Amen.

*** RESPONSE**



Sure-ly it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid For the
Lord is my strong-hold and my sure — de-fense, and he will be my Sav-ior.

*** POSTLUDE**

Our Mission
Making disciples through . . .
Worship, as we praise and glorify God;
Teaching, as we explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus;
Fellowship, as we love and care for one another;
Missions, as we embody God's love in the world around us.

Program Staff at First Federated Church

Senior Minister	Rev. Ed Wegele	ewegele@ffcpeoria.com	309.685.5258, X101
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Pianist	Spencer Rockford		

Executive Board at First Federated Church

*(*Vice-Moderator)*

Class of 2026

Nancy Amos (PCUSA)
Teresa Higus (UCC)
Kent Kowalske (UCC)
Theresa Pfeiffer (PCUSA)

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Greg Bandoian, PCUSA
* Anne Leiter, PCUSA
Lauren Padgett, UCC
Karin Terry, UCC

Class of 2028

Jan Leonard, PCUSA
Carol Long, UCC
Jim Rosenbaum, UCC
Janet Vaughn, PCUSA



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