



First Presbyterian Church
OF LAKE FOREST

Christmas Eve

FAMILY-FRIENDLY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

December 24, 2021 | 5:00 PM

THE
Wonder
OF CHRISTMAS

THE *Wonder* OF CHRISTMAS
ADVENT 2021

Who could have ever imagined the Power that created a billion suns would have a Purpose for us as tiny and vulnerable as this child, born for us all and far from the corridors of power? This humble birth has changed the course of history, bringing us truth and grace—and joy!

And so we greet you this Christmas with a prayer that the tender mercy of God will dawn upon you; that hope from on high will shine brightly for you; and that the Christ-Child will guide your footsteps into the way of peace.

Merry Christmas!

Pastors Clint and Kristie and the Staff at First Pres.



Prelude

Carol of the Bells
Coventry Carol
Gloria

Leontovich/arr. A Frackenpohl, 1985
Trad. English/arr. Don Gillis, 1986
Daniel Pinkham, 1968

Words of Welcome

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

God welcomes all as we come to worship! We invite you to participate wholeheartedly in worship today:

- asterisk (*) indicate when you may stand;
- bolded portions indicate when to read or sing aloud.

Introit

Star of Wonder

Mark Patterson, lyrics by John H. Hopkins

Star of Wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Lead us to the child in the manger, we will bring our gifts to him.

Star of Wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Hurry to Bethlehem!

Allen Pote

Hurry! Hurry! Hurry to Bethlehem!

Run to the stable to see the baby boy!

Come with me to the manger to see the infant king. Bring your gifts on bended knee. Together let us sing!

Gloria in excelsis Deo, glory to God in the highest!

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Naccarato Family

Leader: In God's house, there is hope—
For God loves us too much to leave us just as we are.

**People: In God's house, there is peace—
For all that separates us from God falls away.**

Leader: In God's house, there is love—
Because God is love, from start to finish, and that love exists for us all.

**People: In God's house, there is joy—
Because God is laughter and children, music and love, then God's
house surely exudes joy.**

Leader: And in the center of our hope,

People: In the center of our peace,

Leader: In the center of our joy,

**People: In the center of our love, is God—who came to this earth to dwell
among us.**

Light the Christ Candle

Leader: So tonight we light the Christ candle,
for God's love just could not stay away.

All: We welcome the light of the world! Amen.

***Carol** NO. 133 (STANZAS 1, 3, AND 4)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

TUNE: ADESTE FIDELES

***O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

***Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

***Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

*A Litany for Christmas Eve

Leader: He was born in a stable

People but at his birth angels sang, plain people knelt to worship, wise men came to pay homage.

Leader: He grew up in obscurity,

People: but when he declared himself, it was as if a new sun had risen.

Leader: He lived a life of love and died a death of shame.

People: But the life he lived and the death he suffered were for our redemption.

Leader: Death's dark womb could not hold him:

On Easter morning he was born anew.

All: O God, let Christ be born anew in us this Christmas. O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

*Carol NO. 121 (stanza 4)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

TUNE: ST. LOUIS

O holy child of Bethlehem,

descend to us, we pray;

cast out our sin and enter in;

be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels

the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us; abide with us,

our Lord Emmanuel!

Reading

John 1:1-5, 10-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Carol No. 108 seated (stanza 1,2, and 5)

Of the Father's Love Begotten

TUNE: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

***Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega;
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!***

***By his Word was all created;
he commanded; it was done:
heaven and earth and depths of ocean,
universe of three in one,
all that sees the moon's soft shining,
all that breathes beneath the sun,
evermore and evermore!***

***O ye heights of heaven, adore him.
Angel hosts, his praises sing.
Powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent;
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!***

The Christmas Story

(from Luke, Matthew and Isaiah)

Rev. Deborah C. Roberts

***Carol** No. 119 (stanzas 1 and 3)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

TUNE: MENDELSSOHN

***Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"***

***Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"***

Reflection

"I Am With You"

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

***Carol** NO. 115

The children are invited forward with their parents to offer their Nativity piece.

Away in a Manger

TUNE: MUELLER

***Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.***

***The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.***

***Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.***

***Carol** NO. 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

TUNE: GLORIA

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.*

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?*

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.*

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***Carol** NO. 110

Love Has Come

TUNE: BRING A TORCH

Love has come: a light in the darkness!

Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.

See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;

hear how their song of joy arises:

Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!

Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.

Love is God now asleep in the hay.

See the glow in the eyes of his mother;

what is the name her heart is saying?

Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.

Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.

Love has come and never will leave us!

Love is life everlasting and free.

