

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
May 3, 2026 – Fifth Sunday of Easter**



*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

Amazing Love

arr. Bill Wolaver

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG**

Goodness of God

Bethel Music

*I love You Lord, oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

Chorus

*And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
And in darkest nights
You are close like no other
I've known You as a parent
I've known You as a friend [chorus]*

Bridge
(‘Cause) Your goodness is running after
It’s running after me
Your goodness is running after
It’s running after me
With my life laid down, I’m surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It’s running after me [Chorus]

***OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

Holy and Living God, build us into a spiritual house, a gathering of witnesses for the world and in the world to declare your goodness, to follow in your way, to do the work of your hands, voice, and heart. Renew our spirits as we worship you and bask in your presence. Fill us with your Spirit that we collectively proclaim ourselves as your people, called to the fullness of your glorious and radiant being. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF FAITH EXPLORATION LEADERS

Val Sutton,
Director of Educational Ministries

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

Plenty Good Room
Voices of Peace

arr. Kevin Boesiger

through scripture

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak

on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

through a sermon

Finding Our Way Home

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN**

Be Now My Vision (NCH #451)

*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

HOLY COMMUNION

*For communion you are invited to come down the center aisle to receive a piece of bread and a cup of juice.
Gluten free elements are available in the Narthex or from an usher. Our table is open to all.*

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**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing (NCH #76)

*Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.*

*The service is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.*

*The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.*

*God's grace did invite us, And love shall unite us
To work for God's realm and to answer the call.*

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,

The tasks of our everyday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,

Embracing God's children of each tribe and race.

With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,

Unite us as one in this life that we share

Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving

Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Joyful Day

arr. Mark Hayes

***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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Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour immediately after worship.

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

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

Phone: 630-629-2630

www.FCOL.org



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Published Weekly

May 3, 2026

20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1352

FCL CELEBRATES OUR FAITH EXPLORATION LEADERS!

FCL is kicking off "Teacher Appreciation Week" THIS Sunday, May 3 by celebrating all those involved with Faith Exploration for children, youth, and adults! If you have helped out with Sunday School, taught a lesson or two for any age level, volunteered in the nursery or led a conversation at any Adult Faith Exploration gathering, please plan to attend worship and coffee hour on May 3 so we can celebrate you!

THANK YOU!

From contributions to the Wider Church March Madness fundraiser, including a matching \$500 gift from an anonymous donor, First Church of Lombard UCC sent a check for \$1,035 to Elmhurst University for their scholarship program for UCC students. Thank you to all involved!

Thank you from the Wider Church team to all who contributed to this year's DuPagePads gift cards fundraiser. First Church of Lombard delivered \$1,600 in gas station and Walmart gift cards to the DuPagePads office in Wheaton to help their clients with immediate needs. First Church of Lombard UCC is a Faith and Community Partner of DuPagePads.

NEW MEMBERS

We will be welcoming new members on Sunday, May 17! If you would like information about becoming a member, please reach out to Pastor Jill [-pastorjill@firstchurchoflombard.org](mailto:pastorjill@firstchurchoflombard.org)

LILAC PARADE – WALKERS & RIDERS NEEDED

A group from First Church will march in Lombard's Lilac Parade on Sunday, May 17 at 1:30 PM. All ages and abilities are welcome (a car will be available for riders). This year our theme is "Open Doors since 1851". The parade is a great way to represent our church to the community and to advertise for the Pride Fest coming up on June 7. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer or email info@firstchurchoflombard.org.

MORE DOORS NEEDED FOR PRIDE FEST!

