

First Church of Lombard United Church of Christ *Virtual Worship*

May 24, 2020 – Ascension

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY



PRELUDE

His Eye is on the Sparrow

Lawrence Underwood, Oboe

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

GATHERING SONG

*Hail the Day that Sees Christ Rise
Hail the day that sees Christ rise, Alleluia!
to a throne in paradise. Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!*

OPENING PRAYER

One: *God of amazing visions, prepare our hearts and our spirits this day to receive the Holy Spirit. Help make us ready to be your disciples in all that we do, say, and think. We confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. When we stand looking toward heaven and feel far from you especially during this time apart, draw near in mercy to forgive us and fill us with your peace. Amen.*

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Val Sutton

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through a mission moment

Race Amity Day

Jeri Shaw

through scripture

Acts 1:6-11

So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

through a sermon

“Is this the time?”

through an anthem

All Belong Here

Jeff Terpstra

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

There is a Fountain

Lawrence Underwood, Oboe

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer Requests

Prayers of the People – Pastoral Prayer

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 Shall Reign
Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run,
God's realm shall stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms Lawrence Underwood, Oboe

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Published Weekly

May 24, 2020

220 South Main Street

Lombard, Illinois 60148

No. 1057

BUSY SUNDAYS AT FIRST CHURCH

While we may not be able to be together, Sundays offer lots of chances to “be together” via computer. Starting at 9 AM and continuing through June, the Adult Faith Exploration group provides an opportunity to share in “Looking for Light”, guided each week by a different member of our church who chooses a video and then leads the discussion that ensues. Please contact Val Sutton at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org to volunteer to facilitate one of the sessions and for the Zoom link that lets everyone connect for the gathering as well as the connection for viewing the video prior to the Sunday meeting.

Whether one chooses to “come to church” at 10:15 AM or at a later time, Pastor Jill leads the worship service and is supported by music produced by a variety of our talented musicians. “Attending” by going to www.fcol.org is easily done, and it’s also a good way to share Pastor Jill’s message with family and friends.

Coffee Hour has a different look to it presently, but it’s a good way to see friends and have a chance to talk with them, either in the whole group or in the smaller groups that encourage conversation. Coffee isn’t provided, but we trust that that can be handled easily at home. Watch Friday’s email for the connection for being part of this hour. If the email doesn’t show up, please contact Bea Castillo at bcastillo@firstchurchoflombard.org so that she can send it onward.

COMMENCEMENT TIME

While commencement programs have been canceled this year, we will use June 14th as a time to recognize our graduates of all levels. Please let us know via info@firstchurchoflombard.org about any students, whether they be kids or adults, who have achieved graduate status so that we can recognize their accomplishments on this day.

A UNIQUE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Reservations HAVE BEGUN for Cafe Hope Vacation Bible School Carry Out Kits! See www.FCOL.org to sign up kids in preschool and elementary school to “Cook Up a Better Tomorrow” with the games, stories, activities, and more they will access in classic takeout boxes. Kits will be ready for pick-up at First Church on Monday, July 13th, from 9 to 11:00 AM. Be sure to make reservations for this delicious fun today! Contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions.

AGAPE FROM AFAR

On Wednesday, Pastor Jill sends an email to share the scripture that will be the basis of her Sunday message. The scripture will be listed, plus some suggestions for reflections that will help make the scripture have more personal meaning, plus a prayer.

FOOD PANTRY BOXES

There is a serious need for boxes for the Food Pantry, and Wednesdays from 2-5 PM is the time to help ease that need by bringing boxes to our parking lot and leaving them at the door. If it’s raining, the doors will be open so that the boxes may be left in the stairwell area. Boxes should be no larger than 12x18x9 (the size that holds 12 reams of paper) and should be collapsed, unless they’re actually the paper boxes.

COUNCIL CORNER, MAY 18TH

The Outreach House is busy, and is able to assist the same amount of families, even with shortened service hours!

Church services will continue to be available at 10:15 AM.

The Maple Street Chapel is celebrating 150 years on May 31st.

Membership support continues to be on budget.

The Church Council is working on plans for what church will look like in the future.

Denise Dabisch, Clerk

Boxes will be taken to the Food Pantry at 5 PM, and that means that we can use some help in the transporting process. Please contact Val Sutton at vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org to volunteer or to ask questions about this process.

BEING A PART OF THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor Jill is encouraging volunteers who have an interest in reading a prayer or scripture reading for the Sunday service to contact her. All ages and abilities are welcome, and participation requires just a phone or computer with video recording capabilities. Please email Pastor Jill at mailto:pastorjill@firstchurchoflombard.org to let her know if this is something that is of interest.

A SPECIAL AGAPE SHOWING

Looking for smiling faces...and Agape shirts! The next time that an Agape shirt is the outfit of the day, snap a picture and email it to vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for a special project that Val Sutton is working on. Or maybe there are some old pictures showing someone from First Church wearing any style of Agape shirt, sweatshirt, etc. Be sure to send them on to Val.

ATTENTION, ALL HARRY POTTER FANS

Grab a Butterbeer and get wands at the ready for a downright magical game of Harry Potter trivia on Sunday, June 14th! The fun will begin at 2:30 PM via Zoom...and costumes are encouraged, of course. Please contact vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org with questions or to RSVP. Zoom link will be sent closer to the date.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Due to the questionable timing that we are experiencing, the Church Council has chosen to postpone the pictorial directory that had been scheduled for September. It WILL happen. Just not now.

IN TOUCH WITH OUTREACH

Adjusting to Coronavirus! Since March 18th, the Lombard/Villa Park Food Pantry has been operating a drive-through distribution to minimize contact for guests and volunteers and respect social distancing. Guests receive a pre-packed box of non-perishable staple foods as well as a prepacked box of meat, produce, milk and eggs. Between March 18th and April 17th, there were 657 visits from 471 unduplicated households. This is double the average numbers before the coronavirus crisis caused job loss and hardship for many of our neighbors. If you, or someone you know, are in need of food or other assistance, please contact Kris DeSmedt at kdesmedt@firstchurchoflombard.org. Conversations are confidential. Resources are available.

NAME THAT MOUSE

Have an idea of a name for FCL's Church Mouse, star of the recent series of Virtual Sunday School videos? Submit your idea at <http://tinyurl.com/NameTheChurchMouse>