

Prayer Before Worship

God of compassion and love, you have breathed into us the breath of life. Look kindly upon us in our sorrows, and gather our pain into your peace. In our fragility we surrender our lives to you from whom they came, trusting in your gracious promises and in the hope of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gathering Song (see insert)

Graves Into Gardens -Brandon Lake

The Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Leader: Have you ever felt washed up, brittle,
worn-down to the bone?

People: Have you ever felt grief lay heavy on your back?

Leader: Have you ever felt like hope was out of reach?

People: Have you ever wondered, can these bones live?

Leader: If you have, then you are in the right place,
for this is God's house.
Hope lives here.

People: So, come. Rest your weary bones.

Leader: Let us worship our Holy God.

*Song of Praise

Unstoppable God -Chris Brown

Verse 1:

**Heaven thundered
And the world was born
Life begins and ends
In the dust You formed
Faith commanded
And the mountains moved
Fear is losing ground
To our hope in You**

Chorus:

**Unstoppable God
Let Your glory go on and on
Impossible things
In Your name they shall be done**

Verse 2:

**Freedom conquered
All our chains undone
Sin defeated
Jesus has overcome
Mercy triumphed
When the third day dawned
Darkness was denied
When the stone was gone**

Bridge:

**Nothing shall be impossible
Your kingdom reigns unstoppable
We'll shout Your praise forevermore
Jesus our God unstoppable**

*Please stand if you are able

Children's Message 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.

Confession and Assurance (unison)

Jesus of Nazareth,

I confess: I forget that you know this feeling.

I forget that you, too, have wept.

I forget that you, too, have lost.

I forget that you, too, have gathered at the tomb,
have grieved for a friend, have felt the sting of humanity.

Forgive me for all the times I place blame on you.

Forgive me for all the times I create distance,

imagining that you could never feel what I feel.

Forgive me for allowing the valley of dry bones to be
a sea of space between us.

Pour yourself into the cracks in my heart.

Bring these bones back to life.

Bring me closer to you. With gratitude I pray, amen

Leader: Friends, you could spend your whole life ignoring God,
pushing God away, or trying to solve the world's problems
all on your own, and God would still love you all the same.
Even in our shortcomings, we are God's beloved.

So hear and believe this good news:

People: We are saved by grace through faith.

We belong to God. We are not alone.

*The Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please feel free to greet one another with the peace of Christ.)

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson

Ezekiel 37:1-6 (Old Testament, page 806 in pew Bible)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Lesson

John 11:17-44 (New Testament, page 105 in pew Bible)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to Christ.

Message

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

"I Will Weep with You"

Offering (see insert)

What A Beautiful Name -Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood



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!

Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

*Song of Sending

*Affirmation of Faith

Leader: We believe that God loves us—

People: God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.

Leader: We believe that God does not give up on us—

People: breathing new life into tired bones.

Leader: We believe that God returns to us—

People: always seeking us when we are lost.

Leader: We believe that God holds hope for us—

People: so we hold onto hope as well.

Leader: We believe, help our unbelief.

People: In Christ's name we pray, amen.

*Blessing

*Sending

Parts of today's worship liturgy are adapted from "Seeking" by A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Worship Participants

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

Rev. Kristie W. Finley

Rev. Jim Cochrane

Christina Maldonado

Nathan Fivecoate

Worship Ensemble

Henry Thomas, AV Support

Georgia Sottosanto-Sorenson, AV Support

Ryder Gamrath, AV Support

Music Sheet

March 26, 2023

Gathering

Graves Into Gardens -Brandon Lake

Verse 1:

***I searched the world but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade
Are never enough
Then You came along and put me back together
Every desire is now satisfied here in Your love***

Chorus:

***Oh there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing
Nothing is better than You***

Verse 2:

***I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws
Lord You've seen them all
And You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain
Is the God of the valley
There's not a place
Your mercy and grace won't find me again***

Bridge:

***You turn mourning to dancing
You give beauty for ashes
You turn shame into glory
You're the only one who can***

Bridge:

***You turn graves into gardens
You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways
You're the only one who can***

(over)

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(over)

Offering

What A Beautiful Name -Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood

Verse 1:

**You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ**

Chorus 1:

**What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus**

Verse 2:

**You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now**

Chorus 2:

**What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus**

Bridge:

**Death could not hold You
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again**

Bridge:

**You have no rival
You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names**

Chorus 3:

**What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus**

Ending:

**What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is
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Give
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This Week's Calendar

TODAY	
8:45 AM	Nursery open until 11:45 AM, Room 212
9:00	Worship, Sanctuary
10:00	Fellowship, Great Room
10:30	Worship, Sanctuary
11:30	Fellowship, Great Room
MON	
9:30 AM	Rummage Sorting, Rummage Sorting Room
TUE	
9:30 AM	Tuesday Women's Bible Study, Parish House
1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry, South Parlor Adult Bible Study, Zoom
6:00	Lakeminster Ringers, Sanctuary
7:00	Women's Evening Bible Study, Zoom
WED	
7:00 AM	Lenten Morning Service, Sanctuary
7:30	Lenten Breakfast, Great Room
10:00	Wed. Women's Bible Study, South Parlor/Zoom
5:30 PM	Wednesday Night Supper, Great Room Chancel Bells, Sanctuary
7:00	Explorations of Faith, South Parlor/Zoom Worship Ensemble Rehearsal, Sanctuary Taizé, Live Stream
THU	
6:30 AM	Daybreakers Men's Ministry, South Parlor/Zoom
9:30	Rummage Sorting, Rummage Sorting Room
10:00	Knit One, Pray One, South Parlor
7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir, Music Room
FRI	
7:00 AM	Men of Corinth Bible Study, Great Room/Zoom
SAT	
11:00 AM	Bruce Chandler Memorial Service, Sanctuary Reception following the service, Great Room

Pastor on call:
Pastor Kristie Finley
847.942.4057

Elders

Paul Bergmann
Renee Borkowski
Donna Coffin
Scott Crawford
Paul Darling
John Gescheidle
Lynnette Hinch
John Johnson
Laura Johnson
Sally McDonald
Mary Gould Moorhead
Diane Quinn
Kendall Severson
Nina Strnad
David Strong
Sadie Strong
Mary Watanabe
Clerk
Anne Winebrenner

Deacons

Bill Allen
Nancy Anderson
Carol Bagan
Dorothy Chantler
Mallory Ciarrocchi
Susan Daly
Wendy Darling
Peg Gronau
Nancy Hamming
Jeff Hinch
Cindy Johnson
Dick Johnson
Susan McDowell
John McNicholas
Susan Milanak
Lisa Murray
John Noble
Tiffany Notz
Tricia Sweet
Sherry Trenchard
Bert Tucker
Joan Vie
Gale Strenger Wayne
Moderator
Scott Weston

Coming Up...

holy week

palm sunday APRIL 2

The Palm Sunday services (9:00 and 10:30 AM) will involve the combined forces of the Worship Ensemble and Sanctuary Choir in a musical start to Holy Week that will be both celebratory and evocative.

maundy thursday APRIL 6

Join us for Dinner Church in the Great Room at 6:00 PM. We gather around the table for supper, worship, and communion as we reflect on the Last Supper of Jesus and his disciples.

Please sign up so we know you are coming! firstchurchlf.org/maundy-thursday

good friday APRIL 7

Good Friday Worship, 12:00 PM
Tenebrae, 7:30 PM

easter sunday APRIL 9

Sunrise Outdoor Worship, 7:00 AM in the Memorial Garden
Easter Services, 9:00 and 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary
Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 AM on the Parish House Lawn

You may make an offering for **Easter Flowers** online at firstchurchlf.org/easter-flowers
Envelopes are also available at the church office.



Iona Pilgrimage 2024

The last day to sign up for the Iona Pilgrimage is tomorrow, March 27 You can find more details at progressivepilgrimage.com/lakeforestiona.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kristie Finley at kfinley@firstchurchlf.org.

Serve, Learn & Connect

For our weekly ministries & Zoom links
firstchurchlf.org/ministries

Share Joys & Concerns
Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

Home Communion
Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

Arrange a Wedding or Baptism
Sarah Seccombe 224.544.1958

Engagement & Membership
Diane Quinn
dianequinn@mac.com

Mission
Stewart Kerr 224.544.1968

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OF LAKE FOREST

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Cover by Sanctified Art: "Rubble" by Carmelle Beaugelin, inspired by Ezekiel 37:1-14

Welcome
to Sunday Worship

March 26, 2023 | 9:00 AM
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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



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.