

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
February 11, 2024 – Transfiguration**



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

Jesus Loves Me

arr. Faye Lopez

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (NCH #1)*

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes.
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy 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 would render and your angels do:
in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.*

***OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)**

Radiant God, we come to you on the mountaintop to experience your glory. You come to us in the valleys. We meet you in gladness in a place where heaven and earth collide. May our worship of you encourage us on the journey and make us aspire to reflect your kingdom in the world. Transform us and keep us near to you. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through an anthem *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* arr. Lawrence Underwood
Sunday School Children

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).

though a mission moment PADS Gift Cards Wider Church

through scripture Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could brighten them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

through a sermon It is Good to Be Here

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN**

Be Now My Vision (NCH #541)
Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
Nothing surpasses the love you impart—
You my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
Ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
Now and forever your child I will be.

Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
You, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
Great God, my treasure, may we never part.

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG *Standing in the Need of Prayer (refrain) (NCH #519)*
It's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer (x2)

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.
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** *From All that Dwell below the Skies (NCH #27)*

*From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Eternal are your mercies, God; your truth stands ever high and broad:
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Your praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* arr. John Purifoy

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

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Everyone is welcome to Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall after worship.

If you would like to hear about upcoming events and receive the News and Notes via email, please email Bea Castillo at bcastillo@firstchurchoflombard.org. A limited number of hard copies are available in the narthex.



NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

February 11, 2024

20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1236

LENT SERIES: LOVERS AND FOOLS

This year, the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on Valentine's Day and concludes with Easter, on the day before April Fool's. This timing lends itself to our Lenten theme: Lovers and Fools. Throughout the season of Lent, we will look at stories from our faith that call us to deeper love and at times make us look like fools to those who do not understand.

ADULT MISSION TRIP TO COSTA RICA - SUMMER 2024

We are making plans for an Adult Mission Trip to Costa Rica for a week this summer, probably between July 27 and Aug. 31, 2024. We will build one or two houses in Nosara, a rural area of Costa Rica on the Pacific coast, or possibly another location in Costa Rica.

If you wish to go, or want more information, please attend our Information/Planning Meeting on Sunday, February 11, 2024, following worship (about 11:30 a.m.). It will be in the North Conference Room.

Bring your calendars to help us select our dates. We will discuss costs, house-building details, fundraising, location of worksite, and other topics.

Questions? Contact Christine Tani at christinetani@yahoo.com or 630/240-4032

THE LENTEN POETRY OF MARY OLIVER: A LENTEN STUDY

All are invited to gather for a Lenten Study on Wednesdays February 21, February 28, March 6, March 13 and March 20. Each week we will take a look at Mary Oliver's Lenten poetry. This discussion will be held each week at 7:00 p.m. either via Zoom or in person at First UMC of Lombard (155 S. Main St., Lombard, kitty-corner from FCL). Be watching your email for Zoom links and more, coming soon!

FILLING HOLES:

There are several holes in the materials in the archives, so if you've been spending time avoiding the cold outside by clearing out boxes, files, etc., please consider bringing things in and letting us decide to store or recycle them. Especially needed are annual reports (early to mid-1990s and a few others) and Church Council meeting packets especially for the past few years. Get things to Dan Jares or leave them in the office with his name on them, please. The future thanks you!

FROM THE FIRST CHURCH GREEN TEAM

The free monthly newsletter from the DuPage County Forest Preserve District called "Navigator" often has articles related to a healthy environment. Check out the February issue to learn about "Why [monarch] butterflies need volcanoes" and "Reducing Waste with Worms." Sign up for their newsletters at the Forest Preserve website: <https://www.dupageforest.org/what-we-do/news/e-newsletters>

HAVE A HEART FOR PADS

During February, the Wider Church team will be collecting cash donations to be used to order gift cards through "Raise Right" (formerly Scrip). These will be given to PADS to help their clients with basic needs as they move from the streets to interim housing and through their supportive services program to employment and permanent housing.

