

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



## Welcome!

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

# **Today's Service**

# 4th 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 4:5-12 and Psalm 23 or Zechariah 10:1-12 and Psalm 80:1-7; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18.

## **Worship Participants**

Rev. Jon Wasson
Gretchen Seymour
Dr. Robert McConnell
Jack Reeder
Susan Noble
Cherub Choir
Carol Choir
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**

St. Columba Healey Willan



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 Venid Catemos
Raquel M. Martinez

Refrain: Come, let us sing unto the Lord with great rejoicing.

Our Lord is a great God. Look, there in God's hand: earth's valleys and mountains, sea and the dry land. *Refrain* 

Come, worship and bow down, come humbly and kneel, the Lord is our Maker, God's mercy is real. *Refrain* 

## \*Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

People: He lays down his life for his sheep.

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

People: He knows us, and we belong to him.

Leader: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

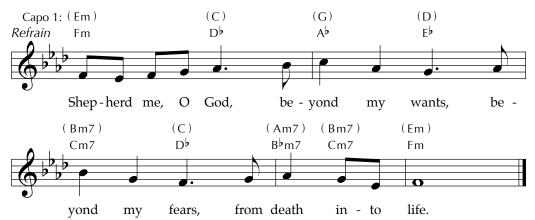
## \*Hymn of Praise No. 620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

### Call to Confession

## **Prayer of Confession**

The congregation sings the refrain below, while the choir and soloist will sing the verses.



<sup>\*</sup> PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: This is the good news: God will walk with us in every moment, God will fill

us with goodness and mercy, God will bring us home to live forever.

People: Anointed with grace and forgiveness, our lives overflow with love for

all people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

# \*Passing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Following the Anthem, all children (preschool through 7<sup>th</sup> grade) will go to their Faith Building classrooms. Please pick up your children on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor following worship.

### **Anthem**

The Lord, God Made Us All Gene Grier and Lowell Everson

All things bright and beautiful, All things great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord, God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that flies,
God gave us eyes to see them,
On the earth, in the sky, you and I.

## **New Testament Reading**

John 10: 11-18

New Testament, page 103 in pew Bible

Sermon Jon Wasson

"The Good Shepherd"

\*Hymn of Response No. 187

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

<sup>\*</sup> PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

## 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.

# 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

Mizmor L'david

Reb Nachman of Breslev, arr. David Berger

A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing.

He lays me down in green fields.

He guides me to the waters of rest.

He restores my spirit. He leads me in paths of righteousness, as befits his Name.

Even when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I fear no evil, for you are with me.

Your rod and your staff comfort me.

You spread a table before me in front of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil. My cup is full.

Indeed, goodness and lovingkindness pursue me all the days of my life,

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for length of days.

—Psalm 23 (sung in Hebrew)

## \*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.

<sup>\*</sup> PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

# \*Prayer of Dedication

# \*Hymn of Sending No. 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

# \*Charge and Benediction

\*Choral Response

The Lord is My Shepherd

Howard Goodall

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

—Psalm 23

\*Postlude Carillon
Léon Boëllmann

# **Joys & Concerns**

### Joys

Jack Reeder's brother, Matthew will be pursuing his PhD. in comparative literature at Northwestern University.

Harry and Donna Short welcomed their 6<sup>th</sup> grandchild on Monday, April 15. Audrey Anne was born to Robin and Aaron Verstraete, joining brothers Graham and Holden in New Albany, Ohio.

Those on the Iona Pilgrimage continuing their travels this week.

#### 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.

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 & 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**

**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**

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

We need more volunteers for setup and sale day! Email rummage@firstchurchlf.org to volunteer. Working a minimum of four hours lets you shop the sale before the general public! Net dollars from our sales support our church's mission partners initiatives.

## 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.

### **Congregational Survey**

It's only four questions! We need your help to kick start our work. Complete a confidential survey at firstchurchlf.org/renewal.

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 with the goal of clarifying our values and mission.

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

### Vacation Bible School June 12 – 14 and 16

Open to children age 4 by December 31 through entering 4<sup>th</sup> 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

#### Pastor Kristie's Sabbatical

Pastor Kristie Finley will be taking her sabbatical for part of the summer, for some time of rest and reflection. You can read more about her time away at firstchurchlf.org/kristie.

### **Wednesday Night Supper**

Our last Wednesday Night Supper for the program year is this Wednesday, April 24! We hope to see you in the Great Room anytime between 5:30 - 6:30 PM for fellowship.

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

