

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
March 9, 2025 – First Sunday in Lent**



'RESIST' by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

*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

Prelude on Thaxted
J. R. Ringers

arr. Michael Helman

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG** *God of Grace and God of Glory (NCH #436)*

*God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient Church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.*

*From the evils that surround us and assail the Savior's ways.
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.*

*Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control;
shame our reckless selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage make our broken spirits whole.
Make our broken spirits whole.*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.*

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

God, we are works in progress. In spaces where we could cultivate belonging, we build up walls. In spaces where we could cultivate compassion, we insist on perfection and pressure ourselves to achieve the impossible. In spaces where we could let go of anger, we keep score like it's our job and insist on an "eye for an eye" justice. So today we pray— Remind us how to cultivate hope, love, and justice. Remind us how to let go of fear, perfection, and hatred. Forgive us. Guide us. Heal us. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SONG

Love the Lord

Lincoln Brewster

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 scripture

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' "

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

through a sermon Letting Go of What People Think & Cultivating Authenticity

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN**

I Need You Every Hour (NCH #517)

*I need you every hour, O God of grace.
The peace your voice affords, I now embrace.*

Refrain:

*I need you, how I need you! Every hour I need you.
O bless me now, my Savior; I come to you.*

*I need you every hour, in faith or fear.
Temptations lose their power when you are near. [Refrain]*

*I need you every hour, in joy or pain.
Come quickly and abide or life is vain [Refrain]*

*I need you every hour; teach me your will.
And your rich promises in me fulfill. [Refrain]*

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG

Open Our Eyes

*Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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**

O Jesus, I Have Promised (NCH #493)

*O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me, my Savior and my Friend;
I shall not fear life's struggles if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.*

*O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will!
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control!
O speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul!*

*O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you
that where you are in glory your servant shall be, too;
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow my Savior and my Friend!*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Look Ye Saints

arr. Larry Shackley

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

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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.

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.



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

March 9, 2025

20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1292

CHURCH FINANCES

Please join Jon Walsh, our treasurer, for an information session about the church finances THIS Sunday, March 9th after worship in the North Conference Room. He will discuss our yearly giving and expenses to date, and our endowment. Grab some coffee and a snack and join him for the short session to learn more about our church finances.

SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN!

Thank you to everyone who submitted responses to the sabbatical survey for the summer of 2026. A trip to the Arboretum and All Church Retreat were the most popular ideas, but we may be able to include other activities as well. The grant application will be submitted next week, and we will find out if we receive the grant at the end of August.

MARCH MADNESS

Join the friendly competition and help a good cause. March Madness for Elmhurst University Scholarship Fund. Sign-ups March 2 through 16th. \$20 to enter, 1st prize \$50, 2nd prize \$30, 3rd prize \$20.

You can sign up at Coffee Hour; online through REALM using the QR Code below (Make a miscellaneous donation with memo for March Madness); or, send a check to church with note for March Madness.



A generous matching donation has been offered so help us reach our goal of 30 participants. Contact Patty Bruzek with questions Bruzekkp@comcast.net.

COMMUNITY TABLE

Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy a good meal in great company at Community Table this Wednesday, March 12th at 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. We hope to see you there.

CULTIVATING AND LETTING GO LENT SERIES

Lent is a season of spiritual gardening, of inviting God to unearth in us what lies dormant, what needs to be tended, and what needs to die for new life to emerge. This Lent, we're embracing the literal and spiritual practices of cultivating and letting go. In worship each week during Lent (March 9-April 13) we will look at what God is cultivating in us and what we are being called to let go of. Plan on attending so that come Easter, you are ready to celebrate flourishing in your life and our world.

LENT BIBLE AND ART STUDY

Our Lent Study this year will follow the worship theme of Cultivating and Letting Go. Each week we will study the scripture for the upcoming Sunday and discuss a corresponding work of art. We will meet Wednesdays at

7:00 PM, March 12-April 9 in-person in the North Conference Room or on Zoom. This is a joint study with First United Methodist Church. See Pastor Jill or Val Sutton with questions.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Copies of "Into The Deep," the UCC Lent devotional booklet, are available on the tables in foyer. Please help yourself over the next few weeks.

