

First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST

Nurturing a community of faith working through love.



Welcome!

October 12, 2025

To all who are weary and seek rest,
To all who mourn and long for comfort,
To all who are lonely and desire friendship,
To all who hunger and thirst for grace,
and to all who will come,
First Pres opens wide her doors and offers
welcome in the name of Jesus Christ.

Today's Service

Ordinary Time

The times between Christmas and Lent and between Pentecost and Advent are known as “Ordinary Time,” time outside the two great seasons of the liturgical calendar. The truth is there is nothing ordinary—if by ordinary we mean less important—about this time. During this time we are invited into faithful attention to what it means to live out daily what we say we believe.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Jeremiah 29:1, 4–7 and Psalm 66:1–12; 2 Kings 5:1–3, 7–15c and Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8–15, Luke 17:11–19.

Prayer for Today

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Book of Common Prayer

Worship Participants

Rev. Jon Wasson
Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Anna Langholz
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Life

Dr. Robert McConnell
Director of Worship & Music

Dr. Stephen Alltop
Organist

Daniel Makins
Songwriter in Residence

Brian Hoffman
Cello

Dave Tolmie
Stewardship Committee

Visiting First Pres?



If you're new to First Pres, please scan this code to get in touch.

Join us for Coffee Hour following worship in the Great Room.

Prelude

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Paul Manz

The Welcome

*Call to Worship

Psalm 66

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

People: Let us sing the glory of God's name.

Leader: How awesome are your deeds, O Lord!

People: All the earth worships you and sings praise to your name.

Leader: Come and see what God has done,
how awesome are God's deeds toward humankind.

**People: He turned the sea into dry land and
we passed through the river on foot.**

Leader: Bless our God, O you peoples. Let the sound of God's praise be heard!

**People: The Lord has kept our souls among the living
and does not allow our feet to slip.**

*Hymn of Praise No. 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **Merciful God, your mercies to us are new each day, but we confess that we fail to give you the gratitude or praise which you are due. We harbor resentment for what we lack. We doubt your goodness and compassion. We fail to share with others the abundance you give us. Forgive us, O Lord, and cleanse our hearts, that your praise might always be on our lips; through your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Kyrie

John Arndt, David Gungor, Ian Cron,
Ben Kilgore, and Evan Wickham

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy;

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy.

* PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri No. 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Blessing of the Children

Leader: Holy God, we thank you for the gift of these children,

People: **And for their parents.**

Leader: We know that you have entrusted them to their parents,

People: **And also to our community.**

Leader: To care for them,
to teach them,
to be examples of Christ to them.
Bless these children.

People: **And let us be a blessing to them.**

All: **Amen.**

Following the blessing, children in preschool through 4th grade will go to their Sunday School classrooms. Please pick up your children on the 2nd floor following worship.

Anthem (see next page for lyrics)

Lord Have Mercy on Our Suffering
Daniel Makins

Gospel Lesson

Luke 17:11-19
New Testament, page 80 in pew Bible

Sermon

Jon Wasson

"Grace and Gratitude"

Along the way to Jerusalem
The journey of the healer
Walked the border with the pagans of Samaria

Twenty miles a day for the southbound traveller
On the West Bank of the Jordan River
He stopped in a village there, where others shared, their wandering

Ten weary men kept their distance
They went looking for an answer
Beneath the coverings of the shame that they were under

They were unclean, they felt unworthy
As all others passed them by
But they made a choice, they cleared their voice, and began to cry

Lord have mercy on our suffering
Wash us clean, our faith tells us that you can
Lord have mercy on our suffering
We are all pilgrims of God's created plan
This is the prayer of every tribe and land

The broken made whole, a sacred miracle
The labor of a savior
While bearing love enough, from God above, for everyone

Turning back –one foreign man returning
Lay in the dust at the healer's sandals
To give him praise, the only way, that he was able

*Hymn of Response No. 415

Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

**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 sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

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.**

Moment for Stewardship

Invitation to the Offering



You may give online by scanning the QR code with your mobile phone,
go to firstchurchlf.org/give, or use your Church Center App.
Thank you for your generosity!

Offertory (see next page for lyrics)

Love is Our Work of Art
Daniel Makins

Oh my God, is that your light in the window?
We've been praying you would show yourself today
We've been looking in some near-sighted places
We've been all over all the easy parts we've made
Please warm our hearts with some reconciliation
So we can step into your joy and start to play

Is there a moment where we can live by the spirit?
Is it happening near, almost, all the time?
Is it happening before we even know it?
Is it happening when we step out of line?
Please help us drop our need for easy affirmation
So we can pull the curtain back and let you shine

Because:

Love – looks like faith on the outside

Love – like a stained-glass heart

Love – the light in the darkness

Love – is our work of art

Love is our work of art.

