



First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



September 22, 2024

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

Choir Dedication Sunday

This Sunday, we dedicate our church's musical ensembles – the Sanctuary Choir, the Handbell Choirs and the Children's Choirs – to glory of God and to the service of our congregation. It is our prayer that through our ministry, you might experience the wonder and love of God today, and throughout the coming year.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Proverbs 31:10-31 and Psalm 1; Jeremiah 11:18-20 and Psalm 54; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Rev. Kristie Finley
Dr. Robert McConnell
Dr. Jack Reeder
Sanctuary Choir
Carol and Cherub Choirs
Lakeminster Ringers
Chancel Bells
Rick Day
Gonzalo Zarazaga



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 4th Grade
During worship, Rooms 213, 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.

Flowers in the niches are given in loving memory of Richard Tracy from his wife Nadyne, and the McNicholas families, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.



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.

Prelude

Adagio

Alexandre Guilmant

Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

arr. Michael Helman

The Welcome

Introit

Open 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

Leader: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, sing to the Lord all the earth!

People: Sing to the Lord, bless his name. Tell of his salvation from day to day.

Leader: Splendor and majesty are before him,

People: power and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Leader: Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad!

People: Let the sea roar, and all that is in it.

All: Let the field exult, and everything in it. Let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord, for he comes.

*Hymn of Praise

O God Beyond All Praising

O God be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to - day
Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,
and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can - not re - pay;
that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;
for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send,
and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,
at bless - ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:
we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:
we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,
to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,
we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.
and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Text © 1982, 1987 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **Merciful God, we confess that we have been blind to your ways, and that in the noise of our hearts, we have failed to hear your song. Open up our ears to listen, and open our eyes to see, that our hearts might be filled with the light of your truth, and our lives with your harmony, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. 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.

Dedication of the Choirs

Leader: O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven,

People: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Recognition of Susan Noble

Following the recognition, children in preschool through 4th grade will go to their Faith Building classrooms. Please pick up your children on the 2nd floor following worship.

Anthem

How Can I Keep from Singing

Robert Hobby

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, thou far off hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?

— Robert Lowry

New Testament Lesson

Mark 9:30-37

New Testament, page 45 in pew Bible

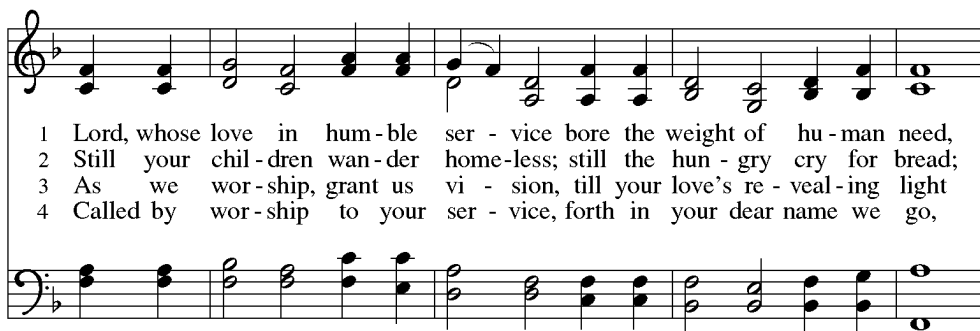
Sermon

Jon Wasson

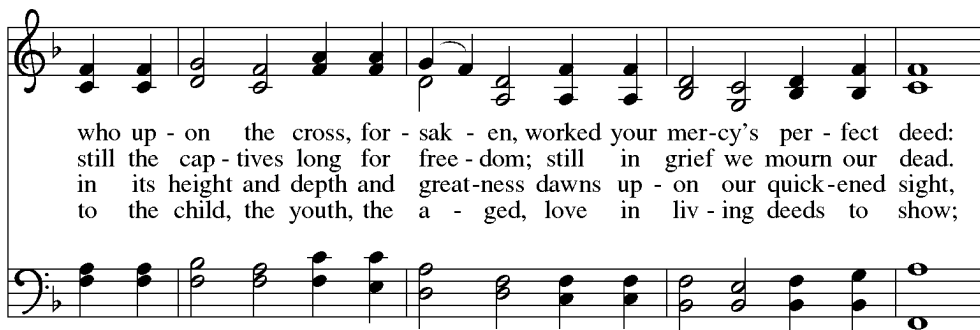
"The Greatest of All Time"

*Hymn of Response

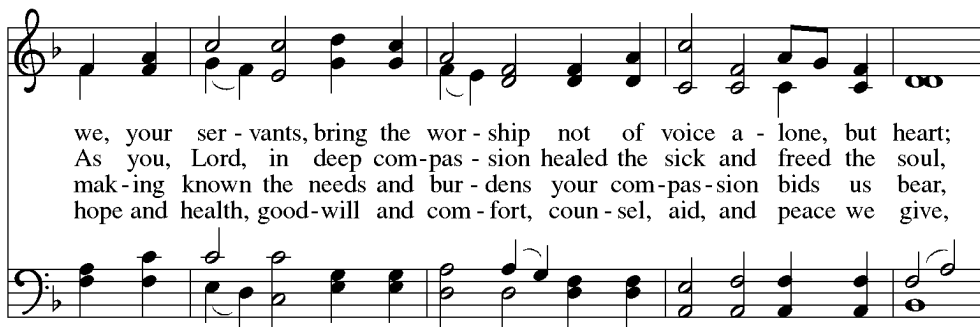
Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

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

Eternal Father

Gustav Holst

Eternal Father, who didst all create,
In whom we live, and to whose bosom move,
To all men be Thy name known, which is Love,
Till its loud praises sound at heaven's high gate.
Perfect Thy kingdom in our passing state,
That here on earth Thou may'st as well approve
Our homage, as Thou ownest theirs above,
Whose joy we echo and in pain await.

Grant body and soul each day their daily bread:
And should in spite of grace fresh use begin,
Even as our anger soon is past and dead
Be Thy remembrance mortal of our sin:
By Thee in paths of peace Thy sheep be led,
And in the vale of terror comforted.

— Robert Bridges

*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. 641

When in Our Music God is Glorified

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

Peace

Gregory Norbet, O.S.B.

Peace I leave with you, my friends, peace the world cannot give.

Peace I leave with you, my friends, so that your joy be ever full.

— Gregory Norbet, O.S.B., after John 14:27

*Postlude

“Final” from *Symphony No. 1*

Louis Vierne

Sanctuary Choir

Bill Allen

Diane Allen

Caryl Barclay

Roger Burgis

Wyn Cain

Art Chantler

Dorothy Chantler

Donna Coffin

Scott Crawford

Sue Dye

Liz Farwell

Kris Fischer

Michael Follis

Diane Fondriest

Elizabeth Frey

Julia Frodyma

Dick Holmes

Pam Hume

Tom John

John Johnson

Rick Jones

Marguerite Marshall

Mark May

Diana Melichar

Susan Michaelis

Meganna Miller

Cynthia Morehead

Susan Mulligan

Audrey Neace

Sande Noble

Nancy Orbison

Cesilie Price

Bob Quigley

David Remington

Jim Richter

Martha Richter

Joanna Rolek

Brian Skoog

Jeanette Spires

Mary Watanabe

Jan Zilka

* PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

Lakeminster Ringers & Chancel Bells

Stan Bouma
Dorothy Chantler
Elyse Clark
Donna Coffin
Amy Dickinson
Diane Fondriest
Nancy Hamming
Kathy Johnston
Maggie Kanakis

Jan Korous
Linda Martinat
Cynthia Morehead
Beth Mynhier
Nancy Orbison
Barb Piechota
Betsy Rehm
Sarah Seccombe

Carol & Cherub Choirs

Tess Bernardi
Belle Ciarrocchi
Brynn Ciarrocchi
Mia Delfino
Margot Gunther
Blair Gunther
Harper Hall
Cameron Hall
Alex Kumar
Carter Kumar
Lily Kumar
Blake Magnusson
Malin Meenan
Timmy Meenan
Alexandra Miles
Clark Miles

Juliana Miles
Ava Mills
Caroline Mills
Adeline Peeler
Avery Schappacher
Tripp Schappacher
Morgan Scheuer
Annie Sharp
Margaret Sharp
Emily Sokolowski
Reid Spirito
Ruess Spirito
Ryleigh Spirito
Abigail Swaine
Jaya Vohra

Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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Joys & Concerns

Joys

The wedding of Corinne Walters and Max Kanieski here on September 21.

Sally and Mike Burns welcomed grandchild, Louie Murphy Barnes. Proud parents Katie and Cameron Barnes.

The joy of dedicating all of our choirs and having them all participate in worship this morning, including the Sanctuary Choir, Carol Choir, Cherub Choir, Lakeminster Ringers and Chancel Bells.

Concerns

For Joan Wasson recovering from breast cancer surgery.

May the mind of God, ever wiser than our minds, search us deeply and open us to the truths that make for our healing. May the ears of God ever open to our prayers, listen for us deeply and hear, beneath our words, our honest yearnings. Amen.

— From the Iona Abby Worship Book

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

Sally McDonald and Laura Johnson

Weekly Ministries

For details or to join our small groups, contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

SUNDAYS

Early Word Bible Study

8:30 AM, South Parlor

Middle School Youth Group

5:00 PM, Youth Lounge

Senior High Youth Group

7:00 PM, Youth Lounge

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

Middle School & Senior High Youth Groups

Middle School 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Senior High 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Youth Groups for both our Middle Schoolers (grades 5-8) and Senior High Schoolers (grades 9-12) meet tonight! Join us in the Youth Lounge for games, discussion and community building.

Worship Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for worship, contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org

Worship Volunteers

If you are eager to meet and welcome new people, and would like to serve on Sunday mornings, we are looking to add to our roster of ushers and greeters. To learn more, contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

Sign up for our newsletter!

Scan the QR code or go to firstchurchlf.org to receive news and updates.



Fall Rummage Sale

Saturday, September 28, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Our Fall Rummage Sale which will include fall and winter clothing, sporting equipment and holiday items! Sign-up to help with set-up and sale day at firstchurchlf.org/fallrummage.

Pasta & Planning

Thursday, October 3, 5:30 PM

Are you a planner? Do you have hymns or prayers you would like in your memorial? Planning the details of a memorial service can be overwhelming and we have found that many family members wish they had a clear idea of what their loved one wanted. Join us for dinner as we explore what goes into a service and how you can prepare for your own or for someone you love. Sign up at firstchurchlf.org/planning.

"Envisioning a Shared Future for Church and Nation" presentation by Rev. Dr. Allen Hilton

Saturday, October 5 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM,

Sponsored by Adult Faith Formation, this dynamic and timely program reviews current statistics on the state of division in families, friendships, schools, and churches, and involves participants in sharing stories, examining habits, and offering solutions to create a future that prioritizes unity over division. Allen provides examples of churches whose increased focus on community across difference has served them well and asks the group to reflect on divisions within our own community and imagine our first steps toward unity and the impact that would have on our town, city, state, and nation. Sign up at firstchurchlf.org/allenhilton.

October: Meet Your Deacon Month

Come and meet your Deacon during fellowship following worship.

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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