

Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church

1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104

Rev. Auderine Rochet, Pastor

815-397-2771

centennialumc.rockford@gmail.com

www.centennialumcrockford.com



April 7, 2024

CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 7, 2024 – 10:00am
Second Sunday of Easter - Year B

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

Why Me?
by Kris Kristofferson

INTROIT:

He is Exalted

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING WORDS

The risen Christ comes to us and says, "Peace be with you." May we lay down the worries of our lives to welcome the peace of Christ.

OPENING PRAYER (in Unison):

Holy One, we gather with grateful hearts to remember the blessings of your light and love as they flow through our lives each day. In this moment, open our hearts to your Holy Spirit. Open our minds to the truths of your story. Open our hands to welcome the risen Christ among us. And open our eyes to your glory— a glory reflected in the faces around us. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

It is good for God's people to gather together in unity.

We are here at the invitation of God.

In this place, God's love, and grace flow into our lives.

In this place, God's blessings abound.

Praise be to God!

Praise be to God!

*OPENING HYMN:

Christ is Risen

UMH 307

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison):

God of grace and mercy, we want to continue singing the alleluias of Easter, but there are days we just don't feel like singing. Sometimes we lock ourselves away, fearful of what has happened or what the day may bring. Sometimes we allow our doubts to overwhelm our faith. Sometimes we forget about the needs of our neighbors because we are so focused on ourselves. Forgive us. Draw us back to you and to one another. Help us walk in your love and light, that others may see in us the loving presence of the risen Christ. Amen.

Moment of Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Brothers and sisters, siblings in Christ, Jesus promises: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them." Receive the hope and promise of this good news, for forgiveness is ours when we forgive one another. Thanks be to God!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER FOR JOYS & CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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

The love and light of God flow through our lives, bringing us joy and hope. With thanksgiving in our hearts, let us offer our gifts to God, the source of all our blessings.

OFFERTORY:

Erica Kessler

There's Something About That Name
by Bill and Gloria Gaither

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

Abundant God, we are grateful for all your blessings, especially for the presence of the risen Christ. Bless these gifts, that they may help bring your love and light into our community and our world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

(As the children come to the altar, please sing stanza 1 of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me")

*GOSPEL LESSON:

1 JOHN 1:1-2:2

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make our joy complete. ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

¹ My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Leader: The Word of God
People: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON:

"Eternal Life-Sharing"
Dave Holland

***CLOSING HYMN:**

He Lives

UMH 310

***BENEDICTION:**

Brothers and sisters, siblings in Christ, may the love of God, the peace of the risen Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit fill your hearts, now and always. Amen.

GOING FORTH:

The Lord's Prayer
music by Arnold Strals
as performed by Sister Janet Mead

Erica Kessler

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Pastor: Rev. Auderine Rochet

Liturgists: CMUMC ministers

Pianist: Erica Kessler

Bulletin: Lora Doll

Social Media: Dulce Maciel

Power Point: Janie Kellermann

Announcements

April 7, 2024

ADULT FAITH FORMATION:

Wednesdays Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.

For information about the **Spanish Bible Study** day and time call Pastor Audrey at (630) 670-3580

Good Samaritan Fund. Our Good Samaritan Fund is low. Money in this fund is used to help church members with financial assistance for housing, food and medical bills. If you would like to donate to boost this fund, please put your check in the collection plate. Make sure you put Good Samaritan Fund on the memo line. Your consideration to contribute to this fund is very much appreciated. If you are able, please consider donating to our Good Samaritan Fund this Christmas.

Saturday Kids Club. Every Saturday from 10:30am to 12:45 pm.

Please join us after our Sunday worship service for **Coffee time**. If you would like to volunteer to help setup for coffee time or donate cookies you can sign up at the office reception desk.

Annual Conference 2024 Details: Theme: "I freely and heartily Yield", Sunday, June 16 - Tuesday, June 18, Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center, 1551 N Thoreau Dr, Schaumburg, Ill.

Special observances and sessions:

- Clergy session: June 5 (location to be announced)
- Laity session: Sunday early afternoon, June 16
- Ordination and commissioning service: Sunday evening, June 16
- Retirement service: Monday morning, June 17
- Memorial service: Tuesday morning, June 18

Registration Begins on April 3

- April 3 - April 29: Early bird registration \$115/person
- April 30 - May 20: \$130/person
- Note: There will be NO on-site registration

Please note that due to so many cases rising of RSV and other illnesses we ask that you use a mask at your discretion while we are gathered in the church building. If you don't have a mask we have one for you at the church entrance.

New Illinois Welcoming Center for NIJFON. Northern Illinois Justice for Our Neighbors is excited to announce their grand opening of their first ever Illinois Welcoming Center in collaboration with Brooke Rd. UMC and the Illinois Department of Human Services. NIJFON will serve local Rockford residents with free immigration legal services, 'Know Your Rights' workshops, and with a growing number of immigration resources. The Illinois Welcoming Center is by the community and for the community and has hired local Rockford residents who represent the population of the Latino and African communities that primarily speak Spanish and Swahili. **Watch the WREX news story.**

****PRAYER LIST****

At W. Willows: *Art Huenkemeier.*

At Home: *Carol Risenhoover, Carol Waxler, Pat Nelson, Aida DeJesus.*

Undergoing Treatment/Rehab: *Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Tara & Ismael Arencibia, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Pat Nelson, David Russ, Reuben & Rosa Mendoza, Jennifer Martin, Forrest Nelson, Jeff Palmer, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera.*

BIRTHDAYS

4/13 Pat Nelson

4/7 Benjamin Guerrero

4/7 Dougal Whitmer

4/9 Steven Enderle

4/9 Gabriel Ruiz

4/13 Coulson Brown

Joys and Concerns

Pastor Keith requests prayers for Pastor Judith who is still not feeling well.

Joyce Russ requests prayers for her daughter-in-law Tina who will be going through some tests.

Dave Holland requests prayers for Terrica and Taishan who are not feeling well.

Kim Whitmore request prayers for her surgery rescheduled for next Thursday if all goes well.

Sharon Sodergren shared the joy of expecting great grand baby number 23.

Joseline John requests prayers for the families of all victims involved in the stabbings in Rockford this week.

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Audrey if you need any assistance, please contact her at 630.670.3580.

Pastor.audrey@ymail.com



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