

First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
Virtual Worship

August 2, 2020 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY



TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRELUDE

Down by the River

Lawrence Underwood

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

GATHERING SONG

*Immortal Invisible, God Only Wise
Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious your great name we praise.*

OPENING PRAYER

One: God, you see us. You see our struggles and our difficulties. You see our possibilities and our promise. Connect the dots for us, O God. Soften the hard spots with your blessing. Call us in our wandering to hear you say our names. Satisfy our longings. For you are a good God, a God present in the scramble, and in the end, you always, have a blessing for us. For this and so much more, we give you thanks, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through scripture

Genesis 32:22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, 'Let me go, for the day is breaking.' But Jacob said, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' So he said to him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Jacob.' Then the man said, 'You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.' Then Jacob asked him, 'Please tell me your name.' But he said, 'Why is it that you ask my name?' And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, 'For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.' The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

through a sermon

'Wrestlemania: Bible Edition'

through an anthem

My Tribute

Kecia Waldschmidt

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER (repeat after me)

One: God, there is no lockdown on your blessing.

All: God, there is no lockdown on your blessing.

One: There is no quarantine on grace.

All: There is no quarantine on grace.

One: Send your Spirit of life and love,

All: Send your Spirit of life and love,

One: Upon every table where your child shelters in place,

All: Upon every table where your child shelters in place,

One: That this Bread may be broken and gathered in love.

All: That this Bread may be broken and gathered in love.

One: And this Cup poured out to give hope to all.

All: And this Cup poured out to give hope to all.

One: Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you.

All: Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you.

One: Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you.

All: Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you.

One: Jesus is risen! Alleluia. Amen.

All: Jesus is risen! Alleluia. Amen

BREAKING THE BREAD AND POURING THE CUP

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.

SHARING THE GIFTS

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

One: Spirit of Christ, you have blessed our tables and our lives. May the eating of this Bread give us courage to speak faith and act love, not only in church sanctuaries, but in your precious world, and may the drinking of this Cup renew our hope even in the midst of pandemic. Wrap your hopeful presence around all whose bodies, spirits and hearts need healing, and remind us to live with the hope of resurrection. Amen

SENT FORTH TO PROCLAIM GOD'S GRACE

PARTING SONG

Lord Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
trav'ling through this wilderness.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fragile
Lawrence Underwood

Arr. Lawrence Underwood

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Published Weekly

August 2, 2020

220 South Main Street

Lombard, Illinois 60148

No. 1063

TEST RUN TO RESUME IN-PERSON-WORSHIP

On Sunday, August 9th, we will have a test run of in-person worship with all the appropriate procedures in place to make the experience as safe as possible. Fifty people (including staff & volunteers) may gather in the sanctuary, and another 50 people may watch the service live-streamed in Hatfield Hall. Worship will continue to be available online to watch from home. Specific procedures can be found on the website, in the Agape from Afar newsletter, and in a church-wide email that will go out next week.

SAFETY TEAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

How does it sound to be able to help with assisting people to navigate our in-person worship safely? The responsibilities would be reminding people to remain socially distanced, wear a mask, directing people to their seats, and dismissing people at the end of worship.

Volunteers would serve on a rotating basis, and training will be provided. Anyone who is interested, please contact the office at info@firstchurchoflombard.org

OUTDOOR COFFEE HOUR

Hopefully, today is another beautiful day that makes an outdoor Coffee Hour a reality at 11:15 AM. With a lawn chair, coffee or snacks, and a mask, it is possible to enjoy the company of church family, all of whom will be observing safe social distancing.

AGAPE FROM AFAR

Please check emails on Wednesday for connecting with Pastor Jill's "Agape from Afar" with the information about the scripture that will be used for her message on Sunday. There are also some suggestions for meditation and questions to help stimulate thought on what the Bible is saying.

BIBLE STUDY

There will be a Bible verse study every Wednesday in August at 7 PM via Zoom, with the verse being chosen from the weekly guide from the United Church of Christ suggestions for Sunday scripture. Please contact Val Sutton at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for the Zoom link.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR DAY

If yardwork or exterior maintenance are getting to be more than is comfortable for a family, Saturday, September 19th, is an answer via "Love Your Neighbor Day" sponsored by the Christian Church of Villa Park. Please contact them on their website at www.ccvponline.net or by sending an email to loveyourneighbor15@yahoo.com or by leaving a message at 630-833-7262. To guarantee the safety of home owners and volunteers, all work will be done on the outside of homes this year, employing social distancing.

Those who are managing this project are asking for volunteers to be a part of the work crews for the day, using the contact information listed above.

Deadline for applications for having work done is August 28th.

ANNUAL YOUTH COMMUNITY CAR WASH

The Youth Community will be welcoming all comers with cars that need exterior washing on Sunday August 23rd, from 11 AM-1:00 PM in our parking lot. The funds raised will be used to subsidize the costs of this year's youth activities. It doesn't have to be a First Church car to be a candidate for washing, so please tell friends about this day so that they may benefit from the services of our young people.

CROP WALK

There is still a call for team leaders for the Annual CROP Walk which will be held on October 4th. Volunteers are asked to attend a Zoom meeting on Tuesday, August 11th. Further information is available at www.crophungerwalk.org/lombardil, and will include how this virtual walk will be conducted. Please consider being a part of this effort to raise money to combat hunger globally, knowing that a portion of the funds raised will be used at five local food pantries.

IN TOUCH WITH OUTREACH

The Outreach House has begun conversation with the Lombard/Villa Park Food Pantry to consider ways in which the two agencies might better coordinate their efforts to serve our most vulnerable community members. We continue to serve as our outreach ministries grow...and the need for outreach continues to be paramount in our lives.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Summer office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 AM until 2 PM and Friday from 9 AM until noon, but we are still trying to limit the number of people who are entering church by asking that a call be made to the office prior to entering the building. Staff will be able to be contacted by phone or email during working hours.

FOOD PANTRY

Yes, we're still gathering boxes for use at the Food Pantry, and our time for collecting is Wednesday from 2-5 PM at the our parking lot doors. If weather isn't being friendly, the back doors will be open so that the boxes may be left in the stairwell area. Please flatten the boxes (except for the firm boxes for holding reams of paper) to make them more easily transportable. Please contact Val Sutton at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org if it's possible to be helpful in taking the boxes over to the Methodist Church at 5 PM.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Barb Barta wishes to extend extravagant thanks for the many ways that she was honored on her July birthday...from the flamingos in her yard, the honking parade, the multitude of phone calls and vocal renditions of the birthday song (including the one from the many who recorded it for the Sunday worship), balloons, cards, food, and expressions of love. She was humbled by all of it and will remember it for a long long time.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The next News and Notes will be on August 16th, with additional issues coming every two weeks.