

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. 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.

1. What does Jesus mean to you personally?

2. Why do you come to this church?

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



HERITAGE

“One must still have chaos in oneself
to be able to give birth to a dancing star.”
— Friedrich Nietzsche

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 24, 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 “Variations on ‘Come, Christians, Join to Sing’ ” *Denis Bédard*

WELCOME Alex Lang

✠CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 103)

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
All: bless God’s holy name.
One: Do not forget God’s benefits.
All: It is God who redeems us and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.
One: Come, let us worship God.

✠HYMN 267 “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” Madrid

CALL TO CONFESSION TC Anderson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Merciful God, we get so stuck in our ways of doing and believing that we think they are the only ways. Forgive us for judging those who question our way of believing. Forgive us for holding so tight to tradition that we cannot see the new things you are doing in our midst. Forgive us when we fail to question our belief. Remind us that the way to deeper understanding is through questions. Grant us the courage to challenge the status quo so that we can hear your message in ways that change our lives today.

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 TC Anderson

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
(Pew Bible, p. 885) TC Anderson
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “Song of the Apostle” *John Ness Beck*
“All things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. All things work together for good to those who love God. He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, How will He not also with Him freely give us all things? All things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. All things work together, shall work for good to those who love God.”
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Galatians 1:11-24
(Pew Bible, p. 945) Alex Lang
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “The Outsider” Alex Lang

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Brief Statement of Faith, 10.2)
We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

✠HYMN 691 “Lord, When I Came into This Life” Land of Rest

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 “Be Thou My Vision” *Alice Parker*
“Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art. Thou my best Thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light. Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me. Lord Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one. Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise. Thou mine Inheritance, now and always; Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art. High King of Heaven, my victory won, May I reach Heaven’s joys, O bright Heav’n’s Sun! Heart of my own heart, whate’er befall. Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.”
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 315 “In the Midst of New Dimensions” New Dimensions

✠BENEDICTION Alex Lang

POSTLUDE “Toccata on ‘Come, Christians, Join to Sing’ ” *Carolyn Hamlin*

✠Please stand as you are able.

Preaching: Alex Lang
Greeter: Bill Hamilton
Ushers: Kirsten Olson (head usher), Kurt Ahlers, Bob Harrauld, Karen Hughes, Frank Morrone
Flowers: **Betty Lou Bukowski**—In celebration of this congregation’s 161 years of service to God
Rob and Nancy Lincoln—In celebration of Mary Givin Martinka’s second birthday
Laura Helbling Liston—In loving memory of Don and Marie Helbling
Pastors: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson
Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson
Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban