



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST

Nurturing a community of faith working through love.



Welcome!

May 10, 2026

To all who are weary and seek rest,
To all who mourn and long for comfort,
To all who are lonely and desire friendship,
To all who hunger and thirst for grace,
and to all who will come,

First Pres opens wide her doors and offers
welcome in the name of Jesus Christ.

Today's Service

6th Sunday of Easter

Because the good news of Easter can hardly be contained in a single day's celebration, Easter marks the beginning of the season of Eastertide, the fifty days that lead up to Pentecost. This season is designed for extended celebration, for exploring the meaning of Christ's resurrection, and for joyful Christian living.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21.

Cover art: *Christ Taking Leave of the Disciples*, Duccio di Buoninsegna (1255-1319).

Scan the QR code to learn more about this piece of art.



In celebration of Mother's Day, you're warmly invited to take a flower from the vases in the Great Room. Whether in memory or honor, may it be a small gesture of love, gratitude, and appreciation for all mothers and mother figures.

Prayer for Today

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Book of Common Prayer

Visiting First Pres?



If you're new to First Pres, please scan this code to get in touch.

Join us for Coffee Hour following worship in the Great Room.

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. Anna Langholz
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Life

Rev. Danny Carpenter
Associate Pastor for Ministries

Dr. Robert McConnell
Director of Worship & Music

Emily Carpenter
Associate Director of Worship &
College Ministry

Dr. Stephen Alltop
Organist

Sanctuary Choir



Our Sanctuary sound system is equipped to broadcast directly to Auracast (via Bluetooth, check your hearing aid's phone app) and T-Coil-equipped hearing aids. Assistive listening devices are also available from the ushers.



Prelude

Processional
Martin Shaw

The Welcome

Introit

If Ye Love Me
Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments.
And I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may 'bide with you forever;
E'en the sp'rit of truth.

— John 14:15–17

*Call to Worship

Isaiah 66:10-13

Leader: Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her!

People: Rejoice with her in perfect joy, all you who mourn over her.

Leader: For thus says the Lord, "Look! I will extend peace to her like a river,
and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream.

**People: We shall nurse, and shall be carried upon her hip,
and bounced upon her knees."**

Leader: As one comforted by a mother,

People: so God comforts us.

*Hymn of Praise No. 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

Call to Confession


Prayer of Confession

John 14:15-21

(silent confession...) **Merciful God, your Son gave us a new commandment that we should love each other as you have loved us, but we confess that we have not lived up to your calling. We fail to show kindness to others. We are quick to anger and lacking in patience. We are more willing to attribute evil motives to others, than to make charitable assumptions. Forgive us, O Lord, and send your Holy Spirit, our Advocate, into our hearts, that your love may abide with us, and us in you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie

John Arndt, David Gungor, Ian Cron,
Ben Kilgore, and Evan Wickham



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, 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.

Blessing of the Children

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.

Following the blessing, children in preschool through 4th grade may go to Fellowship Hall. Every child needs to be checked-in through Church Center before attending. If you haven't already, please scan the QR code to create a Church Center profile and then check-in your child(ren) for Sunday school at one of the check-in stations in the Great Room.



Anthem

Unclouded Day
Shawn Kirchner

O they tell me of a home far beyond the skies,
They tell me of a home far away,
And they tell me of a home where no storm clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.

O the land of cloudless days,
O the land of an unclouded sky,
O they tell me of a home where no storm clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.

O they tell me of a home where my friends have gone,
They tell me of a land far away,
Where the tree of life in eternal bloom
Sheds its fragrance through the unclouded day.

They tell me of a King in His beauty there,
They tell me that mine eyes shall behold
Where he sits on a throne that is bright as the sun
In the city that is made of gold!

— J.K. Alwood

— Psalm 67

Gospel Lesson

John 14:15-21
New Testament, page 109 in pew Bible

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Sermon

Jon Wasson

“Mothering Love”

*Hymn of Response No. 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Affirmation of Faith

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.

Prayers of the People

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 by scanning the QR code with your mobile phone, go to firstchurchlf.org/give, or use your Church Center App. Thank you for your generosity!

Offertory

You Are With Me
Sandra McCracken

My heart is heavy and tired in this valley.
Mountains grow higher and higher, but I can't find You.
I'll keep on lifting my eyes, I know You're with me.

I hear Your voice when You cry, "Comfort, comfort."
Sorrow may last for a night, but in the morning
Your joy breaks in with the light, I know You're with me.

I know You're with me, You are for me.
You've been behind me, You go before.
You walk beside me, through darkest valleys.
I know You are with me.

You led me here where it's dry, out in the desert,
You bring these bones back to life, You put together.
You sing a song of delight, I know You're with me.

You will be praised,
I will, oh, I will wait.
You will be praised,
I will, oh, I will wait.

