

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
January 25, 2026 – Third Sunday after Epiphany**



Children in preschool through 5th grade begin worship with their families and will be dismissed to Sunday School shortly. For families with infants and toddlers, a volunteer-staffed nursery is available across from the main office, offering a calm, welcoming space with age-appropriate activities and audio of the worship service.

PRELUDE

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

arr. David Lanz III

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG**

The Light of Jesus

*In this world of darkness
In this world of pain
People long for justice
Hope that never ends*

*Walking without direction
Searching for what's true
For a love that heals the broken
And makes all things new*

*What can we do
To bring Your light through?*

*Let's shine the light
That makes the darkness disappear
Let's share the hope
That drives away the fear*

*Light and truth from Jesus
Shine, shine, shine
The light of Jesus*

*In this time of shadows
Where the voices cry
We will walk beside them
We will not pass by*

*With our hands in service
With our hearts made brave
We will live the love You taught us
In the lives You save*

*Let's shine the light
That makes the darkness disappear
Let's share the hope
That drives away the fear*

*Light and truth from Jesus
Shine, shine, shine
The light of Jesus*

*Jesus, You are the light
Jesus, You are the way
Let your light, shine through me
Jesus your light is here to stay (2x)*

*Let's shine the light
Till every shadow fades away
Let's live the hope
That turns our faith to grace (2x)*

*Light and truth from Jesus
Shine, shine, shine
The light of Jesus*

***OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

You call us, O God, to wander off from our predictable paths to follow you into the unpredictable footsteps of your kingdom. As we wait, in our simple, sometimes crazy, constantly uncertain lives, speak to us, Spirit of Grace: of that hope which is our anchor, of that peace which is our rock, and of that grace which is our refuge. 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 an anthem

Grace
Voices of Peace

arr. Mark Hayes

through scripture

Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

through a sermon

Go Fish

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN**

The Summons

*Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?*

*Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?*

*Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?*

*Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?*

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG

In Solitude (NCH #52, vs. 1)

*In solitude, in solitude, I come to God in prayer.
In silence and simplicity, my spirit blossoms there.*

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

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult (NCH #172)

*Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day his sweet voice sounding, Saying, "Christian, follow me."*

*As of old, Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake,
Turned from home, and toil, and kindred, leaving all for Jesus sake.*

*Jesus calls us from the worship of treasures we adore,
From each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."*

*In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
Jesus calls us, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."*

*Jesus calls us—By your mercies, Savior, may we hear your call,
Give our hearts to your obedience, Serve and love you best of all.*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Festive Postlude on "Hyfridol"

arr. Mary McDonald

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

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Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour immediately after worship in Fellowship Hall.



NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

January 25, 2026

20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1338

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FAITH EXPLORATION SERIES: BRIEF TALKS, BIG IDEAS

Starting Sunday, January 25, First Church of Lombard invites you to spark your curiosity and deepen your faith with a brand-new Adult Sunday Morning Faith Exploration series: "Brief Talks, Big Ideas." At 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 25 through Sunday, March 22, we'll gather each week to watch and discuss a thought-provoking talk from TheoEd.com, featuring scholars, theologians, and storytellers who bring fresh insight to today's most meaningful spiritual questions. Each week's topic will be selected by a volunteer or staff facilitator, ensuring a lively mix of themes and perspectives—and plenty of rich conversation. There's no need to attend every week—come whenever you can! Come to the North Conference Room (lower level) or gather via Zoom (contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for Zoom links, weekly reminders, and more!). Come for the talk, stay for the dialogue, and discover how a brief idea can open the door to big, transformative thinking.

COMMUNITY TABLE

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a hearty meal at Community Table this Wednesday, January 28 at 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Come and reunite with old friends or come out and make some new ones. We hope to see you there!

GENDER IDENTITY SERIES COMING SOON

All are invited to gather at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays January 28, February 4 and February 11 for the return of First Church's series about Gender Identity. Our hope is to ensure that discussions about gender and identity at First Church are informed by a baseline of shared language and information. All sessions will be held in the North Conference Room (on the lower level). Each week will have a new presentation with new information so you are encouraged to join us for as many sessions as your schedule allows. Please contact Val Sutton, Educational Ministries Director, at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions or if you would like to participate in our panel of people who are gender variant on February 4.

START THE NEW YEAR WITH A NEW BOOK!

This January, be sure to check out the special display in the Narthex of books about nonviolence and peaceful protest. This theme acknowledges the work of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Gandhi, and so many others! Selections are from the First Church Lending Library, located on the lower level. All are welcome to browse and borrow -- and to head downstairs to check out many more!

