



First Presbyterian Church

OF LAKE FOREST

April 23, 2023
10:30 AM
Earth Day Sunday

Sending well-equipped disciples of Jesus into the world—compassionate, generous, resilient, and wise

Prayer of Preparation

God of creation,
we give thanks for the goodness of the earth
that you made and sustain.
Our voices join in praise with all creation:
with the sea that roars,
the trees that clap their hands,
and the birds that sing in joy.
Unite us by your Spirit,
that we may be signs of your abundant mercy
and live in thanksgiving for your grace,
as we wait for the completion of your creation
in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Prelude

Unter der Linden grüne
For the Beauty of the Earth

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562-1621)
Michael Burkhardt

The Welcome

Jesus Christ and our faith community welcome you to worship today.

We are a community that prays for and with one another. If you wish, we invite you to fill out a Joys & Concerns card (in the pew rack) to share your prayer request. If you are a visitor and would like us to get in touch with you, please provide your information on the back of the Joys & Concerns card. An usher will collect them later in the service.

During the service, you are invited to stand as you are able where an asterisk () is printed, and speak or sing in unison all passages in bold.*

Let us take a few moments of silence as we prepare our hearts to worship God.



Our Sanctuary sound system is equipped to broadcast directly to T-Coil-equipped hearing aids. If your hearing aid is so equipped, switch it into this mode. If you do not have this type of hearing aid, assistive listening devices are available from the ushers.

Introit

God of the Sparrow

Carl Schalk, 1983
Jaroslav Vajda, 1983

*God of the sparrow God of the whale God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe How does the creature say Praise
God of the earthquake God of the storm God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe How does the creature cry Save
God of the rainbow God of the cross God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace How does the creature say Thanks*

*Call to Worship

Psalm 19:1

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God.

People: The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Leader: The plants and trees show God's presence.

People: Let us join with creation in praising God.

*Hymn of Praise NO. 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

TUNE: ELLACOMBE

Word for Children & The 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.

Following the Word for Children, Preschool through 4th graders may leave for Children's Church. Middle Schoolers are invited to help lead Children's Church or remain in worship. Please pick up your children from room 213.

Call to Confession

Beloved, we are made in the divine image,
and God called us good.

Yet we go our own way,
causing harm to ourselves, to one another, and to the planet.

Confident in the mercy of the One
who made us and saved us,
let us confess our sin to God and to another.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sin against God and creation, saying,
Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For our indifference to the destruction of wildlife,
Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the greedy search for profit with no respect for life,
Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For the violence ravaged against the earth,
Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: For our silence before bulldozed forests and contaminated rivers,
Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Forgive our arrogance, Lord,
when we place ourselves at the center of your universe.
Forgive our lack of passion to preserve your creation.

In your mercy, teach us to love your creatures,
and to care for life in all its forms.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

Sung Invocation NO. 22

God of the Sparrow

TUNE: ROEDER

***God of the hungry God of the sick God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care How does the creature say Life***

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: In the water of baptism,
God pours out mercy and blessing.
Know that you are forgiven,
and be at peace
as you share that blessing with others
and care for this good earth,
that all creation may declare God's glory.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Sung Response NO. 22

God of the Sparrow

TUNE: ROEDER

***God of the neighbor God of the foe God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love How does the creature say Peace***

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Anthem

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace

Vernon Griffiths, 1975, arr. John Ferguson
Jeffrey Rawthorn, 1979

*Creating God, your fingers trace the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise your might.*

*Sustaining God, your hands uphold earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim your care.*

*Redeeming God, your arms embrace all now despised for creed or rate;
let peace, descending like a dove, make known on earth your healing love.*

*In-dwelling God, your gospel claims one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched with grace until we praise you face to face.*

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, your Word is a living word.
By your Spirit awaken us,
that we may see and hear your presence in the world
and in the scripture that we read today.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
our brother and guide. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson *(Old Testament, page 1 in pew Bible)* Genesis 1:24-2:3

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson *(New Testament, page 90 in pew Bible)* Luke 24:13-27

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Nick Babladelis

"Stewardship, Not Domination: Rediscovering the Image of God"

*Hymn of Response NO. 23

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

TUNE: PLEADING SAVIOR

Sharing of Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Choral Response

Twofold Amen

Greek Liturgy

Offering

Were You There?
All Glory, Laud and Honor

arr. Barbara Baltzer Kinyon



You may give online or fulfill your pledge by scanning the QR code
with your mobile phone, or go to firstchurchlf.org/give.
Thank you for your generosity!