COSTA RICA ADULT MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY

Due to the strong relationship First Church has with Mercy Homes Ministries, a small group (which includes the Tani and Waldschmidt families) will be serving in Costa Rica this summer. This trip is open to anyone who would like to join them (adults only). The dates are June 7 – 15, 2025, and will cost approximately \$2,000 - \$3,000 per person. In addition, each participant is expected to raise money towards the cost of the building materials and paid labor for the house(s) we will build. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please speak with Christine Tani at 630/240-4032, or email her at Christinetani@yahoo.com. **The deadline for signing up is March 9, 2025.**

ST. PATTY'S LUNCH

Please join the Parish Life team for a St. Patrick's Day themed lunch on Sunday, March 16th after church. Parish life will provide corned beef sandwiches, cheese, drinks, and a sweet treat. We will be asking for donation for side dishes. We hope this brings some nice fellowship during the St. Patty's Day season.

Please sign up on the church bulletin board, during coffee hour on March 9th or email Amy OCallaghan-amyandjohn1999@yahoo.com. We hope to see you there!

BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE FOR MARCH BOOK DISCUSSION!

Greetings Fellow Readers! FCL's Beyond Words Book Discussion will meet on ****TUESDAY**** March 18 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Somehow: Thoughts on Love by Anne Lamott. All are welcome... even if you don't finish the book! Copies 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! ****Please note change of date!**

ADULT MISSION TRIP – SUMMER OF 2025

Planning Meeting - Sunday, March 23, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

Please come to our Planning Meeting for our 2025 Adult Mission trip - the meeting will be on Sunday, March 23 at 11:30 a.m. in the North Conference Room.

The dates of the trip are July 20 – 26, 2025 (Sunday through Saturday).

We will work in Pike County, Kentucky, in the eastern part of the state. It's about 500 miles from Lombard, and we will drive our own cars there.

The cost of the trip will be about \$390 - \$465 per person. Financial assistance is available.

Please contact Christine Tani at christinetani@yahoo.com or 630/240-4032 with any questions.

Hope to see you at our meeting!

MARCH DINNER, DOCUMENTARY AND DISCUSSION

In March, First Church of Lombard honors Women's History Month with our "Dinner, Documentary, and Discussion" series! On Friday, March 28, all are invited to come watch "RBG," a candid look at Ruth Bader Ginsburg's exceptional life and career as a long-standing U.S. Supreme Court Justice, champion of women's rights, and pop culture icon. Bring your dinner and gather at 6:00 p.m. in the North Conference Room. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions.

TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

Join faith communities in DuPage County to raise awareness and celebrate the transgender community on Monday, March 31 at 7PM at First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn (535 Forest Ave). Come to sing, pray and celebrate God's love in this spirited interfaith worship service. Pastor Jill will be participating in the service.

CALLING ALL DESIGNERS! HELP CREATE OUR NEW AGAPE T-SHIRT

The Youth Ministry Team is looking for a fresh and inspiring new T-shirt design that features the Greek word Agape—representing God's unconditional love—along with the name of our church, First Church of Lombard UCC. Whether you're an experienced designer or just have a creative idea, we'd love to see your vision! This is a great opportunity to create something meaningful that our church family can wear with pride. If you have a design to share, please submit it to vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org by Monday, March 31.

"NO LAUGHING MATTER" ADULT FAITH EXPLORATION SERIES CONTINUES INTO APRIL!

Come be a part of "No Laughing Matter: How Humor Guides, Teaches, and Transforms," an engaging Adult Faith Exploration class continuing through Sunday, April 13 at 9:00 a.m. in the North Conference Room (Lower Level) or via Zoom. Come ANY WEEK to explore the powerful role humor plays in our lives — guiding us through difficult situations, teaching us important lessons, and transforming our perspectives. Whether in person or online, this class promises insightful discussions and a fresh look at how laughter can deepen our faith and understanding!

Zoom link will be sent the week before our first session; contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for more information.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

It's time to start your Spring Cleaning, and get your extra stuff over to First Church for our Annual Spring Rummage Sale!

Mark your calendars:

- Sunday, March 30th, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.: Drop-off
- Monday, March 31st and Tuesday, April 1st (No foolin') - Drop-off (Times, TBA)
-

NO large items or furniture accepted!

