



First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



October 27, 2024

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

Pledge Sunday

Today, in grateful response to God's grace, we joyfully commit to support God's work through First Church in the coming year. Each pledge card represents not just dollars, but our hopes, prayers, and shared ministry. Together, we offer our gifts—our time, talents, and resources—trusting that God will multiply them to serve our community and world.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Job 42:1-6, 10-17 and Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22); Jeremiah 31:7-9 and Psalm 126; Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Rev. Kristie Finley
Dr. Robert McConnell
Dr. Jack Reeder
Dave Tolmie
Sanctuary Choir
Daniel Makins
Raul Oreana, Trumpet
Troy Archer, Trumpet
Dena Levy, Horn
Arlo Hollander, Trombone
Noah Vincent, Tuba
Rick Day
Gonzalo Zarazaga

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

Sunday School ages 3 through 4th Grade
During worship, Rooms 213, 215, 219
On Communion Sundays, children will go to the Chapel and return for Communion.

Fellowship
10:30 AM, Great Room, hosted by the Deacons who look forward to meeting their Parish members this month.

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.

Flowers in the niches are given in celebration of Tia Bennett's 10th birthday.

Prelude

Andante Cantabile from Quintet for Brass
Axel Jørgensen

Vivo from Quintet No. 3
Viktor Ewald



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.



Give

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

The Welcome

Introit

Jesu, Joy of My Desiring
Johann Sebastian Bach

Jesu, joy of my desiring! In my heart I hold him fast.
Jesus comes with grace untiring till all cares and grief are past.
Well I know that Jesus loves me, and his very life he gives me.
Jesus I will not forsake, though on earth my heart should break.
— Martin Janus

*Call to Worship

Psalm 116

Leader: What shall we render to the Lord for all his benefits to us?

People: We will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.

Leader: We will offer to God the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

**People: We will pay our vows to the Lord in the presence of his people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

All: Hallelujah!

*Hymn of Praise No. 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **Holy God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You see our need when we are blind to it. You have made us to be yours. In your compassion, forgive us for our lack of faith and the harm we do to others and to your earth. Forgive us for turning away from your will, for ignoring the cries of our neighbors, for failing to listen to what is most nourishing even for ourselves. Let our faults fall from your eyes as you open ours. Hear this and answer, in Jesus' holy name. Amen.**

Kyrie

Craig Phillips

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

4
mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

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, children in preschool through 4th grade will go to their Faith Building classrooms. Please pick up your children on the 2nd floor following worship.

Leader: Holy God, we thank you for the gift of these children,

People: And for their parents.

Leader: We know that you have entrusted them to their parents,

People: And also to our community.

Leader: To care for them,
to teach them,
to be examples of Christ to them.
Bless these children.

People: And let us be a blessing to them.

All: Amen.

Anthem

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold W. Fiedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name,
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Touch we now your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather
in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the Father
break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia, alleluia!
So now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true.
Alleluia, alleluia!
we will serve with faith anew.

— Percy Dearmer

Scripture Lesson

Mark 10: 46-52

New Testament, page 47 in pew Bible

Sermon

Jon Wasson

"Seeing and Being Seen"

*Hymn of Response No. 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Prayers of the People 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.**

Moment for Stewardship

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

Be Here Now
Daniel Makins

Please don't let this moment disappear.
It was left for a reason, for a people gathered here.
And please don't fade distractions into view,
Make an effort, leave a mark, heed a call, it's up to you.

And with loving hearts and grace to make a start
Be here now. Be here now. Be here now.

Please don't try to give all questions an answer,
Present your prayer in wonder to fascinate and gather.
And please don't confuse the battle for the war
But enter the arena, carry love and nothing more.

There has been love enough to guide and follow through,
There have been others standing right here in your shoes.

Please don't put off today's until tomorrow,
For a handful of certainty too often comes unraveled.
And please don't let worry cloud the Light away,
But release the Holy Spirit with a smile, come what may.

