

WELCOME, GUESTS!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

Please sign the Friendship Pad, pass it along the pew, and introduce yourself to those around you after the service. Stop by the Welcome Center in the Narthex (lobby) to pick up information that will acquaint you with our church services and programs. You are also invited to join the conversation on Facebook, at facebook.com/firstpresah, and Twitter, at [@FirstPresAH](https://twitter.com/FirstPresAH). We look forward to connecting with you again.

CHILD CARE

Children of all ages are warmly welcomed and encouraged to participate in worship. Child care is available (infants through age four) in the Christian Education Wing (8:45 am – 11:45 am).

CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

From September through May, Sunday morning Christian education classes are held for all ages. These include classes for preschool, elementary, middle school, and high school students, as well as education and discussion groups for adults. To learn more, visit firstpresah.org or call the church office at 847-255-5900.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

Large print bulletins, large print hymn packets, and hearing amplifiers are available from the ushers.

IMPORTANT WORSHIP REMINDERS

Please silence cell phones and refrain from taking photos or recording the worship service. Services are webcast live at firstpresah.org/media/live-stream. To download or listen to a podcast of today's sermon (available soon), visit firstpresah.org/media/podcast. Past sermons and other educational broadcasts are available through the Media section of our website.

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
Organized in 1855*



HERITAGE

“My life is a story about who God is and
what God does in a human heart.”
—Anonymous

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 14, 2018
11:00 AM

Choose love. Be the light. Change the world.

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights
302 N. Dunton Avenue • Arlington Heights, IL 60004
847-255-5900 • www.firstpresah.org • mail@firstpresah.org



*The prelude is your invitation to quiet preparation
for the worship of Almighty God.*

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PRELUDE “Sonata No. 3, Andante Tranquillo” *Felix Mendelssohn*

WELCOME Alex Lang

✠CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 103)

One: Come and we will bless the Lord.

All: God forgives our sins and heals our diseases.

One: God redeems us.

All: God crowns us with love and mercy.

One: Come and we will bless the Lord together.

✠HYMN 403 “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” Unser Herrscher

CALL TO CONFESSION Judy Hockenberry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we think that when we follow certain rules, everything will work out. We think that when we can list things as “right” or “wrong” we will be able to earn eternal life. Jesus teaches us a new way. Jesus asks us to change our hearts. That is scary and we confess that we are more comfortable when things are black and white. Forgive our inability to live into your love. Forgive our unwillingness to follow your rules that demand we seek justice for others and love unconditionally. Change our hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

SILENT CONFESSION

...in Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

✠GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen, Amen.

✠PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

COMMUNITY LIFE

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Judy Hockenberry

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 27:45-51
(Pew Bible, p. 811) Judy Hockenberry
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “He that Shall Endure” *Felix Mendelssohn*
“*He that shall endure to the end, shall be saved.*”
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 23:13-22
(Pew Bible, p. 804) Alex Lang
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “Jesus Believers” Alex Lang

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Brief Statement of Faith)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

✠HYMN 729 “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” I Want To Be A Christian

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE TC Anderson

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “And All the Earth Shall Own Him Lord” *Parry, arr. Bock*
“*And did those feet in ancient time walk upon Israel’s mountains green? And did the Christ of heaven come down? Was God in flesh both heard and seen? And did He die to prove His love? And did He rise again more powerful still? And was his rule on earth started there upon Golgotha’s tragic hill? Bring me my bow of burning gold! Bring me my arrows of desire! Bring me my spear! O clouds unfold! Bring me my Chariot of Fire! I will not cease to spread His light: My faith a shield, His Word my sword; ‘Til Christ, my God, is crowned as King, And all the earth shall own Him Lord!*”
Chancel Choir

✠DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GOING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

✠HYMN 805 “Come Sing to God” Ellacombe

✠BENEDICTION Alex Lang

POSTLUDE “Sonata No. 3, Maestoso” *Felix Mendelssohn*

✠Please stand as you are able.

Preaching: Alex Lang

Greeter: Tom Carroll

Ushers: Dave Crim (head usher), Frank Morrone, Kaori Ozaki, Jan Richardson, Kazue Sono

Flowers: Presbyterian Women—In honor of those who serve

Pastors: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson

Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson

Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban