

join us at the table

creating community



First Presbyterian Church
OF LAKE FOREST

October 8, 2023
9:30 AM
Season of Pentecost

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

Prayer for Worship

Matthew 20:3-7

Generous God, you come to us again and again, no matter how late it is in the day or in our lives. Amen.

Prelude

Friend of God

Israel Houghton and Michael Gungo

The Welcome

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

We are a community that prays for and with one another. If you wish, we invite you to fill out a Joys & Concerns card (in the pew rack) to share your prayer request.

If you are a visitor and would like us to get in touch with you, please provide your information on the back of the Joys & Concerns card. An usher will collect them later in the service.

During the service, you are invited to stand as you are able where an asterisk () is printed, and speak or sing in unison all passages in bold.*

Let us take a few moments of silence as we prepare our hearts to worship God.



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.

*Call to Worship

Leader: Whether we embrace God's call in our lives or try to avoid it,

People: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Leader: Whether we are long-timers or latecomers in the life of faith,

People: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Leader: Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or bring hardship,

People: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We praise God's name forever and ever!

*Hymn of Praise NO. 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

TUNE: CORONATION

Call to Confession

Because we do not always live our lives in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, we confess before God and one another our sins and shortcomings. In repentance, let us turn toward God's grace and mercy.

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

God of abundant goodness, we confess that we want your grace for ourselves but often wish punishment or exclusion on others. We judge the efforts and motives of others while ignoring the faults of our own. Forgive us, we pray, when we let jealousy overtake us. Forgive us, we pray, when we are petty even in the presence of your generosity. Forgive us, we pray, when we feel slighted by you. May we ask once again for your mercy? Will you help us to be more merciful toward one another? We pray in the name of Christ Jesus, by whose grace we are saved. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving, grace beyond our ability to earn it.

People: God has granted us the privilege of believing in Christ; therefore we will live as grateful and forgiven people! Thanks be to God!

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

— The Sacrament of Baptism —

Receiving the sacrament of baptism today is

Melinda Louise Small

child of Megan (Bourne) and Michael Small

Congregational Question

Leader: Friends, do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture this child by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Jesus, and to be a faithful member of His church?

People: **We do.**

***The Apostles' Creed** (*unison*)

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 sin; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Baptism

The Welcome (*unison*)

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church.

We are all members of the household of God and family through Jesus Christ.

Sung Response NO. 188 (stanza 1)

Jesus Loves Me!

TUNE: JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong.
They are weak, but He is strong.**

Refrain: **Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.**

Word for Children

Following the baptism, children in preschool through 7th grade may leave for their Sunday School Faith Building classes. After worship, please pick up your children from their classrooms on the 2nd floor (rooms 213, 214, 215, 219).

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Scripture Reading

Jonah 3:10-4:11

(Old Testament, page 861 in pew Bible)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Scripture Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

(New Testament, page 21 in pew Bible)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Equality in God's Kingdom"

Rev. Kristie W. Finley

*Hymn of Response

Thy Mercy My God

John Stoker & Sandra McCracken

1. Thy mer - cy, my God, is the theme of not my song, the
 mer - cy is more than a thy good - ness for my I heart here; the
 fath - er of mer - cies thy good - ness for my I heart here; the
 joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue. Thy
 Sin would re - duce me to the ut - ter des - pair; but
 won - ders to feel its of own hard - ness i - fied; part; dis -
 cov - e - rant love of thy cruc - i - fied son; all
 free grace a - lone from the first to the last hath
 through thy free good - ness my spir - it to re - vive and
 solved by thy good - ness I fall - its to the - ground and
 praise to the spi - rit whose whis - per di - vine seals
 won he my af - fec - tions and still bound my soul
 weep for cy and first the and made me of still keeps a
 mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness I've
 found. 2. With 3. Thy
 mine. All praise to the spir - it whose whis - per di - vine seals
 mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine!
 mine!

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Invitation to the Offering

Whether we have much or only a little, we can share our daily bread so that all will be fed. As we have received, so now we give, in the vineyard of the Lord, our tithes and offerings.



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!

Offertory

What a Beautiful Name

Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood

*Doxology *(unison)*

***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 *(unison)*

God of harvest, we are privileged to be counted among those whom you have called, graced to have been given your work to do, blessed to receive more than we will ever earn. Accept, we pray, our thanksgivings and offerings, and do what you choose with what already belongs to you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Introduction of 2023-2024 Plansoen Scholars

Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey

Ahmed Alassar

Juan Perez

Chelsea Davis

Sophia Timm

Kateryna Malkina

Demetra Tsakios

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People 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.

*Hymn of Sending NO. 269

Now to Him Who is Able

Robert P. McConnell

Musical score for the hymn "Now to Him Who is Able" by Robert P. McConnell. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. The melody is accompanied by chords indicated above the staff. The lyrics are: "Now to him who is able to do far more than we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church, and in Christ Jesus, throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen." The score is divided into five systems, with measure numbers 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11 marked at the beginning of each system. The final measure of the fifth system is marked "men." and includes a ritardando (rit) instruction.

