



First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



January 7, 2024

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

Baptism of Our Lord

The baptism of Jesus is one of the most theologically profound events in the gospel narratives. When the Father spoke, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased," the divine sonship of Christ was announced in a vivid, dramatic way. The event gives us a picture of the Trinity, with the Father's gift of the Spirit to the Son.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Rev. Kristie W. Finley
Dr. Robert McConnell
Jack Reeder
Sanctuary Choir
Rick Day
Ryder Gamrath
Georgia Sottosanto-Sorenson



Give

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

Nursery children up to 3 years
Opens at 9:00 AM, Room 212

Sunday School ages 3 and up
During worship, Rooms 213, 214, 215, 219
On Communion Sundays, children will go to the Chapel and return for Communion.

Fellowship
10:30 AM, Great Room

Visiting First Pres?

If you would like us to get in touch with you, please provide your information on the visitors card in your pews. An usher will collect them later in the service.

Joys & Concerns

We are a community that prays for and with one another. We invite you to fill out a Joys & Concerns card to share your prayer request.

Prelude

Nettleton

Aaron David Miller



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.

The Welcome

Introit

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Phillipp Nicolai, arr. Johann Sebastian Bach

How bright appears the Morning Star,
with mercy beaming from afar;
the host of heaven rejoices;
O righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod!
Thou Son of Man and Son of God!
We, too, will lift our voices:
Jesus, Jesus!
Holy, holy,
yet most lowly,
draw thou near us;
great Emmanuel, come and hear us.

*Call to Worship

Leader: At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus was baptized by John.

People: The heavens opened,

Leader: and the Spirit descended like a dove;

All: and God said: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

*Hymn of Praise No. 301

Let Us Build a House (All Are Welcome)

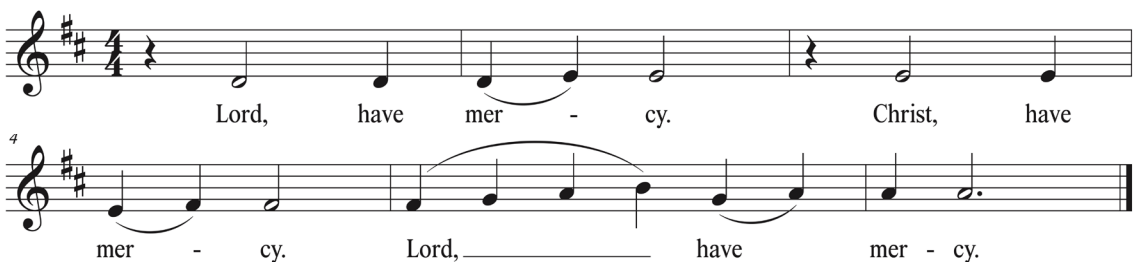
Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **God of all glory, you look from heaven and see us as we are – not worthy to kneel at your feet, not ready to welcome your way. Forgive us, gracious God. In Christ, stoop down to save us; loosen the ties that bind us to sin and set us free to love and serve you; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Kyrie

Craig Phillips



* PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri No. 581

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.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Blessing of the Children

Following the Blessing of the Children, children in preschool through 4th grade may leave for a group lesson in the Chapel. Middle Schoolers are encouraged to stay in worship. Children will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of Response and join their families for Communion.

Invitation to the Offering



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!

Offertory

Star in the East

William Walker, arr. Robert McConnell

Hail the blest morn, see the great Mediator,
down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger,
Lo for his guard the bright angels attend.

Chorus: Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star in the east, the horizon adoring,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold was his cradle, the dew drops were shining;
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him in slumbers reclining,
Maker and Monarch, and Sovereign of all. *Chorus*

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
Odors of Edom and offerings divine?
Gems from the mountain, and pearls from the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine? *Chorus*

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gold, we his favor secure;
Richer, by far, is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor. *Chorus*

***Doxology**

**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. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:4-11

New Testament, page 34 in pew Bible

Sermon

Jon Wasson

"The Voice"

***Hymn of Response No. 475**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

The Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

So that all feel welcome at the table, the bread is gluten-free, and the cups contain grape juice. Communion is served intinction style. Ushers will direct your row when it is time to come forward.

