

SUNDAY WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

PRELUDE "In Dulci Jubilo" Traditional

WELCOME Alex Lang

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Lee & Dawn Bruce, Floyd Mays

HYMN 82 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Hyfrydol

PRAYER OF CONFESSION TC Anderson

God of power and might, you come to us in our weakness and teach us to be strong and powerful in your name. Forgive us when we see only our lack of strength. Forgive us when we only imagine what we cannot do. Forgive us when we accept the world's definition of power. Help us to see and understand the paradox of Jesus Christ, the one who came in weakness to demonstrate power. Restore us to a right relationship with you that we might know that all things are possible. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LUKE 23:1-5

MESSAGE "Powerful Weakness" Alex Lang
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

SHARING OUR GIFTS

"The Yearning" Craig Courtney

*"There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow.
There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide,
a yearning for tomorrow. There is a yearning for the promised One, the Firstborn of creation.
A yearning for the Lord who visited His own, and by His death for sin atoned,
to bring to us salvation. Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.
There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of his appearing.
There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased
and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning."*

Men's Chorus (Recorded 12/8/2019)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE Alex Lang & Judy Hockenberry

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

BENEDICTION

HYMN 96 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” Winchester New

POSTLUDE “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” arr. Mark Thallander

Worship led by: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson

Music: Adam Hendrickson, Chris Urban, and First Pres Brass

First Pres Brass: Eric Allen & Colin Stanhope, trumpet; Joan Morrone, horn;
Sam Sturgeon, trombone

Flowers: Richard and Betty Arnold—In commemoration of our 65th wedding
anniversary, November 26.

CHURCH LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT — Today — On the First Sunday in Advent it is our tradition to celebrate the Lord's Supper. Our worship will be virtual so you are invited to be prepared before you "turn on" worship with a cracker or bread and a small glass of juice. Our Advent season will be different this year and still we are united in the love of Jesus Christ.



HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR COMMITMENT CARD? — If you have not yet had a chance to turn in your Commitment Card for 2021, you are invited to mail it to the church office, to the attention of Debbie Walter, Business Administrator. You can also enter your commitment online at firstpresah.org/giving. Remember, 2020 year-end contributions can be made, as well.



NEW SECURE MAILBOX — For your convenience, we have installed a new, secure mailbox by Door 9. Please use this mailbox for items that need to be dropped off for the church staff. This mailbox will be checked and emptied on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING — November 29-December 20 — Are you looking for the perfect gift? Trying to find a gift that communicates how well you know or love someone? Family? Friend? Boss? We all want to find the perfect gift to express our feelings toward others. God gave the perfect gift to us. Jesus came to live among us, bringing light and love into our world. Jesus was the greatest leader teaching us to love and give to others. Leaders impact our lives in so many ways, our lives of faith, and are role models for our own journeys of faith.

During Advent, we celebrate the gift of leaders through the Christmas Joy offering. This offering supports leaders from Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that educate communities of color, so that the wideness of God's intended diversity is reflected to all. Well-equipped future leaders are needed for the church. This offering also supports church leaders and their families dealing with critical financial needs. The Christmas Joy offering is evenly distributed with 50% going to Providing Opportunities for Communities of Color (Leadership Development) and 50% for Giving Back (Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions).

Take a moment to think of the leaders in your life that had an impact on you. Would you be where you are today without them? Would you be who you are today without them? Please give generously to the Christmas Joy Offering so that great leaders will continue to be developed for future generations and to also provide financial assistance to past leaders. - Phyllis Orzechowski, Mission Committee Chair



PW CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: MEMORIES OF CHRISTMAS PAST — December 16 / 1:00

pm / via Zoom — Imagine what it would be like to manage all the decorating for Marshall Fields for Christmas. Join us for our very special Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering! On December 16, at 1:00 pm, you are invited to join Amy Meadows, the former Director of Decorations for Marshall Fields' windows, giant Christmas tree, and decorations on all levels. Hear her stories and see wonderful decorations from the past. This is an inspiration to start thinking about decorating

your own home for Christmas! All are welcome to view this program via Zoom. To join the holiday magic, send your reservation to Wendy Blanck at blanckfamily@sbcglobal.net by December 13. You will receive the Zoom link on December 14. Questions? Contact Wendy!

CHIMES NEWSLETTER DEADLINE — Monday, December 14 — Please submit articles for the January/February combined issue of the *Chimes* to Mary Fino at maryfino@firstpresah.org by Monday, December 14.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Wednesday Engage & Encounter: The Power of Restorative Justice in Our Communities and Our Lives — Wednesdays, through December 16 / 7:00 pm / via Zoom / Instructor: Michele Holifield

The term restorative justice is often misunderstood as a softer form of punishment meant to replace the current criminal justice system in the United States. In fact, restorative justice has roots back to the beginning of history and is used still today in schools and churches, just to name a few, to bring wholeness and healing to the affected community. We will look at the origins and principles of restorative justice and discover how these concepts parallel the concepts of justice in the Bible, and how this allows for a transformative approach to wrongdoing in our communities. We will also look at what it means to live restoratively in our own lives. Register in advance for this meeting by going to [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJoldeGgrDspHt3rG6X39HQFag5fYGWSt1DW](https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?meetingId=91987122020) or clicking the link in Weekly Highlights.

Sunday Adult Education: Out of Exile — Sundays, through December 20 / 10:00 am / via Zoom — Instructor: Dr. Donald Kaasch

The Babylonian exile, along with the exodus from Egypt, are the pivotal experiences of the Jewish people. What led up to this event? Who were targeted by the Babylonians for removal to Babylon? How long did the exile last? Something was produced during and after the exile that would forever define Judaism, to this day. When the exile was ended and return to Judah and Jerusalem was open to everyone, what happened? Who freed the exiles? Don't miss this exciting look at what might well be the single, most important, period of Jewish history! Register in advance for this meeting by going to [zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAoduGtpjMuHNVni8owoYIXyc4jkkJ4Pww8](https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?meetingId=91987122020) or clicking the link in Weekly Highlights.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR CHRISTOPHER HOUSE — Many of us have enjoyed providing wrapped Christmas gifts for Christopher House families in past years, but because of the pandemic, that cannot happen this year. Instead, please consider donating to the Christopher House Thrive Fund. These funds assist families with bigger ticket items like rent and utilities, needs that have spiked since March because of COVID-19. By August, Christopher House had helped over 60 families from this fund. Between **November 1 and December 15**, you may contribute to the Thrive Fund. Your donation can make a huge difference in the life of a Christopher House family. Questions? Contact Fran Spencer at fran109spencer@yahoo.com, 847-767-2334 or Liz Thompson at lizht85@yahoo.com, 847-537-9087. You can donate in one of two ways—online or by check.

Online:

1. Go to www.firstpresah.org.
2. Click on "GIVE" which is the top line of the website.
3. Click on the GIVE NOW link in blue.
4. Select "Christopher House Thrive" from the drop-down menu.

By check:

Send a check, made out to First Presbyterian Church, to the church office. On the memo line, indicate Christopher House Thrive Fund.

JOURNEYS MEAL DONATION AND DELIVERY HELP WANTED — First Pres continues to deliver meals to two Arlington Heights hotels where guests from our PADS program are currently staying. We anticipate providing these meals for the foreseeable future. Through your generosity, we continue to provide three meals a day, once per week, for 90 people. Also, we will provide 24 people with a box of food that will provide breakfast and lunch for a week. We need food donations, cash donations, and volunteers to pack and deliver. Sign up at signupgenius.com/go/10C044DADAF29A7FB6-winter. If you have any questions, please contact the PADS food team at padsfood@firstpresah.org.

PASTORAL CARE — If you have a death in the family, an anticipated surgery, the birth of a new baby, or if you or a loved one are struggling, your pastors and church family want to be there to support you. Please contact Pastor Judy Hockenberry, at judyhockenberry@firstpresah.org or 847-255-5900, or call the church office to share your pastoral needs.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT — As we continue to stream worship services until further notice, we ask that you keep your giving to the church up-to-date by mailing in a check or by going online. By continuing to give, you continue to help your church pay its bills, make its payroll, and be a light in the world. To give online:

1. Go to www.firstpresah.org.
2. Click on "GIVE" which is the top line of the website.
3. Click on the GIVE NOW link in blue.

Online giving can be done on a one-time basis or you can set up a recurring gift. It is easy and our website uses Secure Socket Layering (SSL) to protect personal credit information before it travels over the Internet. By continuing to give, you continue to help your church pay its bills, make its payroll, and be a light in the world.

BUILDING UPDATE — The following was sent to the congregation on Saturday, November 14, as an update to the opening of our building.

Dear First Pres family,

At our November meeting, the Session approved a Covid-19 Task Force recommendation that going forward we follow the guidelines for Covid-19 as stipulated by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). As you all know, we are seeing a record number of cases of Covid-19 throughout our state.

The IDPH and the Cook County Department of Public Health have issued some advisories and ask everyone to comply for at least the next thirty days. To that end, our staff will once again work from home. **All activity**, outside of PDO and ongoing building maintenance, will stop in the church building. We will continue to collect supplies for and deliver meals for PADS because that is an essential service.