Last year we were able to donate 55 gifts cards (\$25 each). Donations can be directed to First Church of Lombard office or online through REALM or see one of us at Coffee Hour. Please note this is a "Miscellaneous" donation with a memo that it should be "for PADS". To learn more about PADS go to www.dupagepads.org

DINNER, DOCUMENTARY, & DISCUSSION COMING FEBRUARY 23

All are invited to gather for FCL's Dinner, Documentary, and Discussion Night coming Friday, February 23 at 6:00 p.m. Bring your dinner and come ready to view and discuss "Fire of Love," the story of two volcanologists whose love for each other was only rivaled by the thing they both loved most -- volcanoes. Attend in person in the North Conference Room (lower level) or contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for Zoom links and more information.

CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

Head south to First United Methodist Church, 1032 Maple Avenue, in Downers Grove on Saturday, February 24, for a chance to hear former President and General Minister of the UCC, Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, speak about Christian nationalism. Presentation 10:00-11:30 followed by discussion and light refreshments until 12:30.

LOVE IS LOVE IS LOVE SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FAITH EXPLORATION

Join in any Sunday through March 24 at 9:00 a.m. for FCL's Sunday Morning Adult Faith Exploration! This is a weekly discussion that will center around the theme of "Love is Love is Love." Love has been a favored topic of philosophers, poets, writers, and scientists for generations. A variety of facilitators will present a piece of media (video, article, etc.) that fits this theme and ALL are welcome to enjoy the conversation that ensues! Come to the North Conference Room or attend via Zoom any week you can make it!

The topic changes weekly; if you have questions or would like to be sent the weekly topic and Zoom links, contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, FEB. 14

The Ash Wednesday service will be held at 7 PM on Wednesday, February 14 in the Maple Street Chapel. This service will start our Lenten journey with the imposition of ashes and holy communion.

ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST COMING SUNDAY, MARCH 3!

This year's Annual Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday, March 3! Come to Fellowship Hall get pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee, and more from 9:00 a.m. through 12:00 noon.

The Pancake Breakfast benefits the 2024 Youth Community Summer Mission Trip through your free-will donations and/or "Pledging Per Plate." Pick up a form in the Narthex for this "dirty dish" challenge and you can give, even if you aren't able to be present for the breakfast! Simply pledge a set amount for each of the dishes that the youth will wash, knowing that the amount paid will depend on how many dishes are used. For example, if 300 dishes are used, a pledge of 10 cents each will mean that the pledger will owe \$30. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for details.

THE BOOK OF JOY FOR A BOOK DISCUSSION!

All are invited to join the Beyond Words Book Discussion on TUESDAY, March 19 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *The Book of Joy* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu with Douglas Carlton Abrams. Copies of the book are available in the church office for a cost of \$12 each. Please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org to arrange pick-up of the book if you can't stop by on a Sunday morning or if copies are not available when you do!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the coffee hour and set up volunteers! Everyone at First Church really appreciates you. We enjoy the fellowship and efforts you provide every Sunday! Thank you for all you do!

If you haven't checked out coffee hour, please join us. Join us for coffee, a treat, great conversation and fellowship in Fellowship Hall after worship (unless moved/changed due to special circumstances). Come meet a new friend! Hope to see you there!!!!

Volunteers for Sunday, February 11, 2024	Volunteers for Sunday, February 18, 2024
<u>Liturgist</u> Chris Kaufman	<u>Liturgist</u> Judy Andersen
<u>Ushers</u> Dave Ivey Mike Rodak	<u>Ushers</u> Jason Cooper Kevin Lattner
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Gabrielle Davis Barb Sorgatz	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Larry Hebert Kevin Lattner
<u>Church Opener</u> Cal Bloesch	<u>Church Opener</u> Jason Cooper
<u>Sound</u> Thomas Hammerschmidt	<u>Sound</u> Andrew Eckhart
<u>Live Streaming</u> Eric Wilson	<u>Live Streaming</u> 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

Charlie Peterson - Porter

Bea Castillo - Administrative Secretary

Phone: 630-629-2630

www.FCOL.org



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST