

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



Welcome!

April 13, 2025 5:00 pm

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

Today's Service

Palm Sunday

The first Sunday of Holy Week is commonly called Palm Sunday, referring to Christ's entry into Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna!" This is the day on which Jesus entered the city in triumph, but as part of his journey to the cross. This is the week in which the crowd's cried of "Hosanna" would soon turn to "Crucify him!"

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Luke 19:28-40 and Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Visiting First Pres?

If you would like us to get in touch with you, please provide your information on the visitors card which can be found on the table at the entrance to the Chapel and leave it in the Offering Box.

Please join us for dinner following worship in the Great Room.

Give



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!

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson Daniel Makins

Congregational Song

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

Verse 1:

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One.

Refrain

Verse 2:

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.

Refrain

Verse 3:

To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Refrain

Verse 4:

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!

Refrain

The Welcome

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) Most merciful God, we confess that, like the crowds and disciples who first greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem, our hearts are quick to abandon him. We acclaim him as our King, but we are inclined to serve other masters. We profess to follow him, but in times of trial we deny him. We greet him with praise and palms, and in the next moment we say, "crucify him." Forgive us, O Lord, and give us steadfast hearts willing to follow Jesus even to his passion and death, for he is our only hope in life and death. Amen

Congregational Response

The Steadfast Love of the Lord

Edith McNeill

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; God's mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning, new every morning; great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.

Song of Reflection

Original Music

Daniel Makins

Sermon Jon Wasson

"The Unexpected Savior"

Sandra McCracken

Chorus:

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

Verse 1:

We will not be burned by the fire He is the Lord, our God We are not consumed by the flood Upheld, protected, gathered up

Chorus

Verse 2:

In the dark of night, before the dawn My soul, be not afraid For the promised morning, oh how long Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Chorus

Verse 3:

Every vow we've broken and betrayed You are the faithful One And from the garden to the grave Bind us together, bring shalom

Chorus

Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Daniel Makins

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;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is - the kingdom, And thine is - the power,
And the glory - forever
Amen



Scan the QR code to listen to Daniel Makins' recording of The Lord's Prayer.

Passing the Peace

Joys & Concerns

Joys

We celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem this Palm Sunday!

We celebrate Helen Kohr's 100th birthday today!

Concerns

For Lacy Sanders, brother of Rev. Leslie Sanders (our mission partner at Hope Church in Chicago), who has terminal cancer.

For Julia Hoekstra and Amy O'Keane, and their families, on the passing of their beloved mother, Patricia J. Young, on March 30. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Prayers for the Country and the World

Lord, as we joyously enter Holy Week on Palm Sunday, keep us mindful of the week ahead. Slow us down and help us to remember where this week leads. In a world that seems to be splintering apart, with people feeling afraid and alone, may we compassionately walk alongside them remembering the sacrifice you made for us. As we walk with Jesus toward the cross this week let our hearts be humble and focused on him. Amen.

We are a church that prays for each other, celebrating life's joys and supporting each other in time of need. We invite you to share your prayer requests by filling out a Joys & Concerns card, emailing us at 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 and Upcoming Events

For more information and to sign up, visit firstchurchlf.org/upcomingevents

Easter Flowers

Offerings for Easter flowers are welcomed in memory or in honor of a loved one. Donations accepted until Tuesday, April 15. firstchurchlf.org/flowers

Rummage Sale Volunteers

This year's 75th Anniversary Rummage Sale is Saturday, May 3. If you would like to email rummage@firstchurchlf. volunteer card at the front desk.

First Camp 2025 June 9-13, 9:30-11:30 am

First Camp registration is now open on our website. For ages 3-6 years old, this camp runs Monday, June 9 through Friday, June 13 from 9:30 -11:30am. First Camp is run by Rachel Magnusson and parent volunteers, and Rachel is seeking volunteers. Please email her at rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org.

Sign up for our newsletter!

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

Our Last Sunday Evening Worship During Lent Tonight, 5:00 pm, Chapel

Join us for a casual evening worship in the chapel led by Daniel Makins. The service will begin at 5 pm with communion and dinner in the great room to follow. All are welcome!

Maundy Thursday Dinners

Thursday, April 17

This year we invite you to join us in homes across town for a volunteer to work the sale, please shared meal and communion. Together, we will reflect on Jesus' humility and sacrifice, breaking bread in fellowship as org for the sign-up link or fill out a we prepare our hearts for Good Friday. Sign up today at firstchurchlf.org/upcomingevents

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 18, 7:00 pm

Our solemn Tenebrae service is a time of reflection on the passion of Christ. Through scripture readings, music, and hymns, we will journey through the events of Christ's crucifixion as the sanctuary gradually darkens.

Easter Sunday

April 20, 5:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

Join us at the north pavilion at Lake Forest Beach at 5:30 am for a casual sunrise celebration with communion; traditional services will be at 9:00 and 11:00 am in the Sanctuary.

Easter Egg Hunt April 20, 10:15 am

Bring your Easter baskets to the Parish House lawn for our annual Egg Hunt between services!

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