The Christmas Prayer and 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.

A Christmas Offering: The Night Ministry

The Night Ministry compassionately provides housing, health care, outreach, spiritual care, and social services to adults and youth who struggle with homelessness, poverty and loneliness. We accept individuals as they are and offer support as they seek to improve their lives. We invite others to join this hope-filled work.



Christmas offering envelopes are available in your pew - or you may scan the QR code to the left to give online. You will have the option to give to The Night Ministry, as well as fulfill your 2021 pledge or make a 2022 pledge. Thank you for your generosity!

Offertory

Cantique de Noël

Adolphe Adam, 1803-1856

*Closing Prayer (unison)

***Give us, O God, such love and wonder
that with shepherds and magi, and pilgrims unknown,
we may come to adore the holy child, the promised king;
and with our gifts worship him,
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.***

***Sharing the Light of Christ**

***Carol** NO. 122

Silent Night, Holy Night!

TUNE: STILLE NACHT

***Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.***

***Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!"***

***Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.***

***Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born***

***A Christmas Blessing**

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

***Carol** NO. 134

Joy to the World

TUNE: ANTIOCH

***Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.***

***Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.***

***No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.***

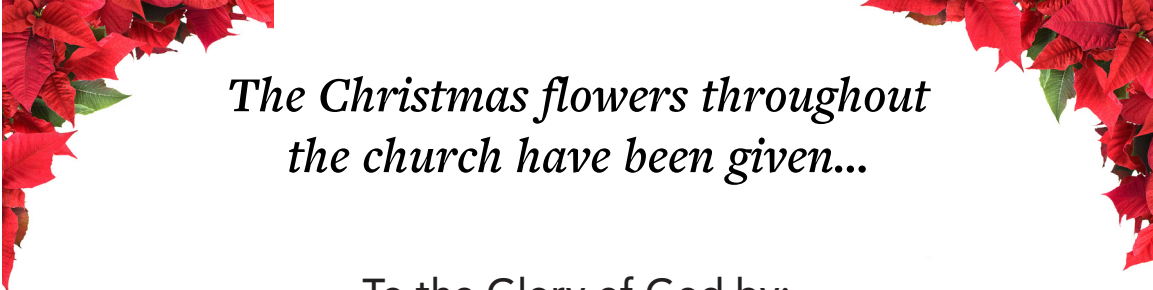
***He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.***

***Postlude**

Angels We Have Heard on High
Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Trad. French/arr. Don Gillis, 1985
Mendelssohn/arr. A. Frackenpohl, 1983

*Please turn off your candle and return it to the basket outside
the Sanctuary doors as you depart the service.*



*The Christmas flowers throughout
the church have been given...*

To the Glory of God by:

Jill and Mike Havey
The Jeff Kordell Family
The McNicholas Family

The Chantler Family
The Harrison & FitzSimons Families
Diane Quinn

Given in Thanksgiving of:

Our Grandchildren:
J. R., Kittery, and Katelyn

Given by:

Jim & Lynn Engelland

In Memory of:

Carol Szontagh
Melinda Ford Bourne
Our Families
Christopher Martinat
Bill and Beulah Porter
Walter and Wanda Martinat
Pauline and Neil Raudabaugh
Rebecca Peebles
Jan Reynolds
David Kluever
Michelle Ann Bagan-Morgan
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Lucy
Barbara J Levin

Given by:

Susan & Gerald Mortensen
Kathy Fluri
Dora & Hildo Hoogcarspel
The Martinat Family
Joe Raudabaugh Family
Joe & Beverly Raudabaugh
Carol Bagan
Rich Levin & Sally McDonald



In Memory of:

Our Parents

Mary and Marv Farwell

John Remington

Edward and Dorothy Anderson
Edward and Marie Hamming

Maggie Bennett

Herb and Marianne Faulks
Libby Faulks
Erik Hoogcarspel
Kevin Warnke

Mike and Cathy Suthard

Gary Kreischer, Millicent Kreischer and
Robert Kreischer

Our dear daughter, Laura Beth

Jean and Keith Smith,
Peggy and Dick Price

Jack and Corrine Reichert,
Andrew, Emily and Tara Milanak

Vivian and Chester Petersen

Stan, Ruth and Tom Hess
Frank, Lucy and Uncle Carl Klein

Molly Quinn

Given by:

Megan & John Anderson

Liz Farwell & Mike Reyes

By his loving family

The Hamming Family

Mom, Dad, Elliot, Amanda, Dustin,
Annie, Pat, Molly & Erik

Bruce & Patty Bennett

The Nero Family

The Kreischer & MacKendick
Families

Lawrence & Frances Anderson

Cesilie & Bob Price

Susan Milanak

Ilene & Roger Peterson

Tom, Nancy, and Carl Klein

The Brandsted Family

Coming up...