3 E B A E C#m F#m7 A B $\frac{B}{A}$
Now to him who is ab - le to do far more than we ask or think, ac -

5 $\frac{E}{G\#}$ B A E B sus B
cord - ing to the pow - er at work with - in us, to

7 A E $\frac{B}{D\#}$ A/C# A E
him be glor - y in the church, and in Christ Je - sus, through -

9 B C dim7 C#m $\frac{E}{G\#}$ F#m7 AM7 B
out all gen - er - a - tions, for ev - er and ev - er. A -

11 E $\frac{F\#m}{E}$ $\frac{A}{E}$ rit E
men.

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Melodies from Heaven

Kirk Franklin

Plansoen Scholars 2023 – 2024

We welcome
Ahmed, Chelsea, Kateryna, Juan, Sophia and Demetra
to our community of faith here at First Pres!



Ahmed Alassar
Senior
Physics and Data Science



Juan Perez
Senior
International
Relations and
Communications,
Biology and Politics



Chelsea Davis
Senior
Public Relations and
Digital Marketing with
Theatre minor



Sophia Timm
Senior
Neuroscience and
Philosophy with
Psychology &
Chemistry minor



Kateryna "Kat" Malkina
Senior
Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology with
Statistics minor



Demetra Tsakios
Senior
Business and
Elementary Education
with concentration
in Marketing
and Math minor

Coming up...



Coffee and a Cause **Thursday, October 12, 9:00 - 10:00 AM**

Join us in the Great Room as we support The Night Ministry by making 150 sack suppers! We are currently collecting sandwich-size ziploc baggies, individually wrapped bags of chips or crackers, granola bars, water bottles and brown paper lunch bags (larger size preferred). For more details visit: firstchurchlf.org/coffee-and-a-cause



Fall Dinner & Movie Night **Sunday, October 15 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

Children and middle schoolers are invited to join us in the Great Room for a fun fall dinner and movie night! We'll start with pumpkin decorating, watch Encanto, and have a casual dinner together. RSVP's are helpful but not required. Sign up at firstchurchlf.org/encanto



Adult Faith Formation **Sunday, October 29**

Save the date to join us after worship on Sunday, October 29, to hear a presentation from Rev. Ken Sawyer.

View our Weekly Schedule of ministries, and find details and Zoom links on our church website: www.firstchurchlf.org/ministries

Church Website: www.firstchurchlf.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstchurchlf
Instagram, YouTube: @firstchurchlf

This Week's Calendar

TODAY

- 8:00 AM Music Rehearsal, Sanctuary
9:00 Nursery open, Room 212
9:30 Worship, Sanctuary
Sunday School, Room 213, 214, 215, 219
10:30 Fellowship, Great Room
10:45 Worship Ensemble Rehearsal, Sanctuary

MON

- 4:00 PM Barbara Lenzke Memorial, Sanctuary

TUE

- 9:30 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group, Parish House
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry, South Parlor
Adult Bible Study, Zoom
5:00 Staff Support Team Cmte. Mtg., Parish House/Zoom
5:30 Adult Faith Formation Cmte. Mtg., Stuart Rm/Zoom
6:30 Finance Committee Meeting, South Parlor/Zoom
7:00 Children's Faith Formation Mtg., Stuart Rm/Zoom
7:30 Boy Scouts Troop Meeting, Fellowship Hall/Rm 012

WED

- 10:00 AM Wednesday Women's Bible Study, S. Parlor/Zoom
11:00 Resource Grp: Caregivers of Terminally Ill, Bride's Rm
4:15 PM Carol Choir, Music Room
5:00 Cherub Choir, Music Room
Confirmation Class, Stuart Room 214
5:30 Wednesday Night Supper, Great Room
6:30 Offering of Music and Paryer, Sanctuary

THU

- 6:30 AM Daybreakers Men's Bible Study, Great Room/Zoom
9:00 Coffee and a Cause, Great Room
6:30 PM Buildings & Grounds Cmte. Mtg., S. Parlor/Zoom
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Room
7:30 Boy Scouts Meeting, Parish House

FRI

- 7:00 AM Men of Corinth Bible Study, South Parlor/Zoom



Give

Give online or fulfill your pledge:
scan the QR code
or go to FirstChurchLF.org/give.

Pastor on call: Kristie Finley 847.942.4057

Worship Participants

Rev. Kristie W. Finley
Rev. Dr. Don Dempsey
Gretchen Seymour
Christina Maldonado
Nathan Fivecoate
Worship Ensemble
Rick Day, AV Support Lead
Georgia Sottosanto-Sorenson, AV Support
Ryder Gamrath, AV Support

Serve, Learn & Connect

For our weekly ministries and 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

Elders

Vail Bayly
Paul Bergmann
Donna Coffin
Scott Crawford
Paul Darling
John Gescheidle
Lynnette Hinch
Elinor Hite
John Johnson

Laura Johnson
Sally McDonald
Mary Gould Moorhead
Diane Quinn
Paul Roeck
David Strong
Peter Vander Velde
Anne Warnke *Clerk*
Anne Winebrenner

Deacons

Bill Allen
Nancy Anderson
Carol Bagan
Carolyn Bennett
Dorothy Chantler
Mallory Ciarrocchi
Emily Gilley
Peg Gronau
Nancy Hamming
Jeff Hinch
Cindy Johnson
Dick Johnson
Susan McDowell
John McNicholas

Susan Milanak
Jerry Mortensen *Elect*
Tiffany Notz
Martha Richter
Gale Strenger Wayne
Co-moderator
Tricia Sweet
Co-moderator
Sherry Trenchard
Bert Tucker
Kimberly Tunney
Tess Uihlein
Scott Weston

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Custodian



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