

WELCOME!

**Thank you for worshipping with us tonight.**

For the foreseeable future, we are providing all of our worship services online. Please visit our website, [firstpresah.org](http://firstpresah.org), where you will find information about worship and other activities that are still happening. You are also invited to join the conversation on Facebook, at [facebook.com/firstpresah](https://facebook.com/firstpresah), and Twitter, at [@FirstPresAH](https://twitter.com/FirstPresAH). We look forward to connecting with you again.

# First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



“Holding the child in her arms, Mary wondered what was going to happen to him, this sweet innocent creature who had been conceived by the incredible love of God and who had been born as all human babies are born. God, come to be one of us.”  
— Madeleine L’Engle

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## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2020

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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 • [firstpresah.org](http://firstpresah.org) • [mail@firstpresah.org](mailto:mail@firstpresah.org)



*Order of Worship*  
*December 24, 2020 ~ Christmas Eve*

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## FESTIVAL OF PREPARATION

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SOLO                    “The Holly and the Ivy”                    *arr. Chip Davis*  
Carol Stolley, violin  
(Recorded 12/24/2016)

CAROL 123 (vv. 1, 3, 5) “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”                    Carol

SOLO                    “Sweet Little Jesus Boy”                    *Robert Mac Ginsey*  
Kathy Sobeski, soprano  
(Recorded 12/24/2017)

CAROL 147 (vv. 1, 2, 6)    “The First Nowell”                    The First Nowell

DUET                    “O Holy Night”                    *Adolphe Adam*  
Adam Hendrickson, baritone; Nick Pulikowski, tenor  
(Recorded 12/24/2019)

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

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WELCOME AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP                    Alex Lang

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Glory to God in the highest,

All: **and peace to God’s people on earth.**

### OPENING PRAYER

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Dan, Laura, & Mikayla Carlson

CAROL 133 (vv. 1, 3, 4) “O Come, All Ye Faithful”                    Adeste Fideles

CHILDREN’S TIME                    Katy Allen

## THE PROPHECY

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SCRIPTURE READING                    Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
TC Anderson  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM                    “I Hear the Prophet Callin’ ”                    *Pepper Choplin*  
Chancel Choir; Amy Carroll, percussion  
(Recorded 12/24/2019)

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## THE BIRTH

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SCRIPTURE READING                    Luke 2:1-7  
Judy Hockenberry  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

CAROL 121                    “O Little Town of Bethlehem”                    St. Louis

### PRAYER FOR NEIGHBORS

## THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS

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SCRIPTURE READING                    Luke 2:8-14  
Alex Lang  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM                    “Gloria in excelsis” from *LUX*                    *Dan Forrest*  
Chancel Choir; Amy Carroll, vibraphone  
(Recorded 12/24/2019)

SCRIPTURE READING                    Luke 2:15-20  
Judy Hockenberry  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

CAROL 113                    “Angels We Have Heard on High”                    Gloria

### PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

## THE STAR AND THE GIFTS

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SCRIPTURE READING                    Matthew 2:1-12  
TC Anderson  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND CHRISTMAS OFFERING

OFFERTORY                    “It Feels Like Christmas”                    *Paul Williams*  
TC Anderson, voice; Adam Hendrickson piano/voice  
(Recorded 12/24/2017)

## THE MEANING

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SERMON                    “A Christmas Kaleidoscope”  
Alex Lang, TC Anderson, and Judy Hockenberry

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT                    Alex Lang

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE                    Alex Lang  
One: The prophet declared, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light:

All: **those who dwelled in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.”**

One: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world;

All: **whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**

One: Jesus said, “You are the light of the world;

All: **let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to God who is in heaven.”**

## SHARING THE LIGHT

*At this time you are invited to light the candles you picked up at church or to light another candle in your home to symbolize the light of Christ in our world.*

CAROL 122                    “Silent Night, Holy Night!”                    Stille Nacht

BENEDICTION                    Alex Lang

POSTLUDE                    “Hallelujah Chorus”                    *G.F. Handel*  
Chancel Choir and Congregation; Eric Allen, trumpet  
(Recorded 12/24/2019)

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**Pastors:** Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson

**Director of Music and Worship:** Adam Hendrickson

**Associate Director of Music and Organist:** Christopher Urban

### DECEMBER 27, 2020 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**ONLINE WORSHIP** ([firstpresah.org/media/live-stream/](http://firstpresah.org/media/live-stream/))

Scriptures: Luke 2:22-35, Luke 2:36-40

Preacher: TC Anderson

Sermon Title: Darkness Breaks

### LEARN MORE

If you are interested in learning more about First Pres, or how to become a member of this congregation, please contact Pastor TC Anderson at 847-255-5900 or [tcanderson@firstpresah.org](mailto:tcanderson@firstpresah.org).