

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



April 14, 2024

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

3rd Sunday after Easter

Because the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter marks the beginning of the season of Eastertide, the fifty days that lead up to Pentecost. This season is designed for extended celebration, for exploring the meaning of Christ's resurrection, and for joyful Christian living.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Acts 3:12-19 and Psalm 4 or Isaiah 6:1-9a and Psalm 40:1-5; I John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson Rev. Kristie W. Finley Dr. Robert McConnell Jack Reeder Sanctuary Choir Lakeminster Ringers Chancel Bells 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

23rd Psalm

Donald Callender, arr. Nancy Orbison



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 Rise Up, My Love
Healey Willan

Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away. For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear upon the earth.

The time of singing of birds is come.

Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.

—Song of Solomon 2:10-12

*Call to Worship

Leader: The bread of life opens our eyes.

People: The word of life opens our ears.

Leader: The risen one shows us God's own brokenness,

People: and by those wounds we are healed.

Leader: Peace be with you. People: And also with you.

*Hymn of Praise No. 246

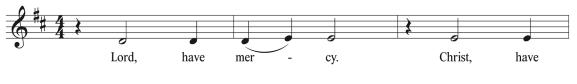
Christ is Alive!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) Good and gracious God, we are creatures of dust, ignorant of your revelation, misunderstanding your life, death, and resurrection among us, needing forgiveness. We seek your word and beg your mercy. Forgive us and lead us. 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

Children up to 4^{th} grade are invited to come forward, and 5^{th} through 7^{th} grade are welcome to join them or stay seated for the blessing. All ages will go to their Faith Building classrooms afterwards. Please pick up your children on the 2^{nd} 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 Verleih uns Frieden

Felix Mendelssohn

Grant unto us thy peace, O Lord Because there is no one else who could fight for us, For thou art our God and safety.

—Martin Luther, from a paraphrase of the Latin Hymn Da pacem Domine

New Testament Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

New Testament, page 91 in pew Bible

Sermon Jon Wasson

"The Wounded Healer"

*Hymn of Response No. 298

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

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.

Service of Ordination and Installation

Constitutional Questions

Congregational Questions

Leader: Do we, members of the church, accept these servants as elders and

deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us

in the way of Jesus Christ?

People: We do.

Leader: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow

as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church?

People: We do.

Prayer of Ordination and the Laying On of Hands

Leader: Almighty God: in every age you have chosen servants to speak your word

and lead your loyal people. We thank you for these people whom you have called to serve you. Give them special gifts to do their special work; and fill them with Holy Spirit, so they may have the same mind that was in Christ

Jesus, and be faithful disciples as long as they live.

People: God of grace, who called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of

Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation: give us courage and discipline to follow where your servants rightly lead us; that together we may declare your wonderful deeds and show your love to

the world; through Jesus Christ the Lord of all. Amen.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

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, Amen

Ruth Shaw Hollis

*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 No. 295

Go to the World!

*Iona Pilgrimage Blessing

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Peace I Leave with You

Amy Beach

Peace I leave with you,
My peace I give unto you.
Not as the world giveth
Give I unto you.
Let not your heart be troubled.
—John 14:27

*Postlude

Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonata No. 4 in B-flat major

Felix Mendelssohn

^{*} PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

Joys & Concerns

Joys

Helen Kohr's 99th birthday this weekend.

Kristie Finley, along with 16 others are leaving early next week for a pilgrimage to Ireland, Scotland, and Iona. We send them off with this prayer from Iona:

Disturber by Kate McIlhagga

Disturbing stranger, you call and we follow. You call, and we leave behind the nets of our past lives; the things that bound and held us; our old selves and our regrets.

For calling and disturbing, for surprising and making new, for moving us towards wholeness, we thank you Lord.

Concerns

Bill Allen and his family following the death of his brother, Doug, on April 5.

Jan Zilka recovering from back pain after receiving an epidural.

Pat Johnson recovering from several fractures in her leg.

Nancy Orbison continuing to receive chemotherapy.

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 prayers 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 & MembershipDiane 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

Learn It and Live It 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

Kids Dinner & Movie Friday, April 19, 5–7:30 PM

Children up to 4th grade are invited to a casual dinner and a movie with pizza, popcorn, and fellowship, while parents enjoy a night out! Kids can bring sleeping bags, pillows, stuffies, and wear pajamas or comfy clothes. Registration: firstchurchlf.org/movie

Rummage Family Volunteer Day Sunday, April 28, 1–4 PM

Bring your whole family and help rummage unload boxes. This is the first day of rummage set-up, so be the first to see what's coming! Following volunteering, families are invited to head over to the manse for a backyard party beginning at 4:00 PM. firstchurchlf.org/family

Associate Pastor Search Updates

For updates from the APNC: firstchurchlf.org/updates.

Congregational Survey

As we enter a new season of growth and change, Session has recommended a partnership with AE Sloan Leadership, led by Tod Bolsinger, to clarify our values and mission. Beginning with input from all members of the congregation and culminating in recommendations for reclaiming and revitalizing our congregational identity, the consultants will work with small groups for the next 12-18 months.

To learn more about this process and complete a confidential survey to kick start our work, visit firstchurchlf.org/revitalize.

Responses from the survey collected by AE Sloan Leadership consultants will be used to guide the work and create topics for exploration during the strategic planning process.

If you need assistance filling out the survey, contact Karla Finley at 224.544.1972.

Spring Rummage Sale Saturday, May 4, 8 AM–3 PM

Shop clothing, art, accessories, home decor, furniture, and more, while raising funds to support our mission partners! Workers' Cafe is back. To volunteer for the sale, email rummage@firstchurchlf.org.

Vacation Bible School June 12 – 14 and 16

Open to children age 4 by December 31 through entering 4th grade. This year's VBS theme is Scuba: Diving Into Friendship with God. VBS is volunteer-based, so we also need your help to make this a success! Register by Monday, June 3. Details and registration: firstchurchlf.org/vbs

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

