



# First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST

Nurturing a community of faith working through love.



# Welcome!

May 17, 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

## 7<sup>th</sup> 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 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11.

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## Prayer for Today

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.  
*Amen.*

*The Book of Common Prayer*

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## 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. 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

Michael Witt  
Lakeminster Ringers Director

Sanctuary Choir  
Lakeminster Ringers

Skip Heizer  
Endowment Committee



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

Prelude on Slane  
Gordon Young  
Minuet and Trio from Eine Klein Nachtmusik  
W. A. Mozart arr. by Kevin McChesney

## The Welcome

### Introit

Ye Gates, Lift Up Your Heads  
St. George's Edinburgh

Ye gates, lift up your heads on high;  
ye doors that last for aye,  
Be lifted up, that so the King  
of glory enter may.

But who of glory is the King?  
The mighty Lord is this;  
Ev'n that same Lord, that great in might  
and strong in battle is.

— Psalm 24: v. 7-8, Scottish Psalter

### \*Call to Worship

Psalm 67

Leader: May God be merciful to us, and bless us.

**People: And may God's face shine upon us.**

Leader: May God's way be known upon the earth,

**People: And God's saving health among all nations.**

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for God will judge the people with equity,

**People: And guide the nations upon earth.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God.

**People: Let all the peoples praise you!**

### \*Hymn of Praise No. 265

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

## Call to Confession

## Prayer of Confession

1 Peter 5:7-11

(silent confession...) **Merciful God, you invite us to entrust our anxieties to your eternal care, but we confess that our faith is too weak to fully trust you. We are often skeptical of your concern for us. We are cynical about your willingness to help. We are more apt to trust in our own force of will to overcome our fears. Forgive us, merciful Lord, and by the power of your Holy Spirit, give us the faith to know that we are restored, supported, strengthened, and established by you; and at the last, fit us for eternal glory in your kingdom, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. 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 their Sunday School classrooms. 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

Let the People Praise Thee  
William Mathias

Let the people praise thee, O God;  
yea, let all the people praise thee.  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad:  
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,  
and govern the nations upon earth.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,  
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.  
God shall bless us, and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

God be merciful unto us, and bless us,  
and show us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us. That thy way may be  
known upon earth; thy saving health among all nations.

Let the people praise thee, O God;  
yea, let all the people praise thee.  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad.

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.

— Psalm 67

## New Testament Lesson

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
New Testament, page 234 in pew Bible

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

## Sermon

Jon Wasson

"The Perfect Cast"

## \*Hymn of Response No. 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

## \*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.

## Service of Ordination and Installation

### Constitutional Questions

#### Congregational Questions

Leader: Do we, members of the church, accept these servants as elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

**People: We do.**

Leader: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church?

**People: We do.**

#### Prayer of Ordination and the Laying On of Hands

Leader: Almighty God: in every age you have chosen servants to speak your word and lead your loyal people. We thank you for these people whom you have called to serve you. Give them special gifts to do their special work; and fill them with Holy Spirit, so they may have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and be faithful disciples as long as they live.

**People: God of grace, who called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation: give us courage and discipline to follow where your servants rightly lead us; that together we may declare your wonderful deeds and show your love to the world; through Jesus Christ the Lord of all. Amen.**

### Declaration of Ordination and Installation

## Invitation to the Offering



You may give online by scanning the QR code with your mobile phone,  
go to [firstchurchlf.org/give](http://firstchurchlf.org/give), or use your Church Center App.  
Thank you for your generosity!

## Offertory

Rejoice!  
Cynthia Dobrinski

## \*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. 450

Be Thou My Vision

## \*Benediction

### Choral Response

Ye Gates, Lift Up Your Heads  
St. George's Edinburgh

Ye gates, lift up your heads; ye doors,  
doors that do last for aye,  
Be lifted up, that so the King  
of glory enter may.

But who is he that is the King?  
The King of glory who is this?  
The Lord of hosts, and none but he,  
the King of glory is

Alleluia! Amen!

