



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF LAKE FOREST

Nurturing a community of faith working through love.



Welcome!

October 26, 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

Pledge Sunday

Today, in grateful response to God's grace, we joyfully commit to support God's work through First Presbyterian in the coming year. Each pledge card represents not just dollars, but our hopes, prayers, and shared ministry. Together, we offer our gifts—our time, talents, and resources—trusting that God will multiply them to serve our community and world.

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Joel 2:23–32 and Psalm 65; Sirach 35:12–17 or Jeremiah 14:7–10, 19–22 and Psalm 84:1–7; 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18; Luke 18:9–14.

Prayer for Today

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Book of Common Prayer

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.

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

Sanctuary Choir

Daniel Makins
Songwriter in Residence

Justin Engelland
Stewardship Committee

Worship Flowers

The flowers in the niches are given in celebration of Tia Lee Bennett's 11th Birthday.

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in G major BWV 541
Johann Sebastian Bach

The Welcome

Introit

Nun danket alle Gott from *Cantata* 79
Johann Sebastian Bach

Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom this world rejoices;
Who from our Mother's arms
Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
and still is our today.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 116:12-14, 17-19

Leader: What shall we render to the Lord for all God's benefits to us?

**People: We will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

Leader: We will offer to God the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the Lord.

**People: We will pay our vows to the Lord in the presence of all the people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

All: Hallelujah!

*Hymn of Praise No. 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(silent confession...) **Almighty God, we pray that you would be merciful to us sinners. We have been self-righteous. We have regarded others with contempt. We have failed to show humility. Forgive us, we pray, and teach us humbly to receive the righteousness that comes only as a gift of your mercy, for you have taught that all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Kyrie

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



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

O Clap Your Hands

John Rutter

O clap your hands together, all ye people. O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high, and to be feared: he is the great King upon all the earth.

He shall subdue the people under us: and the nations under our feet. He shall choose out
an heritage for us, even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

God is gone up with a merry noise and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God. O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.

— Psalm 47

Gospel Lesson

Luke 18:9-14

New Testament, page 81 in pew Bible

Sermon

Jon Wasson

"The Prayer God Always Answers"

*Hymn of Response (see insert)

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

*Affirmation of Faith

The 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 insert for lyrics)

Love is Our Work of Art
Daniel Makins

*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. 643

Now Thank We All Our God

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

All Creatures Great and Small from *Cantata 129*
Johann Sebastian Bach

All creatures great and small, we sing in congregation;
We praise our maker's name in joyful exaltation.
Our God, who keeps us well, each moment, every day,
Who gives us daily bread, our God to whom we pray.

*Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God
Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Prayers

Joys

We celebrate Susanna Noble and William Schuemman, who were married here on October 18.

We celebrate our congregation uniting in this season of stewardship to consider how the resources we pledge will reflect and amplify our faith working through love, both to our church family and to our many mission partners.

Concerns

For Anne Hampson who is recovering from surgery.

For Roger Burgis who is recovering from back surgery.

Community

For the ongoing work of our mission partner Beacon 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.

Youth Group Today

Middle School Youth Group will meet today from 5–6 pm. High School Youth Group is from 7–8 pm. They both meet in the Youth Lounge.

Pledge Sunday Today

The Stewardship campaign kicks off today, 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 and we will dedicate our pledges together as one community of faith working through love.

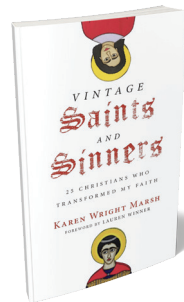
Pastor's Book Club

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

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



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



Announcements and Upcoming Events

The Installation of Rev. Anna Langholz

You are invited to the installation of Rev. Anna Langholz as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church on November 9 at our 9:30am worship service. Reception to follow in the Great Room.

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.

Sunday School Volunteers

Teachers and assistants are needed in the Sunday School classrooms each week. No experience needed and training will be provided. To learn more, contact Rachel Magnusson at rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org.

Advent Wreath Dinner

Save the date for Sunday, November 30, 5-7pm. Join us as we kick off the Advent season for dinner and make an Advent wreath for your home while singing carols. Volunteers are needed to help make it happen. Sign-ups to come.

Christmas Pageant Volunteers

We are gearing up for a fun holiday season and it wouldn't be complete without our annual Christmas Pageant. Save the dates for Sunday, December 14 for the pageant and rehearsal on Saturday, December 13. We will need children and adult volunteers to make it happen! If you are able to help, email Rachel at rmagnusson@firstchurchlf.org.

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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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