***Doxology** *(unison)*

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

***Closing Prayer** *(unison)*

*We give you thanks, most gracious God,
for the beauty of earth and sky and sea;
for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers;
for the songs of birds
and the loveliness of flowers.
We praise you for these good gifts,
and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity.
Grant that we may continue to grow
in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation,
to the honor and glory of your name,
now and forever. Amen.*

***Hymn of Sending** NO. 15 *(stanzas 1-4)*

All Creatures of Our God and King

TUNE: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Charge and Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

God of the Sparrow

Carl Schalk, 1983
Jaroslav Vajda, 1983

*God of the ages God near at hand God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy How do your children say Home*

***Postlude**

Fanfare and Toccata on *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Barbara Harbach

This Week's Calendar

TODAY

8:45 AM	Nursery open until 11:45 AM, Room 212
9:00	Worship, Sanctuary
9:15	Children's Faith Building, Rooms 215, 219 Middle School: 5-7th grade, Room 214
10:00	Fellowship, Great Room
10:30	Worship, Sanctuary
10:45	Children's Church, Tower Room 213
11:30	Fellowship, Great Room
11:45	Lunch and Learn: Rev. Nick Babladelis, South Parlor
5:00 PM	Middle School Youth Group, Youth Lounge
7:00	Senior High Youth Group, Away

MON

9:30 AM	Rummage Sorting, Rummage Sorting Room
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TUE

9:30 AM	Tuesday Women's Bible Study, Parish House
1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry, South Parlor Adult Bible Study, Zoom
6:00	Lakeminster Ringers, Sanctuary
7:00	Women's Evening Bible Study, Zoom
7:30	Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall/Room 012

WED

10:00 AM	Wed. Women's Bible Study, South Parlor/Zoom
5:30 PM	Wednesday Night Supper, Great Room Chancel Bells, Sanctuary
6:00	Children's Faith Building, South Parlor
7:00	Explorations of Faith, South Parlor/Zoom Worship Ensemble Rehearsal, Sanctuary Taizé, Live Stream

THU

6:30 AM	Daybreakers Men's Ministry, South Parlor/Zoom
9:30	Rummage Sorting, Rummage Sorting Room
10:00	Dee James Memorial, Sanctuary Knit One, Pray One, Bride's Room
7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir, Music Room

FRI

7:00 AM	Men of Corinth Bible Study, Great Room/Zoom
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Give

Give online or fulfill your pledge:
scan the QR code
or go to **FirstChurchLF.org/give**.

Pastor on call: Pastor Kristie Finley 847.942.4057

Worship Participants

Rev. Nick Babladelis
Rev. Clinton G. Roberts
Rev. Kristie W. Finley
Rev. Jim Cochrane
Susan Noble
Dr. Tom Tropp
Dr. Susan Klotzbach
Zen Kuriyama
Chancel Bells
Sanctuary Choir
Rick Day, AV Support Lead
Henry Thomas, AV Support
Georgia Sottosanto-Sorenson, AV Support
Ryder Gamrath, AV Support

Serve, Learn & Connect

For our weekly ministries and Zoom links
firstchurchlf.org/ministries

Share Joys & Concerns

Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

Home Communion

Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

Arrange a Wedding or Baptism

Sarah Seccombe 224.544.1958

Engagement & Membership

Diane Quinn dianequinn@mac.com

Mission

Stewart Kerr 224.544.1968

Elders

Paul Bergmann
Renee Borkowski
Donna Coffin
Scott Crawford
Paul Darling
John Gescheidle
Lynnette Hinch
John Johnson
Laura Johnson

Sally McDonald
Mary Gould Moorhead
Diane Quinn
Kendall Severson
Nina Strnad
David Strong
Sadie Strong
Mary Watanabe *Clerk*
Anne Winebrenner

Deacons

Bill Allen
Nancy Anderson
Carol Bagan
Dorothy Chantler
Mallory Ciarrocchi
Susan Daly
Wendy Darling
Peg Gronau
Nancy Hamming
Jeff Hinch
Cindy Johnson
Dick Johnson
Susan McDowell
John McNicholas

Susan Milanak
Lisa Murray
John Noble
Tiffany Notz
Tricia Sweet
Sherry Trenchard
Bert Tucker
Joan Vie
Gale Strenger Wayne
Moderator
Scott Weston

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