The Sale will be on Friday and Saturday, April 4th - 5th.

More information to come...

GREEN TEAM – WEEKLY ARTICLE

From Katharine Hayhoe: What thrives in a warming world? Urban rats! A study examining public complaint and inspection data from 16 cities around the world found that in 11 of those cities, including Amsterdam, New York, Toronto, and Washington, D.C., rat populations were increasing with temperature. Warmer winters allow more rats to survive is part of the reason.

CHAPEL VARIETY PROGRAM SERIES

There are two remaining programs:

- Village Vocal Chords Sunday, March 23 at 3:00 PM
- The American Heritage Concert Sunday April 6 at 3:00 PM

Village Vocal Chords is a women's barbershop chorus, chartered with the international organization of Harmony, Inc. They will present a program of four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style.

Admission \$20

The American Heritage Concert "Frozen, Billy Joel, and All That Jazz" will feature music from Frozen, a Duke Ellington medley, music from On the Town, Morton Gould's Pavanne, The Best of Billy Joel, and Trumpeter's Lullaby.

Admission \$25

For more information visit MapleStreetChapel.Org or call 630-627-0171.

"BEST PIZZA IN LOMBARD" YOUTH COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER

All are invited to Hatfield Hall on Friday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m. to try dozens of pizzas provided by our local Lombard pizzerias—and be part of HISTORY by voting for your favorites in several categories! The cost to sample all pizzas, as well as enjoy desserts and drinks, is \$8 per person (max. \$30 per family). All funds raised benefit the 2025 Youth Community Summer Mission Trip! Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for more information!

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We express sympathy to Mary and Chris Kauffman and their family in the passing of Mary's father, George McCarthy.

IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

CO-OP PRESCHOOL – ENROLLING FOR FALL 2025

For over 60 years, the Co-Op Preschool has been helping small hands do big things. The Co-Op is now enrolling for their Fall 2025 school year.

They offer, classes for 15 months to Pre-K, parent/family involvement in the classroom, enrichment programs, special events and strong community.

Contact Director, Michelle Bauman with questions at director@thecooppreschool.com or 630-629-2630 ext. 214.

Click [HERE](#) for a flyer.

TROOP 51 FUNDRAISER

Help raise funds for Troop 51 by eating at Ground Level 105, 105 W. St. Charles Road in Lombard, Tuesday March 11. Dine in from 4-8pm to make a contribution to First Church's Scouts. See [HERE](#) for all the details!

FREE INTERNATIONAL FILM SERIES

Global Flicks - Wednesday, March 12, 1:30 & 7:30p

Explore the world through six award-winning international films presented in their original language with English subtitles. Each film is followed by a COD faculty-led discussion.

Films are shown in the Belushi Performance Hall.

March 12th

Of Gods & Men

France | Drama/History (2010)

Directed by Xavier Beauvois

2 hours, 2 min. | French, Arabic

In 1990s Algeria, Trappist-Catholic monks live peacefully among Muslims. As civil war erupts, they face a harrowing choice: stay to continue their mission or flee from advancing terrorists. Based on true events, their decision leads to tragic consequences. Watch trailer [HERE](#).

BEER & HYMNS

Join us on Friday, March 28th at 7 PM at Manny's Ale House in Elmhurst (683 St Charles Rd, Elmhurst, IL) to have a drink (of any sort) and sing your favorite hymns.

Come early and enjoy some of Manny's delicious menu items prior to the session.



First Church *of* Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Volunteers for Sunday, March 9, 2025	Volunteers for Sunday, March 16, 2025
<u>Liturgist</u> Mark Meyer	<u>Liturgist</u> Matt Kirsh
<u>Ushers</u> Mark Meyer Greg LeBreux	<u>Ushers</u> Becky Kirsh Matt Kirsh
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Christine Esposito Larry Hebert Kevin Lattner	<u>NO Coffee Hour</u> St. Patrick's Day Lunch
<u>Sound</u> Andrew Eckhart	<u>Sound</u> Thomas Hammerschmidt
<u>Video Streaming</u> Eric Wilson	<u>Video 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