

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS...

Lord, prosper the work of our hands. -Psalm 90



First Presbyterian Church

OF LAKE FOREST

November 22, 2020

**Christ the King
New Member Welcome**

PRAYER for PREPARATION

Caring God, whose attention is given impartially and completely to each and all of your children, and whose love is ever available, make yourself known to us now. Clothe us with faith, fill us with knowledge of your truth and lift us up to new heights of godliness and dignity, that our thanksgiving might be generously shared and joyously celebrated.
Amen.

PRELUDE

With Peals of Thanks and Praise

Michael Ryan, 2012

THE WELCOME

CALL to WORSHIP

Leader: O God our Creator, your kindness has brought us the gift of a new morning. Help us to leave yesterday, and not to covet tomorrow but to accept the uniqueness of today.

People: By your love celebrated in your Word, seen in your Son, brought near by your Spirit, take from us what we need to carry no longer, so that we may be free again to choose to serve you and to be served by each other, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE, No 336

We Gather Together

TUNE: KREMSER

*We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.*

*Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!*

*We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!*

CALL to CONFESSION

The Iona Community

Leader: Let us pray. Because you made the world,
and intended it to be a good place,
and called its people your children;
because, when things seemed at their worst,
you came in Christ to bring out the best in us;
so, gracious God, we gladly say:

**People: Goodness is stronger than evil,
Love is stronger than hate,
Light is stronger than darkness.
Truth is stronger than Lies.**

Leader: Because confusion can reign inside us,
despite our faith;
because anger, tension, bitterness and envy
distort our vision;
because our minds sometimes worry small things
out of all proportion;
because we do not always get it right,
we want to believe:

**People: Goodness is stronger than evil,
Love is stronger than hate,
Light is stronger than darkness.
Truth is stronger than Lies.**

Leader: Because you have promised to hear us,
and are able to change us,
and are willing to make our hearts your home,
we ask you to confront,
control, forgive and encourage us,
as you know best.

(Silence)

Then let us cherish in our hearts
that which we proclaim with our lips:

**People: Goodness is stronger than evil,
Love is stronger than hate,
Light is stronger than darkness.
Truth is stronger than Lies.**

Leader: Lord, hear our prayer,
and change our lives
until we illustrate the grace
of the God who makes all things new.

People: AMEN.

Sung Response

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Tune: IN THE LORD

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near, lift up your voices, the Lord is near. (REPEAT)

RECEPTION of NEW MEMBERS

Andrew Clunn

Clare Crawford

Lacy and Zach Fidler

Tom and Anne Hampson

Lawrence Kovalcin

Gerry Mortensen

Emily and David Naccarato

Nick and Allie Priola

Kimberly Rizzo and Dante Tota

Gavin and Katherine Sharp

Russell Stewart

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the family of Christ, for we are all one in him.

PASSING the PEACE of CHRIST

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 146

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes,

in mortals, in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD!

Ephesians 3:14-20

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The King of Love”

Rev. Clinton G. Roberts

HYMN No. 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

TUNE: ST. COLUMBA

*The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness
faileth never; I nothing lack if
I am his and he is mine forever.*

*And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.*

OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Barbara Baltzer Kinyon, 1988

DOXOLOGY, No. 606

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 No. 643

Now Thank We All Our God

TUNE: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

*O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

J.S. Bach/arr. Virgil Fox, 1959

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***To give to our COVID-19 Fund: FirstChurchLF.org/give/covid-fund-donations**

***For information on our Mission Food Depot: FirstChurchLF.org/mission-food-depot**

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

Worship Participants

Rev. Clinton Roberts

Rev. Kristie Finley

Jim Cochrane, Director of Youth Ministries

Sarah Seccombe, Director of Children's Ministries

Barry Wenger, Director of Bell Choirs and Organist

Tom Tropp, Director of Music and The Arts

Susan Noble, Director of Children's Music

Chancel Bells

Mike Adams, Elder

T.S. Elliot, AV Support

Will Elliot, AV Support

Peter Elliot, AV Support