

Prayer for Worship

God of joy, each week we come ever closer to you. We feel our hearts quickening with excitement at the approach of Jesus' birth. May our souls magnify you, as Mary's did. May our lives point to yours, as John's did. May we remain patient, listening for your Word and your Spirit, even as we prepare for the Christmas celebration. With hope, peace, joy, and love we pray. Amen.

Gathering

Cherub and Carol Choirs

Love Came Down at Christmas -Roger Copeland, arr. John F. Wilson

*Love came down at Christmas, Love, all love divine;
Love came down at Christmas, and I know, I know that love is mine.*

*Love was in a manger, in a cattle stall,
And while angels hovered, Love was born to be the King of all*

*The shepherds heard the choir of angels,
The wise men saw a distant light;
They found the wonder they were searching for,
And worshipped Him that holy night.*

*Love came down at Christmas, Love, all love divine;
Love came down at Christmas, and I know, I know that love is mine.*

The Welcome and Opening Prayer

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Bagan Family

Leader: As we light the Advent Wreath, we were asked what brings you joy?

Leader: Today we light the candle of joy. May its light remind us of all the good news this season brings. May its light remind us of the many sources of joy in our lives, and may that joy not only draw us closer to one another, but closer to God.

Leader: Family of faith, what brings you joy? Amen.

*Song of Praise *(see insert)*

○ Come ○ Come Emmanuel -Henry Sloane Coffin

*The Lord's Prayer *(unison)*

**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.**

Children's Message

Following the Children's Message, children may go to Children's Faith Building. Pickup is at Rooms 215 & 219 for preschool - 4th grade, and Room 214 for Middle School.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

German Traditional -arr. Bradley Ellingboe, words by Gracia Grindal

*We light the Advent candles against the winter night
to welcome our Lord Jesus, who is the world's true light;
to welcome our Lord Jesus, who is the world's true light.*

*Three candles now are gleaming and show us the true way.
Rejoice the Baptist cries out: your Lord has come today!
Rejoice the Baptist cries out: your Lord has come today!*

*We light the Advent candles against the winter night
to welcome our Lord Jesus, who is the world's true light;
to welcome our Lord Jesus, who is the world's true light.*

Confession and Assurance

Leader: Friends, in Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Song of Assurance *(see insert)*

Your Grace is Enough -Chris Tomlin

*The Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Reading from Old Testament

Isaiah 35:3-6, 8-10

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Reading from New Testament

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the

Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

"We Can Choose a Better Way"

Rev. Clint Roberts

Song of Response *(see insert)*

Love Has a Name -Kim Walker Smith

Joys & Concerns

Morning Prayer

Moment for Stewardship

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!

*Act of Praise *(see insert)*

○ Come ○ Come Emmanuel -Henry Sloane Coffin

Closing Prayer

*Song of Sending *(see insert)*

What a Beautiful Name -Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood

*The Blessing

*Sending

Parts of today's worship liturgy are created by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

The Advent Wreath is given by the Grost and Barabas families to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ward McMasters and the Rev. Miss Lynn Holmes, a graduate of Lake Forest College and St. Andrews University, Edinburgh, who was the first American woman to be ordained in the Church of Scotland.

Worship Participants

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts
Rev. Kristie W. Finley
Rev. Jim Cochrane
Susan Noble
Christina Maldonado
Nathan Fivecoate

Worship Ensemble
Rick Day, AV Support Lead
Henry Thomas, AV Support
Georgia Sottosanto-Sorenson, AV Support
Ryder Gamrath, AV Support

Music Sheet

December 11, 2022

*Song of Praise

O Come O Come Emmanuel -Henry Sloane Coffin

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O Come, Thou, Dayspring from on high
And cause Thy light on us to rise
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadow put to flight
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O Come, Thou King of nations, bring
and end to all our suffering
Bid every pain and sorrow cease
and reign now as our Prince of Peace
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*Song of Assurance

