



First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



April 7, 2024

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation is a milestone for these young folks that creates space for them to lean into their wonder and curiosity. Since September, these Confirmands have met each week to ask questions of faith, theology, and the world, participated in worship, and participated in a retreat and other activities, all as we worked towards this moment. Each year our confirmands write their very own 'Faith Statement' as a way to mark their journey. Please welcome these bright, compassionate, and committed new members of First Pres.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133 or Isaiah 65:17-25 and Psalm 3; 1 John 1-2:2; John 20:19-31.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Rev. Kristie W. Finley
Dr. Robert McConnell
Jack Reeder
Daniel Makins
Anne Winebrenner
Dewey Winebrenner
Jim Mayhall
Sawyer Rice
Thatcher Rother
Poppy Bayly
Rick Day
Ryder Gamrath
Georgia Sottosanto-Sorenson

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



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

*Call to Worship

Leader: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God:
Jesus, our Lord,
has conquered the grave.

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Leader: Sin and death shall reign no more.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Leader: Let this place resound with joy.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

*Hymn of Praise No. 610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **You have shown yourself to us, O God, by Word and Spirit, with signs and wonders, in flesh and blood, yet we still struggle to live and believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us; forgive us. Enter into our lives and cast out our fear so that we may come to trust in you and have life in Jesus' 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.**

Following Passing the Peace, 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 Confirmation and 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

Original Music

Daniel Makins

*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

John 20:19-31

New Testament, page 115 in pew Bible

Sermon

Kristie Finley

“Thomas is Not Alone”

*Hymn of Response No. 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

Presentation of Confirmation Class

Poppy Blide Bayly

Katherine Adelaide Buettner

Charles Patrick Dalton

Quinn Thomas Donovan

Miller William Duncan

Beckett Thomas Gore

Valerie Isabella Gould

Thomas Edward Hamming

Larkin Edward Harrison

Emerson Grace Hirsh

Hunter Gregory Jones

Chilton Emory Nero

Charles Nicholas Pateros

Sawyer Brooks Rice

Thatcher Rockwell Rother

Miles Alexander Stensrud

William Storm Vahey

Andrew Thomas Wells

Baptism of Sawyer Rice

Profession of Faith

*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 sin; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Laying on of Hands and Prayer for the Confirmands

*Welcome

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to full membership at First Presbyterian Church and to the fellowship of Christ's church. We welcome you to join with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.

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

I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord

I come with joy to meet my Lord,
forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall
his life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known:
we see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound,
we'll go our different ways
and as his people in the world
we'll live and speak his praise.

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. 817

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

* PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

Joys & Concerns

Joys

The Confirmation class of 2024 celebrating their year of faithful learning and discernment.

This baptism of Sawyer Brooks Rice today.

Gratitude to Anne & Dewey Winebrenner for leading this year's confirmation class. We also thank the mentors who will continue to walk in faith alongside the confirmands as the newest members of our church.

Dick and Marilyn Holmes celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary.

Concerns

Pat Johnson recovering from several fractures in her leg.

Nancy Orbison beginning chemotherapy this week.

Susie Schlachtenhaufen asks for prayers for her mother, Helen Post, who suffered a bad fall and is recovering slowly.

For the people of Baltimore after the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, and for the families and friends of those touched by the terrorist attack in Russia, prayers of comfort.

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

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

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! To volunteer for the sale, email rummage@firstchurchlf.org.

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

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.

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

Associate Pastor Search Updates

First Pres is actively seeking an Associate Pastor for Faith Formation who will have the responsibility for overseeing and leading the faith formation efforts with special emphasis on children, youth, and their families. For more information, you may read the full job description at firstchurchlf.org/apnc. For updates from the APNC, go to firstchurchlf.org/updates.

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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