



Dear Friends,

Christmas is coming—which can mean many things to those who yearn with holy expectations for goodwill among people and genuine peace on earth.

May that peace and goodwill be kindled in you this season; may God's Spirit burn brightly in hearts both young and old.

First Presbyterian Church is here for you: for a morning service or a caroling outing, for Carols & Candlelight or for comfort and consolation on December's longest night. In all these offerings, there will be a warm seat waiting for you.

May God bless you and keep you this Advent.
Christmas is coming—but Christ is already here!

-Pastor Clint Roberts ...and your neighbors at First Pres



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION...

Sermon Series:

Sunday, November 27
First Sunday of Advent
There's room for every story
Matthew 1:1-17/Isaiah 2:1-5

Sunday, December 4
Second Sunday of Advent
God meets us in our fear
Luke 1:26-38/Isaiah 11:1-10

Sunday, December 11
Third Sunday of Advent
We can choose a better way
Matthew 1:18-25/Isaiah 35:1-10

Sunday, December 18
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Pageant
We see God in each other
Luke 1:39-45; 56-58/Luke 1:46-55

Saturday, December 24
Christmas Eve
We tell this story
Luke 2:1-20

This Advent Season's All Church Exploration

From Generation to Generation... reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. In the midst of narratives, policies, and rhetoric designed to divide us, what does it look like to practice belonging to one another? The work of God is always unfolding — in and through us. This Advent season, how will we carry it forth?

Advent Devotional

The First Pres All Church Advent devotional features daily scriptures along with a reflection or prayer written by our congregation and staff. You may pick up a copy at the church, download it from the church website or on social media!

This Advent Season

Giving Tree Drop-off gifts by Thursday, December 1

The Giving Tree holds names and wishes from those in the Casa Central Chicago's InTact program. Select a paper ornament from the tree, and return wrapped gifts with their tags to the church. Monetary gifts are welcome and will be used to purchase gifts for any tags still on the tree. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest with "Giving Tree" in the memo line.

Rummage Holiday Pop-up Sale

Sunday, December 11 before and after worship services
Shop Christmas decor, sweaters, tabletop, and more while supporting our Mission Partners!

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, Sanctuary

Join us 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 Presbyterian Church.

This holiday season, we can support our neighbors together!

- * **Casa Central Chicago** offers services and programs in an effort to propel a diverse population of ages toward self-sufficiency and a higher quality of life. Our Giving Tree supports Casa Central in making this season magical for their participants!
- * **Providing Advocacy, Dignity, & Shelter (PADS) Lake County** is a community-based organization that provides trauma-informed support, resources, and shelter to individuals and families experiencing homelessness and a housing crisis. The offering given at this year's Christmas Eve worship services will support PADS and their initiatives.

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 18, 10:00 AM, Sanctuary

First Pres children & youth will be leading the congregation in telling the Christmas story! Roles include: sheep, angel or shepherd, manger characters, narrators, and scripture readers. Rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 10. Details on firstchurchlf.org/christmas-pageant.

Longest Night Service

Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 PM, Sanctuary

We have 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 own lives, as well as for our country and our world. If you are joining us via livestream at home, please have some matches and a candle with you to join in the liturgy.



Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24

3:00 PM

Family-friendly Candlelight Service

5:00 PM

Family-friendly Candlelight Service
with Children's Choirs

9:00 PM

Traditional Candlelight Service
with Sanctuary Choir, String Quartet
and Communion

The Nursery will be open from 2:15 – 6:00 PM
for the 3:00 and 5:00 PM Christmas Eve services.



Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25

10:00 AM

Join us for a Christmas Day celebration with carols!

Christmas Decorations

We decorate the church during Advent as a reminder that we have entered a new season of preparing our space and ourselves for the birth of our Lord, Jesus. You can help us welcome Him by contributing to the Christmas Decoration Ministry, and make a donation in honor of a loved one. You can give in person at the church or online at firstchurchlf.org/christmas-decorations by Wednesday, December 21.

New Year's Day

Sunday, January 1, Epiphany

As we begin a brave New Year, pick up your personal "Star Word" for 2023 at worship. During the months ahead, see how God uses your Star Word to speak into your life situation and share your Star Story next year!

Church Office Holiday Schedule

Christmas Day: Carol Sing, 10:00 AM

Monday, December 26: Closed (Christmas Day observed)

New Year's Eve: Closed

New Year's Day: Epiphany Sunday Worship with Communion, 10:00 AM

Monday, January 2: Closed (New Year's Day observed)

For details and questions on our ministries and events,
please contact the church at 847.234.6250 or info@firstchurchlf.org,
or visit our website at www.firstchurchlf.org.