Communion Hymn

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Sandra McCracken, Joshua Moore

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) for the final section. The lyrics are: We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our hearts re - stored. He has done great things. we will say to - ge - ther. We will feast and weep no more. 1. We will not be 2. In the dark of 3. Ev - ery vow we've burned by the fire, He is the Lord our God we are not con - night be - fore the dawn my soul be not a - fraid for the pro - mised bro - ken and be - trayed You are the faith ful one and from the sumed by the flood Up - held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up mor - ning o how long O God of Ja - cob be my strength. gar - den to the grave Bind us to - ge - ther bring sha - lom

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.

*Hymn of Sending No. 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Dresden Amen

Congregational Meeting

*Postlude

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Dietrich Buxtehude

Joys & Concerns

Joys

Larry Crone is home!

Concerns

For the family of Sharon Shaw: her husband David, son Nicholas, brother-in-law Bob Shaw, and niece Rachel Shaw Magnusson. Sharon passed away on Christmas Eve unexpectedly.

For Lynnette Hinch and her family on the loss of her father Bruce Barnes.

Prayer Chain We are a church that prays for each other, celebrating life's joys and supporting each other in time of need. You may submit your prayers to prayerchain@firstchurchlf.org. Please know that your prayers will be held in strict confidence.

Pastoral care

224.544.1967 or pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org

Serve, Learn, & Connect

Engagement & Membership

Diane Quinn

engagement@firstchurchlf.org

Arrange a Wedding or Baptism

Sarah Seccombe

sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org

Join our Music Ministry

Robert McConnell

rmcconnell@firstchurchlf.org

Mission & Outreach

Stewart Kerr

skerr@firstchurchlf.org

Weekly Ministries

For details or to join our small groups, contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

SUNDAYS

Middle School Youth Group

5:00 PM, Youth Lounge

Senior High Youth Group

7:00 PM, Youth Lounge

TUESDAYS

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

9:30 AM, Parish House

Prayer Shawl Ministry

1:00 PM, South Parlor

Adult Bible Study

1:00 PM, Zoom

WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

10:00 AM, South Parlor/Zoom

Wednesday Night Supper

5:30 PM, Great Room

THURSDAYS

Daybreakers Men's Bible Study

6:30 AM, South Parlor/Zoom

Mom's Small Group

7:00 PM, Youth Lounge

FRIDAYS

Men of Corinth Bible Study

7:00 AM, South Parlor/Zoom

Announcements

Congregational Meeting

Session has called a congregational meeting for the election of the members of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. The meeting will take place in the Sanctuary after worship today, January 7.

The Installation of Rev. Jon Wasson Sunday, January 28

You are invited to the installation of Rev. Jon Wasson as Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest at our 9:30 AM worship service. Reception to follow in the Great Room.

Pledge your support for the church in 2024

We are still receiving pledges for this year's Stewardship campaign. Every gift you make to First Pres supports our church's life through faith formation, mission, caring for each other, and tending to our historic campus. You can pledge online, by submitting a pledge card, or by calling the church office. Your generosity makes our mission of sending well-equipped disciples of Jesus into the world possible! We hope that you will prayerfully consider your financial commitment for 2024.

Membership Classes

Interested in learning more about our church and membership at First Pres? Upcoming classes are on Sundays, January 14 and 21. Contact Diane Quinn for more info at engagement@firstchurchlf.org.

Dinner & Trivia

Sunday, February 4

Join us for a fun night of friendly competition and fundraising for our Senior High Work Trip. All ages are welcome! 5:30 – 7:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. Serving Paul Roeck's award winning chili, Heather Strong's almost famous Corn Bread, salad and dessert! firstchurchlf.org/trivia

Small Group Leaders Needed!

We're forming small groups to meet for the purpose of community and conversation throughout the season of Lent. Groups will read and discuss the book, *Low Anthropology*, by Dave Zahl. We need small group leaders! No previous experience required and training will be provided. Please contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org to learn more.

For the full church calendar, schedule of ministries, and more: www.firstchurchlf.org
Find us on Facebook and Instagram: [@firstchurchlf](https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchlf)



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