

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
October 25, 2026 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**



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

Prelude on Thaxted

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

***GATHERING SONG**

Good Neighbor

Evan Craft

*We may not look the same, we might talk different too
Got a long, long list of differences between me and you
Different colors different stories even different politics
But God's calling us now to lay it all down get back to the heart of it*

Chorus:

*And be a good, good, good, good neighbor
Learn to love each other with the love of the Savior
Make room at the table and share the hope that we got
And be a good, good, good neighbor
And show the world we got a good God*

*I've read the good book every word in black and red
But is my faith alive if I live my life and I don't do what it says
Love your God with all your heart and soul, love your neighbor as yourself
And be Jesus to a broken world that's crying out for help [chorus]*

Bridge:
There's room for everybody in the family of God
There's room for everybody in the family of God
Make room at the table, share the hope that we got
'Cause there's room for everybody in the family of God, the family of God [chorus]

Ending:
And show the world we got a good God
And show the world we got a good God
There's room for everybody in the family of God
There's room for everybody in the family of God

***OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

The Queen's Prayer, Hawaii adapted

Loving God, your mercy reaches to the heavens, and your truth is beyond measure. When we are weighed down by sorrow or feel trapped by our struggles, you are our light and our strength. Look upon us with compassion instead of judgment. Forgive our failings, and wash away what keeps us from love. O God, shelter us in your care, surround us with your grace, and let peace be our gift, today and forever. 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

The Reason for My Worship

arr. Dave Williamson

through scripture

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.



The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come and see what the Lord has done,
the desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.

He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

through a sermon What I Learned on My Sabbatical: Part 2

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN

Be Still My Soul (NCH #488)

*Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide; in every change God faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best eternal friend, through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

*Be still, my soul: for God will undertake. To guide in future days as in the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know, how Jesus' power ruled them long ago.*

*Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here, when we shall be with God whom we adore,
with disappointment, no grief nor fear, sorrow replaced with joy forevermore.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG

I Need You Every Hour (NCH #517, vs. 1)

*I need you every hour, O God of grace;
The peace your voice affords, I now embrace.
I need you, how I need you! Every hour I need you;
O bless me now, my Savior; I come to you.*

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE 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** *To You, O God, All Creatures Sing (NCH #17, vs. 1 -4)*

*To you, O God, all creatures sing, and all creation, everything
Sings your praises, alleluia!
Your burning sun with golden beam, your silver moon with softer gleam
Sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*Your wind that blows the tempest by, your clouds that sail across the sky
Sing your praises, alleluia!
Your morning rises with a song, and lights of evening sing along,
Sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*Your flowing waters, crystal clear, make melodies for you to hear,
Sing your praises, alleluia!
Your fire, bountiful and bright, remembering your warmth and light,
Sings your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*To you, O God, day after day, your planet earth in every way,
Sings your praises, alleluia!
As savory fruit and fragrant flower show forth your glory and your power,
Singing praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

***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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The "pumpkin mums" on the altar this morning were donated by Val and Stephen Frank in celebration of their wedding, which was held yesterday evening, and in appreciation of all the support from this congregation. Please enjoy!

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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20 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
No.1377

MILKWEED SEEDS FROM FCL'S GARDENS AVAILABLE TODAY

Looking to attract butterflies to your garden next spring? Pick up a few milkweed seed pods from the sharing table in Fellowship Hall at coffee hour this Sunday! These seed pods were pulled right from our own church gardens. Milkweed is a host plant for monarch butterflies, as well as a number of native insects and other pollinators. You can either shake the seeds out in your garden now or hang onto the seeds until spring.

EIGHT BIBLE MYTHS MANY CHRISTIANS BELIEVE

This October, FCL is inviting you to join a four week Wednesday evening series called "Eight Bible Myths Many Christians Believe," based on a video from theologian Bart Ehrman. Each week we will gather at 7:00 p.m. to watch a short segment of the video and then have a friendly, no pressure conversation—no homework, no expertise required, just curiosity and an open mind.

A CALL TO VOTE PRAYED SERVICE

Ahead of the November election, a non-partisan interfaith prayer service will be held on Sunday, October 25 at 3PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church (545 S. Villa, Villa Park). This uplifting service will include speakers, readings, music and dance. Click [HERE](#) for a PDF about the event. For questions reach out to Susan Steinmiller at sssteinmiller36@yahoo.com.

GOOD FOOD, GREAT COMPANY AT COMMUNITY TABLE!

Good food tastes even better when shared with friends! All are welcome to Community Table on Wednesday, October 28, at 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall to enjoy a delicious meal, warm conversation, and plenty of laughter. Catch up with familiar faces or come make some new friends! We hope to see you there!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The annual Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering of the UCC supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants awarded to UCC churches and organizations. In addition, one-third of the Neighbors in Need offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM), the voice for American Indian people in the UCC.

Please help First Church of Lombard support this offering. Please make checks out to First Church of Lombard with "Neighbors in Need" in the memo line. You make a donation online at www.FCOL.org. Go to the top right and hit the "DONATE" button. Under the fund, select "UCC Offerings and then type "Neighbors in Need" in the memo box.

Learn more about the NIN offering at [Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering - United Church of Christ](#).

ALL SAINTS DAY

On Sunday, November 1st, we will remember those who have died by celebrating All Saints Day. During the service there will be a specific time to recognize those who have died in the past year as well as time to remember all those who have impacted our lives, though they are no longer with us. Please plan on attending this special service.

GIVING BAG COLLECTION HAS BEGUN!

First Church of Lombard is once again collecting items to create "Giving Bags" for those in need as the winter draws near! A box for collection is located in the Narthex for socks, hats, gloves, scarves, personal hygiene items, small snacks and more. The goal of these "Giving Bags" is to supply every driver with one or two bags in the car for use when they see someone in need -- an easy way to give out a drawstring bag filled with items to help those in need stay warm, clean, and fed. Items should be NEW and must be received by Sunday, November 29! See the bulletin board for a more complete list of needed items.

HEY BAKERS AND ASPIRING BAKERS!

Get your pie tins out, and your favorite recipe(s) ready! First Church of Lombard is known for serving homemade PIES at the Christmas/Mistletoe Mart. Will you help by baking a pie (or two)? The crust may be store bought, but the pies **must** be homemade!

You may bring your pie(s) to Fellowship Hall kitchen on Friday, November 6th between 4 - 7 p.m., or Saturday November 7th between 8 - 9:30 a.m. Please label your pie and let us know if it needs to be refrigerated.

Please RSVP to Lynda Wilson at lswilson411@gmail.com with the kind of pie(s) you will bring, and how many. Thank you for your donation!

INSPIRING MUSIC, INSPIRING LIVES: TAKE TWO! SUNDAY MORNING FAITH EXPLORATION SERIES

We are excited to be bringing back a special opportunity for spiritual exploration and connection this fall! The Adult Faith Exploration Team is bringing back the Sunday morning theme that was so well-loved this past spring: "Inspiring Music, Inspiring Lives." This time, the series will run through November 8, offering another opportunity to explore the powerful intersection of music and personal meaning! Each week at 9:00 a.m., a different facilitator will share a few songs that hold deep significance in their life, with discussion between each song about the themes, memories, and inspiration behind the selections. We invite you to start your

Sunday mornings with us any week you can, to listen deeply, and to share your own reflections. Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions or if you would like a chance to present your own musical selections!

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Mark Your Calendars! This year's All Women's Retreat will be held November 13 through 15 at Tower Hill Camp and Retreat Center in Sawyer, Michigan. ALL women are invited to gather around our theme of "Candles, Cake, and Confetti! The Gift of Another Year." Come enjoy the beauty of nature as well as fellowship, food, laughter, and a chance for renewal.

Space is limited! The cost of \$195 covers 2 nights stay, 4 meals, and all activities and is due upon sign-up, held at Coffee Hour after worship on Sundays in October. You can also sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/FCLWomensRetreat2026>. Full and partial scholarships are available by contacting Val Sutton, Educational Ministries Director at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org.

BEYOND WORDS BOOK DISCUSSION

Greetings Fellow Readers! FCL's Beyond Words Book Discussion will meet on Wednesday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *The Kingdom, the Power and the Glory* by Tim Alberta. All are welcome... even if you don't finish the book! We will meet both in-person or via Zoom. Copies are available in the church office for a cost of \$12 each. Please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for Zoom links, 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! ALSO, PLEASE NOTE: We are now looking for books to read at our 2027 Beyond Words Book Discussions! If you have a suggestion for next year's selections, email them to vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org so I can add them to the ballot!

SAVE THE DATE! HANGING OF THE GREENS

Help us get ready for the Advent season! Join us on Sunday, November 22, beginning at 11:30 AM, as we decorate the sanctuary and bring a little holiday cheer to First Church!

Whether you love decorating or just enjoy being part of the fun, we'd love to have you join us. Sign up on the bulletin board. See Lorinda Ivey if you have any questions.

JOIN THE CRIBBAGE CLUB – ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

Are you looking for a fun, low-key way to connect with others over a classic card game? Whether you've been playing cribbage for decades or you're not entirely sure what a "crib" even is, we'd love to have you at FCL's new Cribbage Club! We're gathering a group of people who want to play cribbage once a month. Nothing too serious—just good company, friendly competition, and a chance to enjoy a timeless game. Beginners are absolutely welcome; the only requirement is a willingness to learn and have fun. Right now, we're simply trying to find out who would be interested in joining. Once we have a list of interested folks, we'll reach out and find a mutually agreeable date and time that works for everyone once per month. To learn more, contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org.

TOYS/GIFTS TO A GOOD HOME...

We (First Church of Lombard and Outreach House) are partnering with Love Christian Connection Center and Toy Express for the 14th 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 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. Gifts should be new, unwrapped, and age appropriate for children 12 years old or younger. You can donate these gifts from now through December 6th.

Love Christian Connection Center will collect the 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 lswilson411@gmail.com
Thank you in advance, for your generous hearts!

NARTHEX BOOK DISPLAY

All 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!

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

YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING CAN GIVE BACK!

What if checking off your holiday shopping list could also help support First Church? Well, here's some good news—it can! With our ongoing RaiseRight Gift Card Fundraiser, everyday purchases can make a difference without costing you anything extra!

And with the holidays right around the corner, now is the perfect time to get started! Think gift cards for teachers, coworkers, friends, family, stocking stuffers, or even those impossible-to-shop-for people on your list. (We all have at least one!)

Planning a holiday dinner? Buying groceries? Dining out or booking a getaway? You can do all of that while helping raise money for First Church!

Here's the best part: You're already spending the money anyway, so why not make those purchases count twice? Participating retailers give a percentage of eligible purchases back to First Church. No extra spending, no extra effort, just everyday shopping with a little extra purpose! **Orders will be placed weekly through December 8th** for everyday use and holiday gifts.

Visit [RaiseRight.com](https://www.RaiseRight.com) and use our enrollment code 3175LEFE9427, or simply scan the QR code below to get started.



Still have questions? Contact Bea Castillo at bcastillo@firstchurchoflombard.org to learn more!

IN OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

2026 ANNUAL ABRAHAMIC DINNER

We warmly invite you to join us for our 2026 Annual Abrahamic Dinner at the Islamic Foundation. Our theme this year is "What Does it Mean to be a Good Neighbor."

We hope you can join us for an evening of fellowship, discussions and talks from our inspiring guest speakers.

The flyer for the event can be found [HERE](#). Please sign up soon as possible, as the seats are bound to fill up fast.

Date: Thursday, Nov 5th, 2026

Location: Islamic Foundation Banquet Hall, 300 Highridge Rd, Villa Park, IL

Time: 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM (Dinner will be served)

Please RSVP using the following link: <https://forms.gle/TmnmCkBFubwHnQ2F9>

We look forward to welcoming you to this special gathering!

PLANNING AHEAD: DONATIONS FOR ICDI

The Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants (ICDI) is collecting several items in the coming months to support local immigrant families.

For those who like to plan ahead, here's what will be needed:

- Clothing — Late Summer & Early Fall
Boys' clothing and men's clothing in sizes Small and Medium.
- Thanksgiving — Due November 16
Grocery store gift cards to help families with their Thanksgiving meals. Please place gift cards in an envelope labeled "ICDI GC" and bring them to the church office for safekeeping.
- Christmas — Due December 3
We'll once again be collecting specific wrapped gifts for individual families. A Christmas wish list with more information will be coming soon! Clothing and Halloween costume donations may be placed in the blue bin outside the narthex.

Questions? Please contact Jeri Shaw at jeri.shaw@icloud.com. Thank you for helping ICDI support families in our community throughout the upcoming season.



Volunteers for Sunday, October 25, 2026	Volunteers for Sunday, November 1, 2026
<u>Liturgist</u> Lynda Wilson	<u>Liturgist</u> Matt Kirsh
<u>Ushers</u> Jason Cooper	<u>Ushers</u> Matt Kirsh Becky Kirsh
<u>Acolyte</u> Jackson Alfano	<u>Acolyte</u> Jackson Alfano
<u>Coffee Hour</u> Meredith & Christopher Meder	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Corinne Flemm Judy Kline Lynda Wilson
<u>Sound</u> Thomas Hammerschmidt	<u>Sound</u> Bob Cochran
<u>Live Stream</u> Eric Wilson	<u>Live Stream</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