



WERE YOU THERE?

Sunday, March 19
Traditional Worship

WELCOME!

We're glad you're here!

A Few Things About Today's Worship

This service is live-streamed to YouTube

If you want to ensure that you are not seen in the live-stream video, you can sit on the back left (as you look at the stage) side of the sanctuary.

Kids First is where kids worship and learn in their own age-appropriate setting. The locations are listed below. Children are always welcome to remain in the service as well.

Nursery- Room 217 | Preschool- Room 222 | K-3rd Grade - Community Room
4th & 5th Grade - Room 106

Welsey Cafe

Join us down in Wesley Hall after service for light refreshments. Catch up with an old friend or make a new one!

**First
Church**
A United Methodist Congregation

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

236 W. Crystal Lake Ave. | Crystal Lake, IL 60014
FirstChurchCL.org | 815.459.0785

Worship Today

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

FAITH PROMISE UPDATE: Global Hope Partner

-Kevin Williams

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“All The Way My Savior Leads Me” - arranged by Larry Shackley
performed by Darrell Dragoo, pianist

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG

“The Church’s One Foundation” Hymn #545

SCRIPTURE & PRAYER - Colossians 1:15-22

-Kevin Williams

GIFT OF MUSIC

“I Speak Jesus” - arranged by Joseph M. Martin
performed by the Celebration Singers with Dan Foster, soloist

SCRIPTURE - Acts 22:1-16

MESSAGE: “Were You There When Jesus Restored Your Relationship With God?”

-Pastor Lisa Kruse-Safford

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

OFFERTORY

“O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus” - arranged by Larry Shackley
performed by the Acclamation Ringers with Erin Foster, flutist

CLOSING SONG

“Amazing Grace” Hymn #378 v. 1-4

BLESSING

NEWS & EVENTS

NEW - We're already thinking about VBS | First Church VBS 2023 | June 12-14 | 9-11:30 a.m.

First Church's VBS 2023 theme is *Pets Unleashed*: where we discover Jesus cares "fur" us! We'll enjoy exploring God's Word in fresh new ways, and you're invited to join in! There are plenty of opportunities to share your gifts: from beforehand-behind-the-scenes options to hands-on, days-of, having loads of fun with all the kids choices. Follow the link in the weekly e-news to learn more about volunteering for Pets Unleashed VBS or get in touch with Karen at kklaus@firstchurchcl.org

NEW - Garden Team Forming

The goal of our garden committee is to serve the church congregation by providing and maintaining beautiful, sacred and inspiring outdoor spaces for congregation socialization and worship as well as places for quiet reflection. Gardening projects cover a wide variety of opportunities including vision work, planning, planting, digging, clearing, weeding and other maintenance. Projects only require a modest time commitment of a half to full day, with occasional projects that may extend over a longer period of time. Most tasks can be done on your own schedule. Persons can volunteer with a small group, with friends, or individually.

If you'd like to join, please contact Jeanna in the office at jfrancis@firstchurchcl.org or 815-459-0785, ext. 110.

Radio Gone Missing

We are missing one of our two-way radios used for Sundays, Outreach Events and Buddy Break. Radio marked #4 is currently lost. If you have recently served and worn a radio, please help us locate this unit by checking here at church, in your cars, and your homes. If found, please turn in to Karen Klaus. Thank you!

First Church Scholarship Program | Apply by April 1

The First Church Scholarship Program is available to youth and adults of First Church who are pursuing a post-secondary education, certification, or licensure program at an accredited institution of higher learning. Scholarships are awarded based on preparation, spiritual commitment, and economic need. Full details and application are on our website and via our weekly email newsletter.

Eggstravaganza!

Sunday, April 2 | 2-5 p.m. | First Church | [sign up online](#)

Eggstravaganza is a fun-filled Easter experience for the whole family! Join us on Sunday, April 2, from 2-5 p.m. at First Church, where we'll have a live Easter celebration, games and prizes, music, art, snacks, and an egg hunt. Tickets are free and available on our website and via the weekly newsletter. Willing to help prep or serve at this event? Contact Karen Klaus (kklaus@firstchurchcl.org).

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 2

Services at 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.

This service will celebrate Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and end with the Passion part of the worship service and helping us prepare for the events of what happened on Jesus's journey to the cross and his ultimate Victory.

Maundy (Holy) Thursday, April 6

Service at 7 p.m.

We will journey through Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples through a Holy Communion experience, reflection on his time in the Garden of Gethsemane and remembering his ultimate betrayal and arrest. The service will end with a stark visual and auditory experience. Childcare up to 5 years old will be available.

Good Friday, April 7

Service at 7 p.m.

This service will be led by the choir and orchestra with a cantata called *In My Place*, that will take us right up to the cross where we will experience the crucifixion, as the composer of the work puts it, "as if we ourselves had grabbed a hammer and driven one of the nails into His very body". Join us for this powerful service of music, readings, and contemplation. Childcare up to 5 years old will be available.

Easter Morning, April 9

Services at 8, 9:30, and 11 a.m.

We will celebrate the victory of Jesus over death and what it means for us through incredible music, relevant scripture, and an inspiring message. The 8 & 9:30 a.m. services will be led by the choir, orchestra, handbells and organ. The 11 a.m. service will be led by our praise team. Children's programming and childcare will run all morning and we'll have a petting zoo available outside as well.

For the most up-to-date information about events and programs at First Church, subscribe to our weekly email newsletter. You can do this quickly by scanning the QR code on the Get Connected Card located in the seatback of every pew or contact the office. You can also contact Jeanna in the office at jfrancis@firstchurchcl.org

Ways To Give

1. During the service, offering plates will be passed.
2. On your way in and out of worship today, you'll see a small brown box on the registration table. You can leave your gifts/offerings in there.
3. If you prefer to manage your giving electronically, you can give online at FirstChurchCL.org/giving. There you can set up a one-time or recurring gift. You can also do this via Realm.
4. If you'd like to give right now as you're reading this, text "GIVE236" to 73256 and follow the prompts.

Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of First Church!

OUR MISSION:
Devoted to Christ. Connected to others. Sent to serve.