Your Grace is Enough -Matt Maher

*Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart*

Pre Chorus:
*So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God*

*Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me*

*Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along*

Pre Chorus
*Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me*

(over)

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(over)over

Song of Response

Love Has a Name -Kim Walker-Smith

*Oh oh love has a name
Love has a name Jesus
My vict'ry has a name
Vict'ry has a name Jesus
Oh joy has a name
Joy has a name Jesus
My hope has a name
Hope has a name Jesus*

Song of Response

Love Has a Name -Kim Walker-Smith

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*Song of Sending

What a Beautiful Name -Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood

*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*

*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*

*Jesus you made a way for us
Laying yourself down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now
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,
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This Week's Calendar

TODAY

- 8:45 AM Nursery Open until 11:45 AM, Room 212
- 9:00 Worship, Sanctuary
- 9:15 Children's Faith Building, Rooms 215, 219
- 10:00 Fellowship, Great Room
Holiday Pop-Up Rummage Sale, Great Room
- 10:30 Worship, Sanctuary
- 10:45 Children's Church, Tower Room 213
- 11:30 Fellowship, Great Room
- 3:00 PM Caroling with Clint, Away
- 5:00 Christmas Open House, Manse
Middle School Youth Group, Youth Lounge
- 6:00 Co-Pastor Nominating Committee, Deerpath Room
- 7:00 Senior High Youth Group, Youth Lounge

MON

- 9:30 AM Rummage Sorting, Rummage Sorting Room
- 10:00 Pause for Prayer, Chapel
- 2:00 PM Brownie Troop Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 5:00 Finance Committee Meeting, South Parlor/Zoom

TUE

- 9:30 AM Women's Advent Bible Study, Parish House
- 1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry, South Parlor
Adult Bible Study, Zoom
- 3:00 Staff Support Team Meeting, Away
- 7:00 Women's Evening Bible Study, Zoom

WED

- 10:00 AM Wed. Women's Bible Study, South Parlor/Zoom
- 1:00 PM Adult Faith Formation Committee Meeting, Zoom
- 4:15 Children's Carol Choir, Music Room
- 5:00 Children's Cherub Choir, Music Room
Confirmation Class, Stuart Room
- 5:30 Wednesday Night Supper, Great Room
Chancel Bells, Sanctuary
- 6:00 Children's Faith Building, South Parlor
- 7:00 Carols and Candlelight, Sanctuary

THU

- 6:00 AM Daybreakers Men's Ministry, South Parlor/Zoom
- 9:30 Rummage Sorting, Rummage Sorting Room
- 6:00 PM Co-Pastor Nominating Committee, South Parlor/Zoom
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir, Music Room

FRI

- 7:00 AM Men of Corinth Bible Study, Great Room

**Rummage Dropoff closed
until January 4 for the holiday season**

Pastor on call:
Pastor Clint
630.220.7814

Pastor Clint's
day off: Friday

Pastor Kristie's
day off: Friday

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...



Caroling with Clint & Christmas Open House

Sunday, December 11
Caroling 3:00 - 5:00 PM
Open House 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Hop on the bus and spread Christmas cheer as we carol to some of our homebound friends. We will end the evening with fellowship and festive treats at the manse for a Christmas Open House!



Carols & Candlelight

Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 PM

Join us in the Sanctuary for an evening of Carols & Candlelight to remind us of the true meaning of the season. We will sing classic carols, hear the Christmas story, and listen to music featuring the musical ensembles of First Pres.



Longest Night

Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 PM

We hope you join us for the Longest Night service in the Sanctuary, a tradition of gathering on the longest night, when there are more hours of darkness than light. It's a time to come together for prayers and laments, to mourn the losses and griefs of the year, to let the tears flow for the hurting places in our lives, as well as for our country and our world.

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: "The Courageous Choice" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, inspired by Matthew 1:18-25

*Welcome
to Sunday Worship*

December 11, 2022 | 9:00 AM
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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