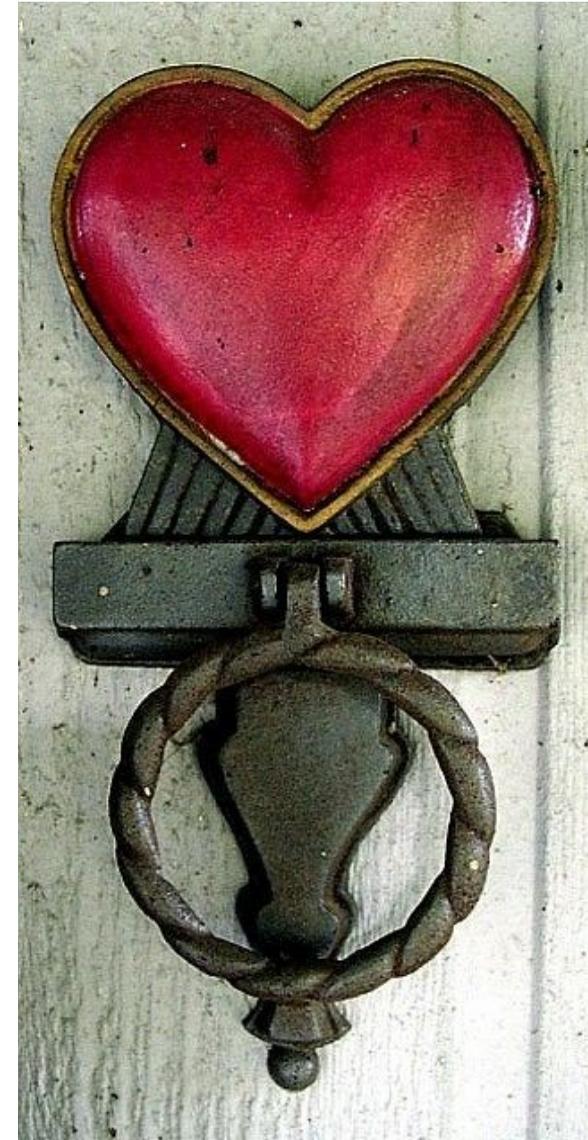


First Presbyterian Church

410 Second Avenue | PO Box 441 | Sterling, IL 61081 | (815) 625-0452

The spiritual for this week, “Somebody’s Knockin’ At Your Door” is drawn directly from the text of Revelation 3:20: “I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.” The imagery is that of Jesus, speaking to us, standing at the threshold of our lives and knocking at the door. So often, we like to think of ourselves as the ones who knock at the door of the Savior, but this spiritual invites us to see ourselves as the ones who respond to Jesus’s insistent knocking. When we open the door, do we see Jesus? He promises to enter our lives and dwell with us – to stay with us and break bread with us. In Matthew 25, in the parable of the sheep and goats, Jesus says that whatever we do for those who are in need, we do for him. So perhaps when we hear the knocking at our door, we might look out and see someone who is a stranger, hungry, in need, or lonely. Welcoming them is the same as welcoming Jesus.



Pastor - Rev. Dr. Christina Berry

Ministers - All the People

March 20, 2022

God's People Gather

Welcome

Threshold Moment

Response I Want Jesus To Walk With Me

***Opening Song** I Will Enter His Gates

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we know that we have so often failed to do what you have asked of us. We do not always do justice, we do not always love kindness, we do not always walk humbly with you. And we know that sometimes we do exactly what you have told us not to do. But more often, we are simply lukewarm; indifference keeps us from even opening the shutters, much less opening the door to your presence. Forgive us, God! Come into our lives and dwell with us, so that we will be bold enough to do what you have asked, and strong enough to resist the temptation of apathy.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Give thanks, people of God! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Believe the good news of the gospel:
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

***Response** Peace Song

God's Word is Proclaimed

Children's Time

Scripture Readings Revelation 3:14-22

Sermon Who's There?

Responding to God's Word

Offering

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

God's People Are Sent

***Closing Song** Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door

***Benediction**

Leader: And let all God's People say...

People: Alleluia, Amen!

***Response** Walk With Me This Day, Lord

Postlude