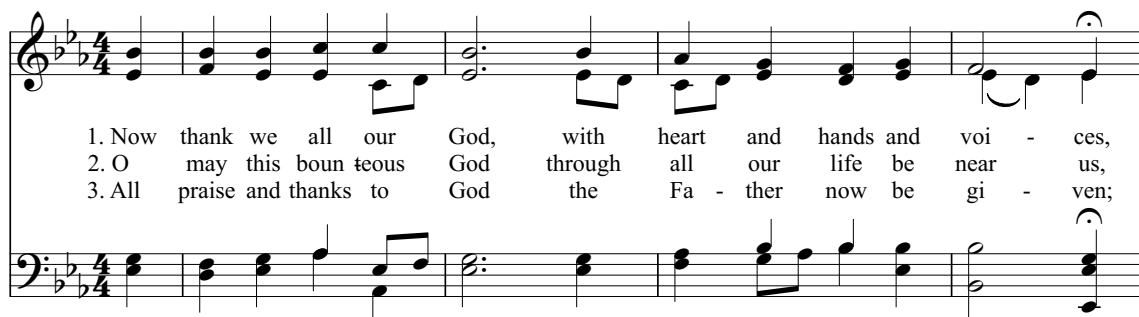
*Doxology

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.

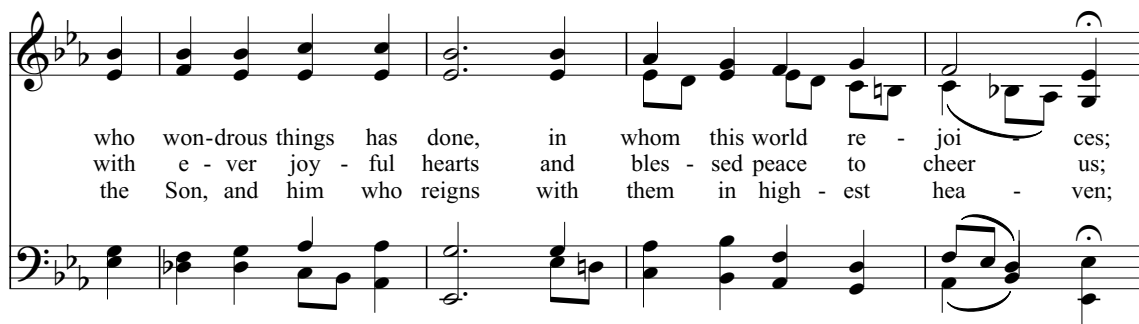
*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Sending

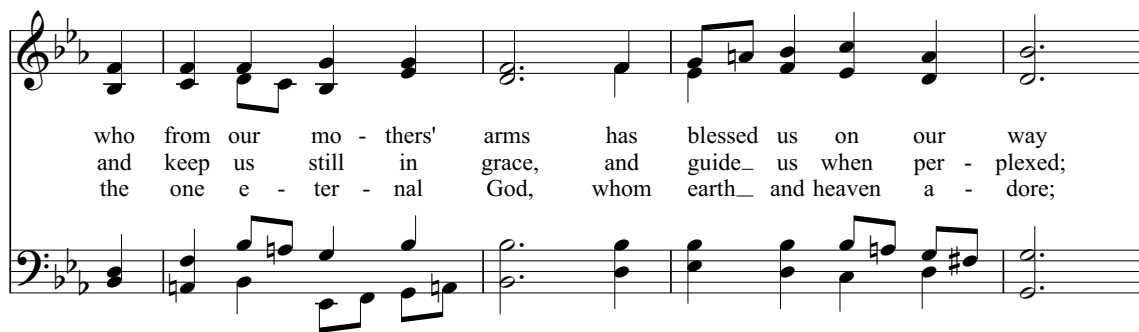
Now Thank We All Our God



1. Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voi - ces,
2. O may this boun teous God through all our life be near us,
3. All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be gi - ven;



who won-drous things has done, in whom this world re - joi - ces;
with e - ver joy - ful hearts, and bles - sed peace to cheer us;
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven;



who from our mo - thers' arms has blessed us on our way
and keep us still in grace, and guide_ us when per - plexed;
the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth_ and heaven a - dore;



with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be e - ver - more.

* PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

Amen, Amen, komm du schöne Freudenkrone
from BWV 61, *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Amen! Amen!

Come, you lovely crown of joy, do not delay,
I await you with longing.

