



First Presbyterian Church OF LAKE FOREST

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



January 12, 2025

Welcome!

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

Today's Service

Baptism of the Lord

The baptism of Jesus is one of the most theologically profound events in the gospel narratives. When the Father spoke, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased," the divine sonship of Christ was announced in a vivid, dramatic way. The event gives us a picture of the Trinity, with the Father's gift of the Spirit to the Son.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Rev. Kristie Finley
Dr. Robert McConnell
Dr. Jack Reeder
Daniel Makins
Brian Hoffman, cello
Ross Graham
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.

Prelude

Träumerei
Robert Schumann



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

*Call to Worship

Leader: The voice of God resounds over the waters.

People: The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the deep.

Leader: The Son of God is named "Beloved."

People: The God who created us calls us by name.

Leader: Give to the Lord majesty and strength.

All: Let us worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

*Hymn of Praise No. 415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **Most merciful God, we confess that we have failed to uphold the vows made at our baptism and have lived in ways unworthy of your calling. Forgive us, we pray, and by the power of your Spirit, turn our hearts to you and teach us to walk according to your covenant of grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie

Craig Phillips

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a whole rest followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." are written below the notes. The second staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics "mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy." are written below the notes. A fermata is placed over the first measure of the second staff.

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.**

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.**

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-7

Old Testament, page 672 in pew Bible

New Testament Lesson

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

New Testament, page 60 in pew Bible

Sermon

Jon Wasson

“Called by Name”

*Hymn of Response No. 463

How Firm a Foundation

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

A Loving God, A New Beginning

Daniel Makins

Where hopeful people gather in
Seeking in wonder, and wearing thin
A message of action renewed by faith
Where a true advocate is coming,
One who will struggle, care, and save
Across the water the message clear
It fills longing hearts that long to hear
Words of assurance for a purpose yet to be
My beloved, with you I am pleased

As in the beginning
The voice of God troubles the water
And when we call expecting thunder
We find a loving Spirit is moving
To wash away what is unneeded
In a flash of fire we are yet to be
But when our stormy souls retreated
We are made for a new beginning
By a loving God, in a new beginning

Where there is something to refine
An uncertain tribute will not suffice
When lines are missing in the play
And despite all recollection, there is nothing left to say
Where expectation clouds hope with fear
It fills longing hearts that long to hear
Words of assurance for a purpose yet to be
My beloved with you I am pleased

Where at the final curtain's call
A finished journey is carried on
And only memory will light the day
For those longing for redemption, for those believing in the Way
Renewed by mercy's welcome cheer
It fills longing hearts that long to hear
Words of Assurance for a purpose yet to be
My beloved, with you I am pleased

***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. 475**

Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

How Firm a Foundation
Jean Langlias

Joys & Concerns

Joys

Last Sunday there were two joyful announcements during the congregational meeting. Kristie Finley announced she will be retiring this summer. We look forward to celebrating Kristie and her ministry.

The APNC announced their candidate for the position of Associate Pastor for Congregational Life will be here on Sunday, January 19.

Concerns

For Jan Zilka on the death of her partner Bing Zielka.

For the family of Marj Swansen, who died January 2. A memorial service is being planned for Saturday, February 8 at 12pm in the sanctuary.

Prayers for the Country and the World

In a world that continues to experience loss through war and natural disasters we ask for your loving compassion to surround all of those places, and especially this day those suffering in the fires in Los Angeles. May your hope and peace wash over them and may they find comfort in your abiding love. Holy Spirit fill us with greater empathy so that we are able to respond as your loving community. Amen.

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

missionoutreach@firstchurchlf.org

Weekly Ministries

For details and schedule visit our website at firstchurchlf.org/ministries

SUNDAYS

Early Word Bible Study

8:30 am, South Parlor

Middle School Youth Group

Most Sundays, 5:00 pm, Youth Lounge

Senior High Youth Group

Most Sundays, 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

LA Wildfire Special Offering

We will be partnering with local Presbyterian churches throughout Los Angeles to help provide support. You can contribute to these efforts specifically, by sending a check to our business office or online at firstchurchlf.org/LAFires

Worship Flowers

If you would like to provide flowers for worship, you can sign up on the bulletin board or contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org

Worship Volunteers

We are looking to add to our roster of ushers. 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.



Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 19, 10:30 am

The Session has called for a congregational meeting following worship on Sunday, January 19 to vote to call the new Associate Pastor for Congregational Life. The candidate will be here in person to preach that morning. A Zoom link will be emailed to active members on morning of the 19th to use for voting.

New Member Classes

New member classes will be held February 9 and 23, 2025 after worship. Interested parties should contact Diane Quinn at engagement@firstchurchlf.org

Ice Skating at West Park

Sunday, January 19, 1:00 pm

Join Children's Faith Formation on Sunday, January 19 at 1pm at West Park for ice skating, fellowship and hot cocoa. Bring a chair and blanket or lace up your skates, we'll bring the hot cocoa! All ages are invited. Weather permitting.

First Wednesday Lunch

Wednesday, February 5, 11:30 am

Join us on the first Wednesday of each month beginning in February for a lunch hosted by the Deacons. This special gathering for our older adults will feature great food, conversation, and community. Details and registration coming soon.

Dinner & Trivia

Sunday, February 23

Save the date for a fun night of friendly competition and fundraising for our Senior High Work Trip. All ages are welcome! Details and registration coming soon.

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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OF LAKE FOREST

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