



# First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



May 5, 2024

**Welcome!**

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

# Today's Service

## 6<sup>th</sup> 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 10:44-48 and Psalm 98 or Genesis 25:9-15 and Psalm 101; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

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## Worship Participants

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

Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist,

BuxWV 208

Dietrich Buxtehude



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](https://FirstChurchLF.org/give).

# The Welcome

## Introit

Cantate Domino  
Dietrich Buxtehude

O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.  
—Psalm 96:1

## \*Call to Worship

From the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*

Leader: Thank you, God, for the beauty of this day and the opening of our hearts to your leading. The purpose of God be between us, and each purpose,

**People: the hand of God between us and each hand;**

Leader: the pain of Christ between us and each pain,

**People: the love of Christ between us and each love.**

Leader: O God, you brought us to the light of this new day;

**All: bring us to the guiding light of eternity.**

## \*Hymn of Praise No. 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

From the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*

(silent confession...) **O God of hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul within all souls, in everything we touch, in everyone we meet you are there, and we give you thanks. But where we have not touched but trampled you in creation, where we have not honored but avoided you in one another, where we have not received but rejected your goodness, forgive us, and hear our plea for your pardon. Amen.**

## Kyrie

Craig Phillips

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

\* PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

## \*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 4<sup>th</sup> grade may leave for a group lesson in South Parlor. 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](http://firstchurchlf.org/give). Thank you for your generosity!

## Offertory

I owe my Lord a morning song  
for God has meant this day.  
Through fears of night and hidden light  
God moves and wills my way.

I owe my Lord a morning song  
for Jesus rose at dawn;  
he made death die and would not lie  
that others might live on.

## I Owe My Lord a Morning Song

John Bell

I owe my Lord a morning song;  
the Spirit gave me voice,  
nor did she force my soul to praise  
but honored me with choice.

I owe my Lord a morning song.  
How can I help but sing  
when God is all in all, and  
I am one with everything.

## \*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

## Old Testament Reading

Psalm 98

Old Testament, page 551 in pew Bible

## New Testament Reading

As the Father Has Loved Me

Robert McConnell

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.  
—John 15: 9-12

## Sermon

Kristie Finley

“Returning”

**\*Hymn of Response** see insert

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

**\*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.**

## 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**

Receive the Body of Christ

Byzantine Chant, arr. Tikey Zes

Receive the Body of Christ,  
Oh, taste the Fountain of Immortality.  
Alleluia.  
—English setting by Vladimir Morosan

## The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: O Brother Jesus, we have been guests at your table; come with us wherever we go and be present in all we share.

People: **Summon out in us, whom you have fed, generosity of spirit to ensure that all the hungry are nourished and earth's barren places are fertile with food, faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

## \*Hymn of Sending

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte

Our Fa-ther, which art in heav-en, Hal-low-ed be Thy name. Thy king-dom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly  
bread, And for-give us our debts, as we for-give our debt-ors. And lead us not in-to temp-  
ta - tion but de - liv - er us from e - vil; For Thine is the king - dom, and the  
power, and the glo-ry for - ev - er, A - men. A - men.

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## \*Charge and Benediction

### \*Choral Response

Choral Amen

John Stainer

## \*Postlude

Praeludium in F major, BuxWV 144

Dietrich Buxtehude

# Joys & Concerns

## Joys

Michele and Jon Mills welcomed son Reid Everett Mills on April 23. Proud big sisters Ava and Caroline.

The Rummage Sale this weekend, bringing together a community of volunteers and customers to raise money for our mission partners.

## Concerns

For Megan Whalley Vlahakis, her husband Andrew, and their family as Megan is having fetal surgery this week.

The family of Pat Cummings, whose brother, John Gilbert, died on April 21.

The family of Bill Hensel, whose sister, Sandra Dever, died on April 21.

The family of Polly Scott, who died Tuesday, April 30. A memorial service is pending.

The family of William Brandt, who died Sunday, April 28. A service was held Friday, May 3.

The family of Nancy Laster, former member and choir singer, who died April 23 in Missouri.

Carla Seidel's brother, Scott, passed away from cancer in Colorado.

Jean Grost's granddaughter, Melissa Angela Grost, died Sunday, April 21.

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](mailto: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](mailto:prayerchain@firstchurchlf.org). Please know that your prayers will be held in strict confidence.

## Serve, Learn, & Connect

### Engagement & Membership

Diane Quinn

[engagement@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:engagement@firstchurchlf.org)

### Arrange a Wedding or Baptism

Sarah Seecombe

[sseecombe@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:sseecombe@firstchurchlf.org)

### Join our Music Ministry

Robert McConnell

[rmccConnell@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:rmccConnell@firstchurchlf.org)

### Mission & Outreach

Stewart Kerr

[skerr@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:skerr@firstchurchlf.org)

## Weekly Ministries

For details or to join our small groups, contact Sarah Seecombe at [sseecombe@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:sseecombe@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

## Worship Volunteers

If you are eager to meet and welcome new people, and would like to serve during worship on Sundays, we are always looking for volunteers! Invite a friend or family members to sign up with you. We are looking to add to our roster of volunteers for ushers, greeters and liturgists. To learn more, email Sarah Seccombe at [sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org)

## Sunday School Volunteers

Looking to live out your Baptismal promise to our kids? Help with Sunday School (and Playground church this Summer) as a teacher or assistant. No previous experience required, and training will be provided. If you are interested, contact Rachel Magnusson at [rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org)

## 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](http://firstchurchlf.org/vbs)

## High School Senior Commissioning

**May 19, 9:30AM**

Join us in worship as we celebrate and pray for our High School Seniors as they prepare to embark on the next phase of life! For more details contact Anne Winebrenner at [awinebrenner@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:awinebrenner@firstchurchlf.org)

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible Sunday

**May 19, 9:30AM**

Celebrate our 4<sup>th</sup> graders flying up to the middle school program this fall as they receive a new Bible. For more information contact Rachel Magnusson at [rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org)

## Senior High Work Trip Tool Training

**May 19, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Work Trip participants and advisors are getting together for tool training prior to their Work Trip this June. To learn more about Work Trip 2024 contact Anne Winebrenner at [awinebrenner@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:awinebrenner@firstchurchlf.org)

## Kristie's Sabbatical

Pastor Kristie Finley will be on sabbatical leave for part of the summer, taking the opportunity for rest and reflection. You can read more about her time away at [firstchurchlf.org/kristie](http://firstchurchlf.org/kristie)

For the full church calendar, schedule of ministries, and more: [www.firstchurchlf.org](http://www.firstchurchlf.org)  
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