Carol Sing **Sunday, December 26**

Dress casually to church, and join us for a Christmas celebration with carols!



Epiphany Star Sunday **Sunday, January 2**

As we begin a new year, pick up your personal "Star Word" for 2022 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!



Renewal of Baptismal Vows **Sunday, January 9, 10:00 AM, Sanctuary**

On January 9, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. We remember that, through Jesus, we join in the baptismal covenant too. On this Sunday, we renew the baptismal vows made by our parents and the ones we have made ourselves. This is a treasured service in the church where we come forward, are blessed by the pastors, and just as the waters of baptism are a visual sign of the covenant, we receive a glass bead which represents those waters.

**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, Twitter, YouTube: [@firstchurchlf](https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchlf)**

Please note....

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day
Church Closed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

10:00 AM
Carol Sing

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

Christmas Day Observed
Church Closed

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve
Church Closed at noon

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

New Year's Day Observed
Church Closed

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.



Give

Give online or fulfill your pledge:
scan the QR code
or go to [FirstChurchLF.org/give](https://www.FirstChurchLF.org/give).

Pastor on call Pastor Kristie, 847.942.4057
Pastor Clint's day off is on Monday.
Pastor Kristie's day off is on Friday.

Worship Participants

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts
Rev. Kristie W. Finley
Jim Cochrane
Sarah Seccombe
Dr. Tom Tropp
Dr. Barry Wenger
Rick Day
Alex McDowell
Aaron Helms

Serve, Learn & Connect

For our weekly ministries and Zoom links
[firstchurchlf.org/ministries](https://www.firstchurchlf.org/ministries)

Share Joys & Concerns

Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

Home Communion

Kristie Finley 224.544.1967

Arrange a Baptism

Sarah Seccombe 224.544.1958

Engagement

Lynnette Hinch engagement@firstchurchlf.org

Mission

Stewart Kerr 224.544.1968

Elders

Mike Adams
Paul Bergmann
Renee Borkowski
Koen Brown
Donna Coffin
Scott Crawford
Emma Darling
Paul Darling
John Gescheidle
Lynnette Hinch

John Johnson
Laura Johnson
Bruce Keith
Sally McDonald
Brian O'Keane
Diane Quinn
Kendall Severson
Nina Strnad
Mary Watanabe *Clerk*
Anne Winebrenner

Deacons

Bill Allen
Nancy Anderson
Katy Borkowski
Mallory Ciarrocchi
Dorothy Chantler
Susan Daly
Wendy Darling
Peg Gronau
Sharon Haltom
Nancy Hamming
Jeff Hinch
Hildo Hoogcarspel
Cindy Johnson

Dick Johnson
Susan McDowell
John McNicholas
Lisa Murray
John Noble
Tiffany Notz
Darcy Traynor
Sherry Trenchard
Joan Vie
Gale Strenger Wayne
Moderator
Brian Zeeman

Staff

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts *croberts@firstchurchlf.org*
Senior Pastor, Head of Staff

Rev. Kristie W. Finley *kfinley@firstchurchlf.org*
Associate Pastor for Congregational Life + Engagement

Jim Cochrane *jcochrane@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Youth + Young Adult Faith Formation

Dr. Thomas J. Tropp *ttropp@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Music + Arts Ministry

Dr. Barry J. Wenger *bwenger@firstchurchlf.org*
Organist + Director of Handbell Choirs

Susan Noble *snoble@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Children's Music

Sarah Seccombe *sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Children's Faith Formation

Kane Q. Kowalik *kkowalik@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Communications

Jan McNicholas *jmcnicholas@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Business Operations

Stewart Kerr *skerr@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Mission

Suzie Brunner *sbrunner@firstchurchlf.org*
Director of Preschool

Dina Price *dprice@firstchurchlf.org*
Office Assistant

Lenka Vrazda *lvrazda@firstchurchlf.org*
Financial Associate

Patrick Goymerac *pgoymerac@firstchurchlf.org*
Financial Accounting Manager

Rick Day *rday@firstchurchlf.org*
AV Support + Production Leader

Cat Rodriguez *custodian@firstchurchlf.org*
Custodian

Guillermo Montufar *custodian@firstchurchlf.org*
Custodian



First Presbyterian Church
OF LAKE FOREST

700 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045
847.234.6250 | FIRSTCHURCHLF.ORG