As we have done at every Pride Fest, First Church is preparing to make a powerful statement of welcome and inclusion during the annual Pride Fest. As part of our celebration, we will be painting doors to be displayed along Main Street—a longstanding symbol of sanctuary, invitation, and the open hearts of our congregation. Because the doors we had been using were in poor repair, we are again looking for six used (or new) doors to transform into works of art representing the many ways we say "all are welcome." To truly celebrate the beauty of diversity, we would love a variety of styles, sizes, and shapes. Interior doors, exterior doors, old farmhouse doors, or even small cabinet doors—if it swings open, we want to paint it! If you have an extra door gathering dust in your basement or garage, please consider donating it to this meaningful project. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org before bringing doors to the church, please!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: PRIDE FEST & SUMMER WORSHIP TIME

As a reminder, our summer worship time change is coming soon. Due to our Pride Fest event on Sunday, June 7, there will be no worship service that morning. We hope you will come out and be part of our Pride Fest celebration that day! Our summer worship time will begin the following Sunday, June 14, with service starting at 9:30 AM.

NEXT BOOK DISCUSSION COMING IN MAY!

Greetings Fellow Readers! FCL's Beyond Words Book Discussion will meet on Wednesday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *My Friends* by Fredrik Backman. 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!

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOLLYWOOD HISTORY AT FCL'S DOCUMENTARY NIGHT!

Before Pride Month begins, uncover the untold stories of Hollywood—starting with *The Celluloid Closet*. Join First Church of Lombard's Documentary, Dinner & Discussion Series on Friday, May 29, at 6:00 p.m. in the North Conference Room. We're kicking off Pride Month a few days early with a powerful documentary that reveals how early Hollywood shaped—and often silenced—onscreen portrayals of gay and lesbian lives. Bring your dinner, watch with us, and dive into the real history behind the reels.

Head to the North Conference Room (lower level); viewing not available via Zoom for copyright reasons. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for more information!

SAVE THE DATES FOR SUMMER FUN!

Summer will be here before we know it, and we have some special events planned.

Make sure to save these dates:

Sun. May 31 - Sabbatical Send-Off Ice Cream Social - Coordinated by Parish Life

Sun. July 26 - Trip to the Morton Arboretum - Coordinated by Jason Cooper

Fri. Aug. 28 - Mon. 31 - All Church Retreat to Tower Hill - Coordinated by Lynda and Eric Wilson

ADDITIONAL NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our littlest worshipers need loving caregivers on Sunday mornings, and you can help! We're seeking volunteers to serve from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., alongside our faithful Nursery Coordinator, Kathy Underwood. This is a joyful opportunity to play, cuddle, and care for infants and toddlers while their parents participate in worship. If you have a warm heart and a willingness to help our youngest children feel safe and loved, contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org about being part of this important ministry or sign up on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs.

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 after worship. 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

STOP BY TO FIND YOUR NEXT GREAT READ, RIGHT IN THE NARTHEX!

You are invited to explore the special book display in the Narthex, where you're sure to find something that catches your eye. All books are available to borrow right from the display or from FCL's own Lending Library, located on the Lower Level. Stop by, take a look, and let us help you discover your next favorite read!

GREEN TEAM – WEEKLY ARTICLE

Two researchers at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign have created a two-step process to manufacture sustainable aviation fuel from food waste/leftovers! The process results in 80% fewer emissions than traditional jet fuel.

IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

DONATIONS NEEDED

The Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants is asking for:

Men's clothing in small and medium sizes as well as shirts size large

Men's pants waist sizes 28 to 36 with an emphasis on smaller sizes

Boys clothing from size 3 to 16

Girls clothing from size 2 to 16

New underwear and socks, all genders and sizes

Bed linens--sheets, blankets, pillows all sizes

Towels

Cookware items especially pots and pans. (Please make sure they are scrubbed clean.)

Dishes and glassware

Items may be put in the blue bin outside sanctuary doors.

Contact Jeri Shaw with any questions at: 630-936-6668



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Volunteers for Sunday, May 3, 2026	Volunteers for Sunday, May 10, 2026
<u>Liturgist</u> Karen Eckhart	<u>Liturgist</u> Christine Tani
<u>Ushers</u> Jason Cooper Marianne McGuire	<u>Ushers</u> Dave Ivey Mark Meyer
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Jamie & Fritz Geiger	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Mary & Chris Kaufman
<u>Sound</u> Thomas Hammerschmidt	<u>Sound</u>
<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
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