*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. 307

God of Grace and God of Glory

*Benediction

Choral Response

Dresden Amen

*Postlude

God of Grace
Paul Manz

Meet Danny and Emily Carpenter

Danny Carpenter is a Midwesterner at heart with a passion for ministry and pastoral care, shaped by experiences in youth, disability, and congregational ministry. His formation includes studies at Hope College, a semester in Oman, service with Reality Ministries, and leadership at SpringHill Camps. After completing his Master of Divinity in 2024, he began a pastoral residency in Indianapolis that has further confirmed his call to serve the church with compassion, steadiness, and joy.

Emily is originally from Birmingham, Alabama. She is a gifted songwriter and worship leader with a heart for people and a love for the beauty and detail of ministry. She graduated from Samford University in 2021 with a Bachelor of Music before moving to Holland, Michigan, to pursue her Master of Divinity at Western Theological Seminary. During her time in seminary, she discerned a call to full-time ministry—and met Danny. Upon graduation, Emily served at Pillar Church in Holland, Michigan, bringing her gifts in worship, hospitality, and pastoral presence to the life of the congregation.

Recently married, Danny and Emily are grateful and excited to join the community at First Pres and participate in God's unfolding work together.

Prayers

Joys & Concerns

We celebrate the birth of Brooke Lisa Popiel on April 29 to Lauren & Brenten Popiel and big brother Caleb.

We celebrate the mothers & mother figures in our lives.

We celebrate the arrival of Danny & Emily Carpenter.

For Linda Martinat recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.

For Dan Dohnalek and his family, Cathy, Hayden, Jillian and Nolan as they cope with Dan's onset of severe dementia. Please pray for Cathy to have strength and wisdom as she supports him and her children.

For Celia Keith and her family on the death of her sister, Virginia Von Talge on April 24.

For Michele Burgis who broke her ankle and is recovering from surgery.

Community

For the ongoing work of our mission partners including:

A Safe Place supports survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking by providing wrap around services, including emergency shelter and housing, counseling, legal advocacy, prevention education, and abuser intervention programs to help women and families achieve safety, secure stable housing, and rebuild their lives.

Lake County Haven empowers homeless women and their children to achieve permanent, independent living and long-term stability through transitional shelter, housing, and comprehensive supportive services.

Mother's Trust Foundation provides immediate assistance during times of crisis to low income children and families, helping meet urgent needs that fall outside traditional safety net systems.

Prayer Requests

We are a church that prays for each other, celebrating life's joys and supporting each other in times of need. Our staff prays together on Tuesday mornings and would like to include your prayers. For prayer requests please fill out a Joys & Concerns card, email us at pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org or call 224.544.1962.

Prayer requests will be removed from this listing after two weeks.

Prayer Chain For confidential prayers, you may email prayerchain@firstchurchlf.org. Please know that your prayers will be held in strict confidence.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Welcome Danny and Emily Carpenter!

Danny and Emily Carpenter are joining us for their first worship service with us this morning. Please give them a warm welcome and keep them in your prayers as they settle into their roles as our new Associate Pastor for Ministries and Associate Director of Worship & College Ministry.

Mothers' Day Special Offering

In honor of Mother's Day, the Mission Committee is giving \$10,000 to benefit three of our mission partners that support women and families: A Safe Place, Lake County Haven, and Mother's Trust Foundation. If you would like to add to this gift, please write "Special Offering" on the pew envelope or select Holy Spirit Fund when giving through Church Center.

Youth Groups

Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers will **NOT** meet this week. Join us for a special final Youth Group on May 17 with Danny Carpenter and Left Bank hot dog truck! Middle Schoolers (5th–8th grader) will meet 11:30–12:30 pm and High Schoolers (9th–12th grade) will meet 12:30–1:30 pm.

Meal Train Ministry

The Deacons are starting a Meal Train Ministry. If you would like to provide the comfort of home cooking to members of the congregation when needs arise, please register on Church Center.

Senior Luncheon

Join us Wednesday, May 13 at 11:00 am in the South Parlor for our last luncheon until September for seniors. Hosted by the Deacons, this special gathering will feature great food, conversation, and community. If you wish to attend, register on Church Center or contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.



Find First Pres in Church Center Scan here to log in and learn about everything happening in our congregation!



Announcements and Upcoming Events

First Camp 2026

Monday, June 8 – Friday, June 12

9:30 am – 11:30 am

Sign up today for our 5-day camp for church families with kids between the ages of 3–6 years old to aid in the transition to Sunday School and Children’s Choir. Led by Rachel Magnusson and parent volunteers, space is limited to 30 campers. Register your children and yourself as volunteer today on Church Center; registration closes on Friday, May 15.

Pastoral Care

For pastoral care when the church office is closed, email pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org or call 224.544.1962 to leave a voicemail.

Nursery Supervisor Needed

We are seeking a part-time Nursery Supervisor to lead and maintain our church nursery. This individual creates a welcoming, loving, and safe environment for infants and toddlers during Sunday worship services, oversees a small team of student workers, and reports to the Director of Children’s Ministry. For more information contact Rachel Magnusson at rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org.



Get Involved Scan this code to get more information about specific ministries, upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.



700 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045
847.234.6250 | www.firstpreslakeforest.org