— Philipp Nicolai

*Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Be Here Now

On this Pledge Sunday, we invite you to the Great Room during fellowship hour to explore different ways to commit to being here now through serving on a committee, volunteering with one of our mission partners, or joining one of our congregation's ministries.

Children's Programming

Volunteers are needed each week for Sunday School as well as for special events such as the upcoming Christmas Pageant and this summer's VBS. Talk with Rachel Magnusson this morning, or email her at rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org to learn how you can get involved.

Youth Programs

Middle School and Senior High Youth Groups gather on Sunday evenings. Meet up with Anne Winebrenner (awinebrenner@firstchurchlf.org) this morning to be sure you and your youth are on the contact lists to stay updated with events, and to learn more about how you can help with youth group about being a confirmation mentor.

Engagement Committee

Our next new member class is being scheduled for the new year. Learn more about membership with Diane Quinn this morning, or email her at engagement@firstchurchlf.org.

Bible Studies & Small Groups

Leaders from our Bible Studies and Small Groups are here this morning to introduce you to Sunday's Early Word small group, Tuesday's Prayer Shawl Ministry, Wednesday Women's Bible Study, Thursday's Daybreaker's men's group or Friday's Men of Corinth.

Worship & Music

Join one of our choirs! Robert McConnell and Jack Reeder are here to answer questions about our adult Sanctuary Choir, Children's Cherub or Carol Choirs, and the hand bell choirs: Lakeminster Ringers and Chancel Bells. Sign up with Sarah Seccombe to be a Sunday morning Usher or Greeter.

Rummage & Mission

Visit the Rummage and Mission tables to learn how you can volunteer at the Rummage Sale's year round sorting or for the set-up and sale days. Beneficiaries of the long-standing Rummage Sales here at First Church have been hundreds of local agencies over more than seven decades. Five of our current mission partners are present today, eager to share their immediate volunteer needs and information about their work. You can sign up today to lend your talents to these organizations!

NEL/Allies for Community Business

The Neighborhood Entrepreneurship Lab pairs community business owners in Chicago with project advisors, project strategists, community partners and corporate partners who provide intensive support to help execute a growth initiative for each business. During the last six years, 122 small business owners went through a mentoring program, created an estimated 976 jobs and 92% of them are still in business.

Lake County Haven

In 1992, two former deacons from First Pres recognized the need for services for homeless women and their children in Lake County which led to Lake County Haven's first transitional shelter in Libertyville. Today there are two shelters that provide a supportive environment for each resident during their transition from homelessness to independence. Their goal is that their residents "will never be homeless again."

Boys and Girls Club of Lake County

The Boys and Girls Club of Lake County's mission is to inspire young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. They accomplish this by providing enrichment programming to children 6-18 in Lake County in the areas of Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles and Good Character and Citizenship.

Art Impact

Art Impact Project is dedicated to enhancing emotional wellness through creative expression. They partner with schools, drug and alcohol treatment programs, libraries and other community service spaces to provide projects with clear objectives such as increasing self-awareness, building confidence, and promoting empathy for others. In 2023 they served over 1500 teens and 200 adults.

Reading Power

In partnership with under-served schools, Reading Power provides one-to one tutoring during the school day for children in prekindergarten through second grade. Their mission is to accelerate children's literacy learning and to develop in them a love of reading and writing. First Church has a special relationship with Reading Power, as it was our own Dr. Mary Jane Hender and Rev. Dr. Gordon Butcher who began this ministry in 2003.