PDO will follow the guidance of District 25. Their director, Coleen Anzalone, is staying in close communication with the parents, children, and staff of PDO, as well as First Pres staff.

Some church staff will be in and out of the building during the week to check mail, phone messages, and to continue recording Sunday morning worship. All other work will be done from home. We will hold all of our meetings through the Zoom platform.

You will be able to reach the pastors through their cell phones. Those numbers are: Alex (717) 608-1396; Judy (502) 445-9281; TC (734) 624-6682.

At this time, we are hoping that we can return to our current level of in-office presence on December 15. However, we will continue to follow the guidance and advice of the Illinois Department of Public Health.

On-line Sunday worship is available to you throughout Sunday morning. Please join us for worship and do not hesitate to call one of the pastors if you have a special need, a prayer request, or a question.

Praying for you and with you,
The Session of First Presbyterian Church

ONLINE WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

December 6, 2020: Second Sunday of Advent

Worship (firstpresah.org/media/live-stream/)



Scriptures: 1 Kings 4:29-34, John 3:1-13

Preacher: Alex Lang

Sermon Title: Intelligent Confusion

Prayer Requests

Healing & Comfort

Mario Alberico
Brian Aldrich
Pat Almblad
Liz Armstrong
Dave Berkow
Dawn Bruce
Samuel Bruce — brother of Lee Bruce
Betty Lou Bukowski
Brian & Jennifer Butler — brother-in-law & sister of Dawn Bruce
Jane Cassaro — friend of Beth Balow
Bob & Paulette Christian — family of Bill & Jo Christian
Mary Clarbour
Sally Costello
Carol Dahn
Alice Davitt — friend of Kris Ward
Michael Fischer — grandson of Dave & Pat Almblad
Virginia Gardner — friend of Jo Christian
Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepura
George Gerner — cousin of Kelsey Fuentes
Bill Ginnodo
Gloria — friend of June Johnson
Dorita & Houston Godfrey
Ermina Gomez & daughter — friends of Elaine Chen
Kit Graham — friend of Betty Sanders
Barbara Hayes
Jeanne Holl — grandniece of Myrtle Jessogne
Mary Kay Holl — niece of Myrtle Jessogne
Bob Jackson — friend of Hal Stern
Rich Jacobs — son-in-law of Barbara MacDowell
Mary Jessogne — sister-in-law of Myrtle Jessogne
Steve Jessogne — nephew of Myrtle Jessogne
Marylyn Jirsa
Marjorie Kalivoda

John Lamb — friend of Kris Ward
Helen Lawson — friend of Liz Armstrong
Beth Lepage — sister of Bill Thompson
Penny Lumsden — mother of Stu Lumsden
Quentin Mare'
Richard Martin — friend of June Johnson
Mary — sister of Liz Thompson
Sean McClory — friend of Mario Alberico
Scott and Laura Morrison — friends of Mario & Claudia Alberico
Lee Nelson
Gloria Oak
Jim Richardson — brother of Jan Richardson
Betty Roach
Jim Rohe — friend of Jo Christian
Theresa Scola — friend of Meg Haddad
Susan Scott
Dee Sievertsen
Ed Slivovsky
Je'Anna Paris Smith
Wendell Stoike
Arne Stollfuss
David Stratton — brother-in-law of Elaine Chen
Barb Talley — friend of Jo Christian
Jaquan Thompson
Norm & Mary Thompson — family of Bill & Liz Thompson
Jewell Truskowski
Vasilios Tsironis — friend of Beth Balow
Dan Tsutsumi
Wes Upton — friend of Ralph Larsen
Marilyn Votava — sister of Judy Ayers
Gary Walker

Sympathy to:

Dan and Laura Carlson and family, on the death of Laura's father, Fred W. Langer

Ray and Janet Powers, on the death of Janet's aunt, Elizabeth Postell

Serving in the Armed Services

AMN Charles Arthur Brousseau, Air Force — son of Liz Moses and Bob Wendling
Maj. Michael B. Ford, US Army Reserves — stepson of Kris Ford
Brandon Latuzek — nephew of Elaine Chen
Geoffrey Martineau — brother of Lisa Martineau
E5MM Marc Robert McGrath, Jr., Navy — grandson of Donald and Jacqueline Schultz
2 LT Kristen Reese, Army — daughter of Jim and Becky Reese, sister of Adam and Brian Reese
Sergeant Benjamin David Schultz, Air Force — grandson of Donald and Jacqueline Schultz
Colonel Gretchen Wiltse — sister of Vincent and Heidi Wiltse