



First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



September 29, 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 Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 and Psalm 124; Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 and Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

The Baptism

Receiving the sacrament of baptism today is:

Margot Watkins Mueller, child of
Caroline Watkins Mueller & Ben Mueller.

Worship Participants

Rev. Kristie Finley
Prue Beidler
Wendy Watkins
Dr. Robert McConnell
Dr. Jack Reeder
Sanctuary Choir
Rick Day
Gonzalo Zarazaga

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 honor of the baptism of Margot Watkins Mueller from her loving family.

Prelude

Down Ampney
Henry G. Ley



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

Introit

O Christ the Healer, We Have Come

Stephen Buzard

O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored, when reached by love that never ends?

How strong, O Lord, are our desires, how weak our knowledge of ourselves!
Release in us those healing truths unconscious pride resists or shelves.

— Fred Pratt Green

*Call to Worship

Leader: God has broken the snare that took away our freedom.

People: **Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

All: **Blessed be God's holy name!**

*Hymn of Praise No. 488

I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move between inclusivity and exclusivity. We often move toward the latter, trying to push from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us. Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout for those things that make us different. Give us the eyes of our Teacher, who knows unconditional love and compassion and sees us all as one, for it is in his name that we pray. 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.

Baptism

Margot Watkins Mueller

Caroline Watkins Mueller & Ben Mueller

Congregational Question

Leader: Friends, do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,
promise to guide and nurture this child by word and deed,
with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Jesus,
and to be a faithful member of Christ's church?

People: **We do.**

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

The Baptism

The Welcome

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church.

We are all members of the household of God and family through Jesus Christ.

Sung Response No. 115 verse 3

Jesus Loves Me

**Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong.
They are weak, but He is strong.**

Refrain: **Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.**

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

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 19

Old Testament, page 498 in pew Bible

Anthem

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Healy Willan

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free Spirit.

— Psalm 51:10-12

New Testament Lesson

Mark 9:38-50

New Testament, page 45 in pew Bible

Sermon

Kristie Finley

"Servants All"

*Hymn of Response No. 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

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

Come Down, O Love Divine

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come down, O Love divine,
Seek Thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with Thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
and kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming:
And let Thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace,
Till he become the place wherein
the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.
Amen.

— Bianco da Siena, tr. R. F. Littledale

*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. 295

Go to the World!

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

O Christ the Healer

Stephen Buzard

Grant that we all, made one in faith; in your community may find
The wholeness, that enriching us, shall reach the whole of human kind.

— Fred Pratt Green

*Postlude

“Finale” from *Organ Concerto No. 5*

George Frideric Handel

Joys & Concerns

Joys

The baptism of Margot Watkins Mueller this morning.

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

Concerns

For Betsy Rehm, finishing her last round of Chemo and waiting to hear next steps from her surgeon.

For the Audry Altounian and her family on the death of her husband Jim Altounian on September 27.

We pray for the safety of those facing Hurricane Helene, may they make sure of their neighbor's safety as well as their own. We pray for our world that is fractured and fighting, may your grace and peace for all settle on their hearts. Our prayers go out to those struggling be it in mind, body, or spirit, and those who care for them and love them. Surround us with your Holy Spirit that leads us on your path.

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

Meet Your Deacon Month October 6, 13, 20, 27

Come and meet your Deacon during fellowship following worship throughout the month.

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.



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.

Kids Movie Night

Saturday, October 19, 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Children up to 4th grade are invited to a casual dinner and a movie, with pizza, popcorn, and fellowship, while the parents enjoy a night out! Kids can bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and stuffy, and wear pajamas or comfy clothes! Please register in advance for this free event at firstchurchlf.org/movie.

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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