"A FORCE MORE POWERFUL" AT FCL'S DOCUMENTARY SERIES

First Church of Lombard resumes our "Dinner, Documentary, and Discussion" series on Friday, January 30! Starting at 6:00 p.m., all are invited to come watch "A Force More Powerful: A Century of Nonviolent Conflict." Based on the book of the same name, this nationally-acclaimed film shows how popular movements used nonviolent action to overthrow dictators, obstruct military invaders and secure human rights in country after country, over the past century. Bring your dinner and gather at 6:00 p.m. in the North Conference Room (lower level). Unfortunately, this viewing cannot be held via Zoom for copyright reasons. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for more information.

EXPERIENCE COMMUNITY ORGANIZING IN ACTION.

The Amos Project of FCL invites all church members and neighbors to attend this DU (DuPage United) Assembly on Sunday, February 1 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm at 1st Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, 535 Forest Ave. It is an opportunity to hear about our current projects around affordable/supportive housing and several infrastructure projects in DuPage County. We've invited some federal, state and local elected officials, we've met and worked with, to confirm their continued support. DU is a nonpartisan organization of area religious and non-profits. **Come and support bringing changes in DuPage County.** We've committed to bringing 25 people. See signup on bulletin board or fill out this registration link.

[DU Assembly 2.1.26 Registration](#)

CHILI CHEFS NEEDED FOR THE ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF!

The Annual Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 7 in Hatfield Hall! This fun, delicious event raises funds for our Youth Community Summer Mission Trip (location TBA). As always, this event will feature a huge array of chili just waiting to be taste-tested... Do YOU have what it takes to be voted the best? We are now seeking cooks/chefs to submit a delicious chili! Sign ups to enter a chili begin Sunday, January 18 after worship... and will continue on January 25 and February 1. You can also email vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org to sign up. Tickets for the event on February 7 will be available at the door for \$8 each or \$30 per family.

ONCE-MONTHLY STUDY ON SPIRITUAL AGING

A study on Spiritual Aging, based on Carol Orsborn's book of the same name, meets once a month on the 4th Sunday at 11:30 AM in the North Conference Room (lower level). Each month's discussion will focus on the weekly readings from the book. Copies are available in the church office for \$10. For questions or more information, please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org

RAINBOW FAITH LGBTQIA+ ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Join us at Rainbow Faith, a ministry at First Church of Lombard created as a safe and affirming space for adult members of the LGBTQIA+ family (and occasionally, allies and advocates). Whether you're looking for meaningful conversation or simply a place to belong, all are welcome to gather on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For questions or more information, please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org

GREEN TEAM – WEEKLY ARTICLE

From Katharine Hayhoe: The Australian government...announced that beginning next July, residents of three of the country's six states will get three free hours of electricity every day, with the rest of the country to follow in 2027. This is because the country has put up so many solar panels that at midday, when the sun is highest, they're producing truly massive amounts of power.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

As a reminder, donations of non-perishable items to the Food Pantry at The Outreach House can be brought to church on Sunday mornings or during the week and left in the shopping carts in the foyer. The most needed items are canned tuna (or chicken), cream soups, pasta, shelf-stable milk, and mac 'n' cheese. Starting in January, the Second Sunday of each month will now be highlighted for these donations, although they can be made at any time. Financial donations may also be made at <https://theoutreachhouse-bloom.kindful.com/> for the The Outreach House.

VOLUNTEERING INFORMATION FROM WIDER CHURCH

First Church of Lombard offers many ways for people to get involved in its teams, ministries, and related activities. In addition, the following are website links with information about some of the volunteering opportunities available with organizations in our local community.

Click [HERE](#) for a PDF with the links.

IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

RACE AMITY POTLUCK

Please join us on Saturday, January 31 at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall to celebrate together and continue to develop friendships with people of all backgrounds. Please bring a main dish, side dish, dessert and/or beverage to share from your cultural heritage (or whatever you can bring.)

For any questions, please contact Jeri Shaw at 630-936-6668.

Volunteers for Sunday, January 25, 2026	Volunteers for Sunday, February 1, 2026
<u>Liturgist</u> Lynda Wilson	<u>Liturgist</u> Tiffany Warmowski
<u>Ushers</u> Becky Kirsh Matt Kirsh	<u>Ushers</u> Jason Cooper Marianne McGuire
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Jamie & Fritz Geiger	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Deb & Greg Young
<u>Sound</u> Thomas Hammerschmidt	<u>Sound</u> Charlie Peterson
<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



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST