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



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 Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 and Psalm 125; Isaiah 35:4-7a and Psalm 146; James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-37.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson Rev. Kristie Finley Dr. Robert McConnell Dr. Jack Reeder Sanctuary Choir 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, Fellowship Hall

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

Prelude in G Major, BWV 541

Johann Sebastian Bach



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 I Was Glad
C. Hubert H. Parry

I was glad when they said unto me, We will go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand in thy gates O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city that is at unity in itself.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, They shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

— Psalm 122

*Call to Worship

Leader: Unless the Lord builds the house, **People: those who build it labor in vain.**

Leader: Happy are they who dwell in your house,

People: they shall always be praising you.

Leader: One thing we ask of the Lord, and that will we seek:

People: that we may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our life.

*Hymn of Praise No. 301

Let Us Build a House

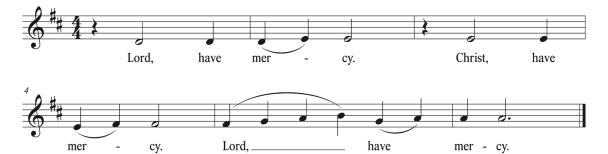
Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) Almighty and compassionate God, every day, in our desire to attain our wants, avoid discomfort, and shun those we do not know or love, we show ourselves to be unworthy of your gifts of life. Of this we are sorely aware, and we ask your power to renew us in body and spirit, that we will be able, through your help, to walk in the way you intend for us. Forgive us and lead us, in Jesus' name. Amen.

^{*} PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

Kyrie Craig Phillips



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 4th grade will go to their Faith Building classrooms. Please pick up your children on the 2nd floor following worship.

Leader: Holy God, we thank you for the gift of these children,

People: And for their parents.

Leader: We know that you have entrusted them to their parents,

People: And also to our community.

Leader: To care for them,

to teach them,

to be examples of Christ to them.

Bless these children.

People: And let us be a blessing to them.

All: Amen.

Anthem O How Amiable

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. They will be alway praising thee.

The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us;

prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.

O prosper thou our handiwork.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

- Psalms 84 and 90 and Isaac Watts

Scripture Lesson

James 2:14-17

New Testament, page 230 in pew Bible

Sermon Jon Wasson

"Living Faith"

*Hymn of Response No. 432

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

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!

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Offertory Repton

Robert J. Powell

*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. 321

The Church's One Foundation

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

Sevenfold Amen
John Stainer

*Postlude

Fugue in G Major, BWV 541

Johann Sebastian Bach

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Joys & Concerns

Joys

Leslie and John Munger share the joy of the marriage of their son, Andy, and Jenna Harrison on September 7.

Jim and Martha Richter are celebrating their 51st wedding anniversary and the birth of a new great grandchild, Otto Manglesdorf.

Concerns

For Julie Folker whose mother, Sally Currie, died on August 28.

For Joan Wasson, Jon's mother, prayers of guidance and health upon the recurrence of breast cancer.

For Sherry Schupbach in cancer treatment.

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

Confirmation Class of 2025

Do you have an 8th grader? There will be a parent meeting for this year's Confirmation Class on Wednesday, September 11 at 4:30 PM. Classes begin Wednesday, September 18, 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the Stuart Room. Learn more and register at firstchurchlf.org/confirmation.

2024-2025 Plansoen Scholars Sunday, September 15

Our Plansoen Scholars will join us in worship on September 15 and be introduced to the congregation.

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.



Tell Me A Story

10:30 AM, Today in Fellowship Hall

Following worship, we hope you will stay for brunch in Fellowship Hall, where guided conversations will encourage us to share stories with members working on the Bolsinger Initiative. As we seek to identify the values and characteristics that make First Pres unique, we encourage you to lend your voice to this important conversation! Children 10 and up are welcome to sit at tables; staff and youth leaders will supervise children under 10 in the South Parlor and on the playground.

Third Thursday Prayer Service Thursday, September 19, 6:00 PM

Prayer and worship, even when we are alone, is a collective task, focused on the needs of the whole world including our own. Join us in the Chapel on the third Thursday of each month as we share our prayers of gratitude and petition both personal and communal with scripture, song, and silence.

New Member Classes

September 22 and October 6, 10:30 AM

If you are interested in learning more about our church and membership at First Pres, we will be having new member gatherings on September 22 and October 6 following worship. For more information, contact Diane Quinn at engagement@firstchurchlf.org

Fall Rummage Sale Saturday, September 28, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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

For the full church calendar, schedule of ministries, and more: www.firstchurchlf.org
Find us on Facebook and Instagram: @firstchurchlf

