

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

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



HERITAGE

“Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles,
leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive
at its destination full of hope.”
— Maya Angelou

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**OCTOBER 29, 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 “Ah, Holy Jesus” *arr. Lloyd Larson*
“Fairest Lord Jesus”
Chancel Hand Bell Choir; Jo Christian and Nick Pulikowski, directors

WELCOME Alex Lang

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Consider the amazing love God has for us.

All: We are children of God.

One: God loves us unconditionally,

All: and invites us to love others without condition.

One: God has broken every barrier,

All: so that we may live and love without conditions.

One: Let us worship God.

✦HYMN 275 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” Ein’ Feste Burg

CALL TO CONFESSION TC Anderson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, you have claimed us as your own and love us without condition. We fail to take your claim on our life seriously. We believe we are not worthy of love. We treat others as though they are unworthy of love. We establish boundaries. We set up rules and restrictions. Forgive us, Lord. Forgive us for hating ourselves so much that we cannot accept your love for us. Forgive us for being afraid of your love and for being afraid to love others, particularly those who are different. Remind us that we are your beloved children and help us to live into that truth.

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 Romans 9:1-5
(Pew Bible, p. 920) TC Anderson
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “He, Watching Over Israel” *Felix Mendelssohn*
“He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps. Shouldst thou, walking in grief,
languish, He will quicken thee.”
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Romans 11:25-32
(Pew Bible, p. 922) Alex Lang
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “Promises” Alex Lang

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

✦AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Brief Statement of Faith, 10.3)

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlating love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

✦HYMN 767 (vs. 1,2) “Together We Serve” San Anselmo

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 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” *David Ashley White*
“*There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good! There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in His blood. For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more simple, we should rest upon God's word; and our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord.*”
Chancel Choir; Joan Morrone, horn; Michelle Fielder, oboe

✦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 649 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” Amazing Grace

✦BENEDICTION Alex Lang

POSTLUDE “Toccata on ‘Amazing Grace’ ” *Christopher Pardini*

✦Please stand as you are able.

Preaching: Alex Lang

Greeter: Bill Hamilton

Ushers: Tom Carroll (head usher), Ron Baker, Susan Carroll, Ingrid Kaufman, Jim Kaufman, Bonnie Schaap, Dave Schaap

Flowers: John and Jane David
Stu Olin—For Marilyn and our wonderful years together

Pastors: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson

Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson

Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban