



First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



June 16, 2024

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

Ordinary Time

The times between Christmas and Lent and between Pentecost and Advent are known as "Ordinary Time," time outside the two great seasons of the liturgical calendar. The truth is there is nothing ordinary — if by ordinary we mean less important — about this time. During this time we are invited into faithful attention to what it means to live out daily what we say we believe.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 and Psalm 20; Ezekiel 17:22-24 and Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Mike Adams
Dr. Robert McConnell
Dr. Jack Reeder
Summer Quartet
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 through 3rd Grade
During worship, Fellowship Hall
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

Thaxted

Robert Buckley Farlee



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

Open Up Our Eyes

Sandra McCracken

Open up our ears to listen, open up our eyes to see.
Plant the seed of understanding, grow it up like the tallest tree.

Pull the blinds, open wide all the windows.
Fill our hearts with the light of your truth.

*Call to Worship

Mark 4:31-32

Leader: The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed,
which is the smallest of seeds on earth;

**People: it grows up and becomes the greatest of shrubs,
and the birds of the air make nests in its shade.**

Leader: Give thanks to God, whose promised reign is coming.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn of Praise No. 620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **Holy God, the parable of the mustard seed teaches us that a little faith can produce great work in your kingdom. Yet we are too timid to bear the fruit of your righteousness, for we walk by sight and not by faith. Forgive us, Lord. Renew us with the love of Christ so that we live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who became the seed of your righteousness in us. Amen.**

Kyrie

Craig Phillips

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

* 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

Following the Blessing, children in preschool through 3rd grade may leave for Fellowship Hall.
Please pick up your children from Fellowship Hall following worship.

Anthem

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen
Laden with fruit, and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be
Compared with Christ the apple tree

His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ the apple tree

For happiness I long have sought
And pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree

I'm weary with my former toil
Here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree

—Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs compiled by Joshua Smith (New Hampshire, 1784)

New Testament Reading

Mark 4:26-34
New Testament, page 38 in pew Bible

Sermon

Jon Wasson

“The Kingdom of God is like...”

***Hymn of Response** see insert

O God Beyond All Praising

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

Christ Hath a Garden
Gerald Near

Christ hath a garden walled around,
A Paradise of fruitful ground,
Chosen by love and fenced by grace
From out the world’s wide wilderness.

Like trees of spice his servants stand,
There planted by his mighty hand;
By Eden’s gracious streams, that flow
To feed their beauty where they grow.

Awake, O wind of heav’n and bear
Their sweetest perfume through the air:
Stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom,
Till the beloved Master come.

That he may come, and linger yet
Among the trees that he hath set;
That he may evermore be seen
To walk amid the springing green.

—Robert Bridges after Isaac Watts

***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. 49**

The God of Abraham Praise

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response**

The Peace of God

John Rutter

The peace of God which passeth all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God
And of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Book of Common Prayer, based on Philippians 4:7

***Postlude**

In Thee is Gladness

Johann Sebastian Bach

Congregational Meeting

Joys & Concerns

Joys

For all the fathers and father-figures in our lives.

For the over 60 children, youth and adult helpers this week during "Scuba" Vacation Bible School where everyone heard bible stories and had activities about diving into friendships with God.

For our Work Trip participants and advisors returning home this weekend after a wonderful week in Roscommon County, Michigan.

For Ken and Lynn Baehr having safely arrived in the Azores after sailing across the Atlantic from Bermuda.

Concerns

For the safety and comfort to those in the areas of the country that are experiencing the ongoing destructive forces of the weather.

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

Stewart Kerr

skerr@firstchurchlf.org

Weekly Ministries

During the summer, many of our weekly groups do not meet. Listed below are those that continue through the summer months. For questions or details contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

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

Worship Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for worship in memory or honor of a loved one, contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org or sign up on the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board.

Summer Choir July 14, 2024

Interested in singing with the Sanctuary Choir? Join us this summer for two special Summer Choir Sundays! We will meet at 8:30 AM to rehearse before the 9:30 AM worship service on Sunday, July 14 and Sunday, August 11. For more information, contact Jack Reeder at jreeder@firstchurchlf.org

Summer Hand Bells July 21, 2024

Interested in ringing bells? Join Summer Bells! We will have one rehearsal in the week preceding the service on Sunday, July 21. For more information, please contact Jack Reeder at jreeder@firstchurchlf.org

Congregational Meeting

June 16, 10:30 AM

The Session has called for an in-person congregational meeting for the election of officers following worship this morning.

Consultant Work Update

Following the June 1 workshop led by church consultant Tod Bolsinger, a subgroup convened whose members will be responsible for guiding focus groups to gather opinions and stories about the church from members of the congregation. Regular updates will be provided throughout this process. Members of this group include Scott Crawford, Michelle Kaylor, Robert McConnell, Sally McDonald, Diane Quinn, Peter Vander Velde, Jon Wasson and Karla Finley.

Young Families Cornhole Tournament

Sunday, June 23, 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Bring your family to the manse for a backyard cornhole and bounce house party hosted by the Children's Faith Formation Committee. Left Bank food truck will be there. Stop by for a few minutes or stay the entire time! The whole family is welcome. Sign up: firstchurchlf.org/cornhole

Pastoral Care

If you have a pastoral care need, please email us at pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org or call the church to speak with Sarah Seccombe.

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)



First Presbyterian Church
OF LAKE FOREST

700 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045
847.234.6250 | firstchurchlf.org