Is this the place where we can feel something different?
Nurturing our neighbors as ourselves
Nurturing the gifts that we were given
Nurturing the light for someone else
Please help us live into this sanctified communion
So we can walk in love for others seeking you

***Doxology**

**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

***Hymn of Sending No. 463**

How Firm a Foundation

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense
Paul Manz

Prayers

Joys

We celebrate the wedding of Emily George and David Murphy on October 4.

We celebrate the birth of Ellis Alexander Van Bel on October 3, parents Emily and Max Van Bel, older siblings Margot and Eden.

Concerns

For the family of Timothy Lloyd, who died on October 1, parents Diane and Bill, sister Carolyn, and partner Sarah VanDerveer.

For Nina Strnad and her family on the death of Tracy Putnam on August 19. A memorial service was held on October 11.

For Todd Litzsinger and his family on the death of his father, Paul "Pops" Litzsinger on October 1. Visitation will be Thursday, October 23, 5-8pm in the Great Room. The service will be Friday, October 24, 11am in the Sanctuary.

Community

For the ongoing work of our mission partner A Safe Place.

Prayer Requests

We are a church that prays for each other, celebrating life's joys and supporting each other in times of need. Our staff prays together on Tuesday mornings and would like to include your prayers. For prayer requests please fill out a Joys & Concerns card, email us at pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org or call 224.544.1958.

Prayer requests will be removed from this listing after two weeks.

Prayer Chain For confidential prayers, you may email prayerchain@firstchurchlf.org. Please know that your prayers will be held in strict confidence.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

October is Meet Your Deacon Month

Each Sunday throughout October, the Deacons will be hosting Fellowship. Please join us after worship and plan to meet your deacon. Unsure of who your deacon is? We will have staff available each Sunday throughout October to assist with introductions.

Accepting All Church Nominating Committee Nominations

The All Church Nominating Committee (ACNC) is beginning the process of gathering names of servant leaders for our church Elders, Deacons and Members-at-Large of the ACNC. You are encouraged to offer nominations including self-nominations. The ACNC will consider all nominations and propose a slate of candidates for congregational vote at our Annual Meeting. Nominations are due by October 15. Scan the QR code to fill out a nomination form on Church Center.



Lake Forest College Football Tailgate

Join us as we attend the Lake Forest College football game together on Saturday, October 18. Kickoff is 1pm. We'll have a tailgate spot opening at 12pm in the tailgate lot adjacent to the College Sports & Recreation Center. Tickets are purchased at door (\$5/adults, \$3/kids 6-17, and kids 5 and under are free). For more information and to sign up, visit the Church Center app.

Cub Scouts Pack 26 on October 21

Cub Scout Pack 46 is hosting its first Pack Meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 6:30-7:30pm at First Pres. This meeting will give you and your kids a real taste of the adventure, camaraderie, and fun that comes with being a Cub Scout. It will feature the super fun Bobcat Adventure, making it the perfect start to the Cub Scout journey.



Find First Pres in Church Center Scan here to log in and learn about everything happening in our congregation!



Announcements and Upcoming Events

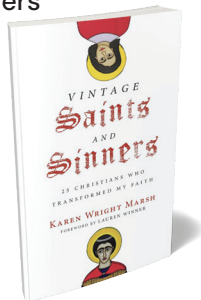
Pledge Sunday is October 26

On Sunday, Oct. 26, the Stewardship campaign kicks off, and we invite you to financially support our growing and vibrant church. Your generous donation will help us expand our ministries, outreach programs, and worship experiences for all generations. Join us during worship that morning and we will dedicate our pledges together as one community of faith working through love.

Pastor's Book Club

This fall we're kicking off our Pastor's Book Club. We'd love for you to pick up one of these books, read along with us, and then join us for conversation. Books can be purchased online or through the Lake Forest Book Store.

Vintage Saints and Sinners
by Karen Marsh
October 29, 7 pm



All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 2, we will remember and honor the saints in our lives during worship. If you have lost an immediate family member, and would like their name read, please contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

Please Wear a Name Tag!

As our church family grows with new staff, members, and guests, name tags are helpful for everyone and create a friendly environment. Make one for yourself at either entrance.

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Get Involved Scan this code to get more information about specific ministries, upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.



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