MISSION PARTNERS

Art Impact Project - Lake County
A Safe Place - Lake County
Beacon Place - Waukegan
Boys & Girls Club of Lake County - Waukegan and North Chicago
Chicago Bible Society Prison Outreach - Chicago
Curt's Cafe - Evanston and Highland Park
ELDERCARE - Lake County
Faraja School - Tanzania
Hope Presbyterian Church - Englewood
Independence Center - Waukegan
Josselyn Center - Lake County
Lake County Haven - Libertyville
Learn 6 Charter School - North Chicago
Love INC - Lake County
Lutheran Social Service Prisoner & Family Ministry (LLSI) - Chicagoland
Mano a Mano - Lake County
McCormick Theological Seminary Solidarity Building Initiative - Chicago
Midtown-Metro Achievement Centers - Chicago
Mother's Trust - Lake County
NEL (Allies for Community Business)
Night Ministry - Chicago
North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic - Highland Park
Opportunity International - Africa
Outreach Foundation - Mexico
Providing Advocacy, Dignity and Shelter (PADS) - Lake County
Reading Power - North Chicago
Samracare - Lake County
Sarah's Circle - Chicago
Teamwork Englewood - Chicago
University Campus Ministry at Northwestern University - Evanston
Waukegan 2 College - Waukegan
Youth & Family Counseling - Lake County
Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center - Lake County

Joys & Concerns

Joys

Welcoming Julie Barry to our staff as the new Director of Communications.

Today we joyfully commit to support God's work through our church in the coming year.

Welcoming five of our mission partners to join us this morning to share more about their organizations and opportunities for involvement.

Concerns

For the family of Pat Johnson who died October 23, a service is being planned.

For Peg Gronau recovering from cataract surgery.

For Tom Gallagher, Jim Young's brother-in-law, recovering from brain cancer surgery.

For Liz Farwell, recovering from knee replacement surgery.

Prayers for the Country and the World

God, we come to you asking for peace. There are so many places and people who need to feel your healing peace. The war-torn areas across the world, our nation, our neighborhoods, and our own households, we all need to open our hearts to your presence and the peace you want for us and that you call each of us to live out. Surround us with your Holy Spirit, who is always present even when we are not. Amen.

We are a church that prays for each other, celebrating life's joys and supporting each other in time of need. You may email your prayer requests to pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org or call 224.544.1967.

Prayer requests will be removed from this listing after two weeks. Please let us know if prayer continues to be requested.

Prayer Chain For confidential prayers, you may email prayerchain@firstchurchlf.org. Please know that your prayers will be held in strict confidence.

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

Sally McDonald and Laura Johnson

Weekly Ministries

For details and schedule visit our website at firstchurchlf.org/ministries

SUNDAYS

Early Word Bible Study

8:30 AM, South Parlor

Middle School Youth Group

Most Sundays, 5:00 PM, Youth Lounge

Senior High Youth Group

Most Sundays, 7:00 PM, Youth Lounge

TUESDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

Daybreakers Men's Bible Study

6:30 AM, South Parlor/Zoom

FRIDAYS

Men of Corinth Bible Study

7:00 AM, South Parlor/Zoom

Announcements

Middle School & Senior High Youth Groups

Just a reminder, both youth groups will not be meeting today.

Parents Paddle Night Friday, November 8 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

First Church parents of children up to 4th grade are invited to a paddle night and fellowship on at The Winter Club. Registration includes dinner. Learn more at firstchurchlf.org/paddle.

Sign up for our newsletter!

Scan the QR code or go to firstchurchlf.org to receive news and updates.



Pledge Sunday

Today is Pledge Sunday and we invite you to “Be Here Now” by making a financial pledge to the church. The full stewardship video is available to view online at firstchurchlf.org/give. Also, please join us this morning during fellowship to meet some of our mission partners who are here to share ways to get involved.

Election Vigil

Tuesday, November 5

Drop in any time on Election Day from 7:00 AM — 7:00 PM for a self-guided time of prayer for our nation and leaders, and to express trust in God’s peace and purposes for our world. Our chapel doors will be open to all.

All Saints’ Sunday & Labyrinth

Sunday, November 3 we will remember and honor the saints in our lives during worship and by walking the labyrinth on the South Lawn. If you have lost an immediate family member in the past year, and would like their name read, please contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

All Church Nominating Committee (ACNC)

The All Church Nominating Committee is gathering names of servant leaders for our church Elders, Deacons and Members-at-Large of the ACNC. You are encouraged to offer nominations including self-nominations. Nominations are due by November 1. The ACNC will consider all nominations and propose a slate of candidates for congregational vote at our Annual Meeting. Forms can be found on the nametag tables and online at firstchurchlf.org/acnc.

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)



First Presbyterian Church
OF LAKE FOREST

700 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045
847.234.6250 | firstchurchlf.org