

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
November 19, 2023 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**



Children in preschool through 5th grade begin worship with their families and will be dismissed to Sunday School shortly. For parents who need a quiet, calm place to go with smaller children, the Nursery is available across from the main office. The audio of the service -- as well as activities for infants and toddlers -- are accessible, but the room is not staffed.

PRELUDE *Variations on the Chorus from Judas Maccabaeus by Handel* arr. Klengel
Cello Duet: Finn Talbott & Owen Waldschmidt

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN** *Immortal, Invisible (NCH #1)*

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes.
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*Your life is life-giving - to both great and small;
in all life you're living, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers,
then wither and perish - but naught dims your powers.*

*So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
All praise we now render as your angels do:
in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.*

***OPENING PRAYER (Unison)**

Jesus, we ask you to bless our time together, that we may hear your words and apply them to our lives so that you will be honored and glorified. Allow your Holy Spirit to move through us so our faith grows and bears fruit. Amen!

*Children in preschool through 5th grade are now dismissed to Sunday School; a teacher will be on-hand to guide them to their class.
Sunday School students should be picked up by a parent or other responsible adult at 11:30 a.m. at the Resource Room
(on the lower level).*

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through a mission moment	Outreach House	Catherine Lynott
through an anthem	<i>O Word of God</i> Calvin Bloesch, Trumpet	Chancel Choir
through scripture	John 13:35	
through a sermon	Love Always	Pastor Andres Flores

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG *Enter My Heart* Sing, Prayer and Praise #39

*Enter my heart, enter my heart, O Spirit of pow'r and love.
May I proclaim your holy name. O Spirit, enter my heart.*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYER 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for
Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

SENT FORTH TO PROCLAIM GOD'S GRACE

***PARTING SONG**

Blessed Be the Tie that Bounds (NCH # 393)

*Blessed be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the sharing of a common life
is like to that above.*

*Before our God we come
and pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.*

*We share each other's woes,
Each other's burdens bear.
And often for each other flows
a sympathizing tear.*

*When we are called to part
it gives us inward pain,
But we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Let All Things Now Living

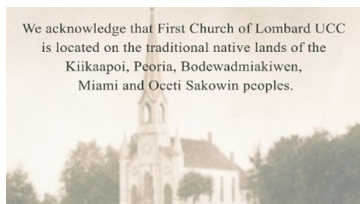
arr. Ovid Young

***As you are able, please stand in body or in spirit.**

First Church of Lombard, UCC – Song Select and Broadcasting License # 48259180
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Thank you to Pastor Andres Flores for preaching and leading worship today.

We acknowledge that First Church of Lombard UCC
is located on the traditional native lands of the
Kiikaapoi, Peoria, Bodewadmiakiwen,
Miami and Oceti Sakowin peoples.



NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

November 19, 2023

220 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1224

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Start your Thanksgiving week by joining together to give thanks. Join us THIS Sunday, November 19th at 4pm as congregations of many faith traditions gather to offer scriptures, prayers, and songs that invite us to be thankful. Join Calvary Episcopal Church, Calvary United Methodist (Villa Park), Church of the Brethren (Villa Park), Congregation Etz Chaim, the Islamic Foundation of Villa Park, First Church Lombard (UCC), and hosted by the First United Methodist Church of Lombard (155 S. Main Street, Lombard, IL). Let us give thanks!

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, December 3rd. The meeting will include reviewing the annual report, and voting on the 2024 budget and open council positions. Please plan on attending.

COMMUNITY TABLE

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a great early Thanksgiving meal and good company at Community Table this Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall!

JINGLE BELL JUBILEE

This year First Church is one of the many stops during the Lombard event! We are looking for volunteers to help pass out apple cider to guests, help with craft tables, and greet them as they stop along the route with us. Volunteers are needed on December 2nd from 4:30 p.m. -8:30 p.m., and all ages welcome. Please contact either Rae Piper-Coder or Amy O'Callaghan to volunteer. Help us celebrate the holiday season with the community!

ADVENT STUDY COMING SOON!

Christmas is about so much more than twinkle lights, sugar cookies, and perfect family photos. It's about the world-changing, transforming, and sometimes messy reality of "God with us." This Advent as we dive deep into the biblical accounts of Jesus' female ancestors and reflect on God's presence in their complicated lives, we can begin to release our expectations of a "perfect Christmas" and instead seek the experience of a holy season.

Held at FCL in conjunction with First United Methodist Church, this year's Advent study on "Expecting Emmanuel" meets at FCL in the North Conference Room or via Zoom on Wednesdays November 29, December 6 and December 13. On December 20, plan to gather at First UMC for the final session of the study (also available via Zoom), then attend the Blue Christmas worship Service together.

Contact PastorJill@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions; a fantastic companion book is available in the church office for \$8.

ADVENT NIGHT COMING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1! SIGN UP TODAY!

Gather for a potluck dinner, crafts, serving projects and more at FCL's Annual Advent Night on Friday, December 1st! Gather at 6:30 p.m. for dinner and conversation about how the coming of the winter season informs our understanding and enjoyment of the Christmas season. Please sign up on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs with your potluck item(s) so we know how much bread and drinks to provide!

