

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



October 6, 2024

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

World Communion Sunday

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. World Communion Sunday was adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (US) in 1936. It was created as an attempt to bring churches together in a service of Christian unity—in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information, and above all, to know how important the Church of Jesus Christ is, and how each congregation is interconnected one with another.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Job 1:1; 2:1-10 and Psalm 26; Genesis 2:18-24 and Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson Rev. Kristie Finley Rev. Dr. Allen Hilton Dr. Robert McConnell Dr. Jack Reeder Sanctuary Choir

Rick Day

Gonzalo Zarazaga



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

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 loving memory of James Altounian, from his family.

Prelude

Lasst Uns Erfreuen Mark Sedio



Give

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



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

The Wise May Bring Their Learning

Harold Friedell

The wise may bring their learning, the rich may bring their wealth,

And some may bring their greatness, and some bring strength and health;

We, too, would bring our treasures to offer to the King;

We have no wealthy or learning: what shall we children bring?

We'll bring Him hearts that love Him; we'll bring Him thankful praise,

And young souls meekly striving to walk in holy ways;

And these shall be the treasures we offer to the King,

And these are gifts that even the poorest child may bring.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 8: 3-4, 9

Leader: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars that you have established;

People: what are human beings that you are mindful of them,

mortals that you care for them?

Leader: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

All: Let us worship God!

*Hymn of Praise No. 327

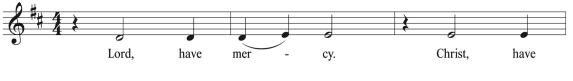
From All That Dwell Below the Skies

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) Loving God, you created us to live in relationship with you, to love and serve one another, and to care for all your creatures. Yet, in the hardness of our hearts, we dismiss your commandments and seek to go our separate ways. Lord, have mercy on us. Redeem, restore, and re-create us, for the sake of Christ our Savior. 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.

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 Jubilate Deo
Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:

serve the Lord with gladness,

and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:

it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;

we are his children and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,

and into his courts with praise;

be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting,

and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Ghost; as it was and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

— Psalm 100

*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

Scripture Reading

Mark 5:24b-34 New Testament, page 39 in pew Bible

Sermon Allen Hilton

"Lend Me Your Ears"

*Hymn of Response No.795

Healer of Our Every Ill

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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 Music Come and Taste

arr. Alice Parker

Come and taste, along with me, consolation running free
From our Father's wealthy throne, sweeter than the honeycomb
I'll praise God and you praise God, and we'll all praise God together.
We'll praise the Lord for the work that He has done, and we'll bless His name forever.

All that come with free good will, make the banquet sweeter still.

Now I go to mercy's door, asking for a little more.

I'll praise God and you praise God, and we'll all praise God together.

We'll praise the Lord for the work that He has done, and we'll bless His name forever.

^{*} PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

Goodness, running like a stream Through the new Jerusalem
By a constant breaking forth, Sweetens earth and heaven both.
I'll praise God and you praise God, and we'll all praise God together.
We'll praise the Lord for the work that He has done, and we'll bless His Name forever.

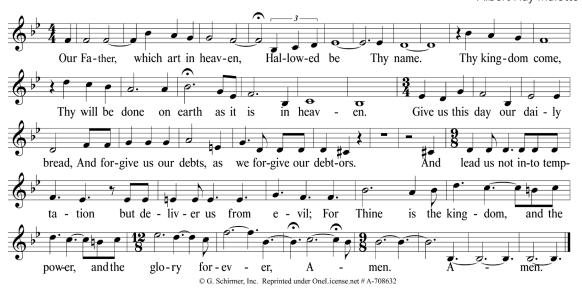
O, return, ye sons of grace, turn and see God's smiling face
Hark! He calls backsliders home, Then from Him no longer roam.
I'll praise God and you praise God, and we'll all praise God together.
We'll praise the Lord for the work that He has done, and we'll bless His Name forever.

— John Leland

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Sending

The Lord's Prayer
Albert Hay Malotte



*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer

*Postlude

Praeludium in D major, BuxWV 139 Dietrich Buxtehude

Joys & Concerns

Joys

Welcoming Rev. Dr. Allen Hilton to the pulpit this morning.

Deacons and their parishes having the opportunity to meet in fellowship throughout the month of October.

Concerns

For George Fossell recovering from knee surgery.

For Geoffrey Luce's mother, Estrella Luce, who is stranded by the flood waters of Hurricane Helene in St. Pete's Beach, FL.

For Audrey Altounian and her family on the death of her husband James. A memorial was held here on Friday, October 4.

God of grace and compassion, in these overwhelming moments of loss and devastation, we come to you with weary hearts that are both heavy and hopeful. We hold in our prayers and hearts all those impacted by the hurricanes, conflicts, and other disasters, and we implore for your mercy, peace and healing to embrace our siblings all over the world. By your grace, bring comfort to those who are grieving, give strength to the exhausted, and provide shelter for those who have lost everything. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

— Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, PDA Director

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

Meet Your Deacon Month October 6, 13, 20, 27

Church membership has been divided into small groups, Parishes, each assigned to a Deacon. The Deacons are called to compassionate witness and service to the congregation which brings with it the benefit of increased communication and personal interaction. The Deacons look forward to meeting their Parish members in fellowship after worship during the month of October.

Worship Volunteers

If you are eager to meet and welcome new people, and would like to serve on Sunday mornings, we are looking to add to our roster of ushers and greeters. To learn more, contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

Sign up for our newsletter!

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



Third Thursday Prayer Service Thursday, October 17, 6:00 PM

Prayer and worship, even when we are alone, is a collective task, focused on the needs of the whole world including our own. Join us in the Chapel on the third Thursday of each month as we share our prayers of gratitude and petition both personal and communal with scripture, song, and silence.

Kids Movie Night

Saturday, October 19, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Children up to 4th grade are invited to a casual dinner and a movie, with pizza, popcorn, and fellowship, while the parents enjoy a night out! Kids can bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and stuffy, and wear pajamas or comfy clothes! Please register in advance for this free event at firstchurchlf.org/movie.

Hurricane Helene Relief

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is in communication with all affected presbyteries and National VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) to share information and coordinate resources as damage is assessed. PDA has deployed a National Response Team to Tampa Bay Presbytery, Presbytery of Western North Carolina, Northeast Georgia Presbytery, and Holston Presbytery. They have approved several initial assistance grant requests and are anticipating additional requests from affected presbyteries to help respond to needs in their communities. If you would like to donate to assist their efforts, scan the QR code or visit presbyterianmission.org/donate/dr000169/.

For the full church calendar, schedule of ministries, and more: www.firstchurchlf.org Find us on Facebook and Instagram: @firstchurchlf