— Psalm 24: v. 9-10, Scottish Psalter

## \*Postlude

Ita missa est  
Jan Rath

# Incoming Church Officers

## Elders Class of 2029

Chris Edwards  
Julie Currie  
Jim Kingsley  
Elizabeth Payne  
Ryan Severson

## Class of 2027

Rory Hass, Youth Elder

## Deacons Class of 2029

Carolyn Bennett  
Sue Conolly Dye  
Stephanie Elliott  
Dianne FitzSimons  
Emily Gilley  
Cynthia Hessemer  
Alec Johnson  
Kathy McFarland  
Angela McNicholas  
Matha Richter

## Class of 2027

Emerson Hirsh, Youth Deacon



# Prayers

## Joys & Concerns

We give thanks for and bless the ministry of our new officers being ordained and installed this morning.

For Melissa Pant and her family on the death of her mother, Maureen Murphy.

For Nancy Klein and her family as they travel for continued successful treatments at the eye clinic May 16-24.

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.

## Community

For the ongoing work of our mission partner, Independence Center in Waukegan. Founded in 1989 by a long-

time member of First Presbyterian, IC is a club-modeled facility whose sole mission is to provide resources to adults with a history of mental illness to help them live independently and productively in the community. Members may have such diagnoses as depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety and schizophrenia, and many have other health issues or have been homeless.

To fulfill its goal, a staff of about 26 trained, certified individuals provide numerous services and activities, including therapy sessions and counseling, life skills and vocational preparation, and assistance seeking and maintaining employment. Independence Center owns and operates five housing complexes to provide safe accommodation for their members, and offers a Living Room Wellness/Crisis Intervention Center in Waukegan. To learn more about the Independence Center, please go to <https://icwaukegan.org/>

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:prayerchain@firstchurchlf.org). Please know that your prayers will be held in strict confidence.

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## Planned Giving

We invite you to learn more about planned and estate giving at First Pres and how it can help support the ongoing life and ministry of our church. Brochures will be available, and members of our team will be present after worship to answer questions and continue the conversation.

## Youth Groups

Join us for a special final Youth Group today with Danny Carptenter 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

Since the Deacons launched this ministry earlier this year, our congregation has supported 6 families through meal trains as they've grieved loved ones, recovered from surgery, caretake for failing family members, and welcomed home newborns. If you would like to volunteer to provide meals for future meal trains, register on Church Center.

## 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.

## Summer Choir

### June 14 & 28, July 5 & 12, and August 2

Love to sing? Looking for a simple way to participate in our Music Ministry this summer? Join the Summer Choir! We'll sing during worship on select Sundays this summer, helping lead the congregation in hymns and easy anthems. No Thursday rehearsals or robes are required—just come ready to sing.

We'll gather at 8:30 am for a brief rehearsal before the 9:30 am service on June 14 & 28, July 5 & 12, and August 2. Questions? Contact Robert McConnell at [rmcconnell@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:rmcconnell@firstchurchlf.org)

## First Camp 2026



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



# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## Pursuing A Tech-Wise Life

June 1, 7pm

Join with others in our community to hear author Andy Crouch discuss the role technology plays in shaping our relationships at home, at work, and in our communities, and to offer practical steps for moving beyond distraction and reclaiming a more human-centered way of life in a tech-saturated world. Hosted by our friends from the Lakelight Institute. To learn more and register scan the QR code or visit: <https://www.lakelight.com/events/pursuing-a-tech-wise-life>



Andy Crouch is the partner for theology and culture at Praxis, a venture-building ecosystem awakening redemptive imagination. His writings explore faith, culture, and the image of God in the domains of technology, power, leadership, and the arts. He is the author of five books (plus another with his daughter, Amy Crouch), including: *The Life We're Looking For: Reclaiming Relationship in a Technological World*, and *Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling*. His work and writing have been featured in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and Time.

## 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](mailto:rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org).

## Pastoral Care

For pastoral care when the church office is closed, email [pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org](mailto:pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org) or call 224.544.1962 to leave a voicemail.



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



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