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

Mark Your Calendars! Sunday, December 10 will be the Holiday Bake Sale hosted by FCL's Youth Community! Plan now to come after worship to buy a plate (or several!) and help fund the 2024 Youth Community Summer Mission Trip!

ADVENT GIVING BAG ITEMS NEEDED!

Once again, the Faith Exploration Team is collecting much-needed items for our friends who are experiencing homelessness and low income. During this time of need, consider giving to others by donating socks/gloves/scarves/hats, toiletries, personal hygiene items, nutritious snacks, etc. Items are needed by Sunday, November 26 can be brought to the Narthex any time and placed in the box marked "Giving Bags." These Giving Bags will be assembled as part of the Advent Night event on Friday, December 1. Afterward, all are invited to pick up and give these bags to those in need while you are out and about prior to Christmas.

TOYS/GIFTS TO A GOOD HOME

First Church of Lombard along with the Outreach House, are partnering with Love Christian Clearinghouse and Toy Express for the 11th year in a row to help families in need during our Christmas season. These toys/gifts are given to children throughout DuPage County who may not otherwise receive anything. Please consider donating toys or gifts for our Annual Toy Express Program. Simply bring the gifts to First Church, and drop them in the giant gift box, located in the narthex. Toys/gifts should be new, unwrapped, and age-appropriate for children under 12 years old. You can donate these gifts from now through December 6th Love Christian Clearinghouse will collect the toys/gifts and deliver them to Toy Express in the name of First Church of Lombard/Outreach House.

If you have any questions, contact Lynda S. Wilson at church, 630-707-1868, or 630-512-8669, or lswilson@love-cc.org. Thank you in advance, for your generous hearts!

RECOGNIZING OUR GREAT STAFF

We appreciate the way that our church staff serves our membership, and the holiday offers us a way to express our gratitude for the way that they have kept us running smoothly and continue to be the "serving" church that we have always been.

The Church Council will be accepting contributions to a monetary gift that will be shared by all staff, and those contributions may be sent to the church, attention Church Council, or given to a member of the Council: Jason Cooper, Jeff Cook, Marianne McGuire, Lisa White, Amy O'Callaghan, Eric Wilson, Fritz Geiger, Scott Garrett, and Judy Kline. Donations will be accepted starting November 19th and it is hoped that the contributions will be received by December 17th for distribution prior to Christmas.

The Church Council wishes to thank everyone for their generous support during these difficult times, adding their wish for a safe Christmas season filled with love and happiness.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN ART

Connection to the Sunday morning series and to Pastor Jill's sermon on November 12: "The Christmas Story in Art" is being presented by Richard Blackburn, Director Emeritus of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, with two options: Wednesday, November 29, at 7:00 p.m. or Thursday, November 30, at 1:00 p.m. Some may remember him coming for First Church years ago to present the Epiphany in Art. If you are interested, please email Dan Jares (9jares@att.net), and he will forward the email with the link to register.

IN LIEU OF POINSETTIAS

In lieu of purchasing poinsettias this year, the Worship Team invites you to make a donation in memory or in honor of a loved one. The donation will be going to the People's Fund which provides resources for the emergency needs of the people within the church and broader community. Approximately half of the money collected goes to help people in need in our congregation. The other half goes to the Outreach House and Love

Christian Clearing House, where we refer most community members seeking assistance. Please make a donation and let the church office (bcastillo@firstchurchoflombard.org) know who the donation is for by December 17th.

The list of names will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

IN OUR OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

BEER & HYMNS

Mark your calendar! Beer & Hymns will celebrate Advent on Friday, December 15th at 7 pm at Manny's Ale House (683 St Charles Rd, Elmhurst). *Come sing with us! Bring a friend or two!* A few Christmas songs may slip in there, too. St. Paul Lutheran Villa Park and First Church of Lombard co-host this event – spread the word and bring your friends!

Volunteers for Sunday, November 19, 2023

Liturgist

Lynda Wilson

Ushers

Marianne McGuire
Mark Meyer

Church Opener

Dave Ivey

Coffee Hour

Corrine Flemm
Judy Kline
Lynda Wilson

Sound

Andrew Eckhart

Live Streaming

Eric Wilson

Volunteers for Sunday, November 26, 2023

Liturgist

Judy Andersen

Ushers

Chuck Threewitt
Kathy Underwood

Church Opener

Jake Peters

Coffee Hour

Jamie Geiger

Sound

Thomas Hammerschmidt

Live Streaming

Eric Wilson

Church Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Monday & Wednesday

Available by appointment

Friday & Saturday

CLOSED

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Jill Terpstra - Senior Minister

Val Sutton - Director of Educational Ministries

Janette Rodriguez - Director of Music Ministries

Lawrence Underwood - Children and Youth Music Coordinator

Rae Piper-Coder – Community Engagement Coordinator

Charlie Peterson - Porter

Bea Castillo - Administrative Secretary

Phone: 630-629-2630

www.FCOL.org



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST