

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 (8:15 am – 12:15 pm).

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.

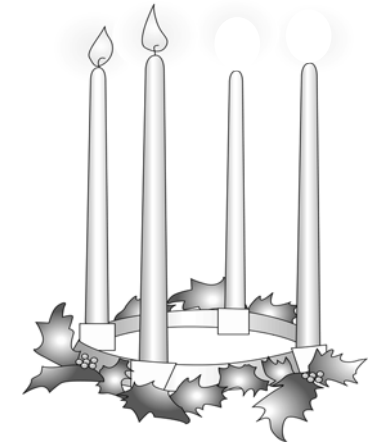
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

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



HERITAGE

“Experience proves that in this life peace and satisfaction are had, not by the listless but by those who are fervent in God's service. And rightly so. For in their effort to overcome themselves and to rid themselves of self-love, they rid themselves of the roots of all passion and unrest.”
—Saint Ignatius

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2017
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 “Carol of the Bells” *arr. Douglas E. Wagner*
“Patapan” *arr. Martha Lynn Thompson*
Chancel Hand Bell Choir; Jo Christian and Nick Pulikowski, directors

WELCOME Alex Lang

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

✠HYMN 82 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Hyfrydol

CALL TO CONFESSION Judy Hockenberry

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of peace, we admit that we often choose the chaos of this world rather than your peace that passes understanding. We admit that we think we can do everything ourselves and we forget to ask for help. We admit that life is extraordinarily difficult and too often we feel unsettled, lost, and alone. Forgive us for our desire to have things our own way. Forgive us when we choose chaos over peace. Forgive us when we fail to reach out for the help we need. Help us, instead, to live into community where your peace will reign.

SILENT CONFESSION

...in Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

✠GLORY TO GOD (Hymn 583)

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

✠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 2 Chronicles 36:15-21
(Pew Bible, p. 365) Judy Hockenberry
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “Who Is He in Yonder Stall?” *arr. Dan Edwards*
Chancel Hand Bell Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 45:1-4
(Pew Bible, p. 588) Alex Lang
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “The 2nd Kingdom: Isaiah and Cyrus” Alex Lang

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Belhar Confession)

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; so that together we are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another’s burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

✠HYMN 727 “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant” The Servant Song

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Judy Hockenberry

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 “Of a Rose, a Lovely Rose” *John Rutter*

“Of a Rose, a lovely Rose, Of a Rose is all my song. Harken to me, both old and young, How this Rose began to spring; A fairer rose to mine liking In all this world ne know I none. Five branches of that rose there been, The which be both fair and sheen; The rose is called Mary, heaven’s queen. Out of her bosom a blossom sprang.

The first branch was of great honour; That blest Marie should bear the flower; There come an angel from heaven tower to break the devil’s bond. The second branch was great of might, That sprang upon Christmas night; The star shone over Bethlehem bright, That man should see it both day and night. The third branch did spring and spread; Three kings then the branch gan led unto Our Lady in her child-bed; Into Bethlehem that branch sprang right. The fourth branch it sprang to hell, The devil’s power for to fell; That no soul should dwell, The branch so blessedfully sprang. The fifth branch it was so sweet, It sprang to heaven both crop and root, Therein to dwell and be our bote; So blessedly it sprang. Pray we to her great honour, She that bare the blessed flower, To be our help and our succor, And shield us from the fiends bond.”

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 102 “Savior of the Nations, Come” Nun Komm

✠BENEDICTION Alex Lang

POSTLUDE *Mark Thallander*
“Toccatà on ‘Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus’ ”

✠Please stand as you are able.

Preaching: Alex Lang

Greeters: Tom Carroll, Bill Hamilton

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

Flowers: **Ralph Larsen and Family**—In loving memory of Cathy Larsen **Don and Barb Larson**—Celebrating granddaughter, Ellery Shaw **Tom, Jody, Mattie Stautzenbach and Carter Sharp**—In loving memory of our mother, Bette Jane Baptist

Pastors: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson

Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson

Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban