

**First Church of Lombard
United Church of Christ
In-person and Virtual Worship
July 25, 2021– Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**



PRELUDE

Rock of My Salvation

Teresa Mueller

TIME OF SHARING & CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

GATHERING FOR PRAISE AND PRAYER

GATHERING SONG

Take My Life, God, Let it be (vs. 1, 4)

Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.

Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.

Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's community.

OPENING PRAYER

God of our hopes and dreams, we are empty, and long to be filled; we are hungry, and long to be fed; we are lost, and long to be found. Gather us into your love, and pick up the pieces of our lives, just as Jesus gathered up the fragments of the five loaves and two fish that remained after feeding the five thousand. Call us anew to offer whatever we have with compassion so that we may find our true nourishment in Jesus, the bread of heaven. Amen.

SIGNS OF PEACE

VBS RECAP

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

through Staying Connected at First Church

through scripture

John 6:1-15

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

through a sermon

"What's in Your Basket?"

Val Sutton

through an anthem

Pass it On

Lorinda Ivey



First Church of Lombard
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

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

Take my Gifts (vs. 1, 3)

*Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!*

*Take whatever I can offer—gifts that I have yet to find,
Skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,
Things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:
Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

In Christ Alone

arr. Mark Hayes

NEWS AND NOTES

FIRST CHURCH OF LOMBARD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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220 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60148
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REMINDER – NEWS & NOTES ARE BI-WEEKLY IN THE SUMMER

IN TOUCH WITH OUTREACH

Let's Get Cooking! Community Table has targeted September 8 for re-opening our Wednesday evening meal program. This outreach program connects those in need of nourishment and company with our caring First Church of Lombard family. Each week a homemade meal is prepared and served by volunteers in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

We are looking for committed volunteers to take a turn, rotating weeks and tasks. As they say, many hands make for light work. If you are willing to raise your hand and us help out, please Contact Denise Dabisch at ddabisch@hotmail.com.

BEYOND WORDS BOOK DISCUSSION

Books are now available for FCL's next Beyond Words Book Discussion, coming Wednesday, September 15 at 6:45 p.m. Pick up a copy of The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson in the office for \$12 each. From Amazon: "In this beautifully written masterwork, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life." **We will read Parts 1 – 3 for this discussion.**

CALLED TO CARE UPDATE

Pastor Jill, Darlene Threewitt, and Dan Jares meet once a month to update each other on those in the congregation facing challenges, especially regarding health issues. While in person visits by our "care givers" have been suspended, many of the caregivers have been reaching out via phone calls periodically. The ministry has also been sending cards and delivering goodie bags (thanks Parish Life!) over the past several months. We held a workshop via Zoom in February for any interested in delivering care and concern during the pandemic. In addition, there have been rides to appointments and food delivered to those in need. As our congregation continues to mature, we'd welcome others to volunteer to help with the ministry. Please let Pastor Jill, Darlene, or Dan know if you can help.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR DAY

We are looking for Home Owners and Volunteers for Love Your Neighbor Day on Saturday, September 18th, 2021. (Rain date is September 25, 2021) If you, or someone you know are a homeowner in the Villa Park/Lombard area and are having difficulty keeping up with work around your home because of financial or physical limitations and could benefit from a group of people volunteering at your home for a day, fill out the homeowner's application [HERE](#). Applications are accepted based on the number of volunteers who sign up. The deadline to sign-up for homeowners is August 20, 2021.

If you would like to volunteer to work with a crew helping out your neighbors, please click [HERE](#) for the volunteer's application. For more information on Love Your Neighbor Day, visit <https://www.ccvponline.net/love-your-neighbor-day> or email them at loveyourneighbor15@yahoo.com. You may also leave a message at 630-833-7262.

FIRST CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We need **YOU** to make our directory complete! Please sign up using the link below for your professional photography session. Photography will take place right here at First Church.

There are three days in August and three days in September to choose from:

Monday, August. 9th - Wednesday, August 11th:

1:45pm to 7:45pm

Wednesday, September 15th - Friday, September 17th:

1:45pm to 7:45pm on Wednesday and Thursday

11:45am-5:45pm on Friday

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/FCLdirectory> to schedule your appointment.

If you don't wish to sign-up online for your photo session, feel free to sign up before or after worship each Sunday starting June 27th or call Jean Reneau at 630.728.3742 for assistance or questions.

A SUMMER OF COMPASSION

A Summer of Compassion is coming to FCL each Wednesday in July and August! Plan now to gather each week at 7 p.m. in person or on Zoom to look ahead to that coming Sunday's Scripture reading -- and seek what there is to learn about compassion! Email vsutton@firstchurchoflombard.org for details, including Zoom links.

WE NEED YOUR CANDID PHOTOS

We are working on a new pictorial Church Directory. The opening pages of every church directory we create, has fun candid photos of our church family. We need your help to make these pages complete. Please forward any church related digital photos you have to: info@firstchurchoflombard.org So, if you have photos from the last year or so that show a glimpse of our church family or our life at church, please share! Thanks from Fritz and Jean.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

It is with heavy hearts that we share that David Michaels passed away peacefully on Tuesday. There will be no services. If you would like to honor his memory, the family has requested donations be made to First Church of Lombard and/or the American Heart Association.

His obituary can be found here: <https://www.brustfuneralhome.com/obituary/David-Michaels>

Please keep his wife, Donna, his stepdaughters, Nichole and Stephanie, and his family and friends in your prayers.