



9:00 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME, GUESTS!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

**First Presbyterian Church
of Arlington Heights**

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

WELCOME Adam Hendrickson
Join Christians around the world in observing the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. You will find prayer cards in the pew to submit prayer requests. Just place the cards in the offering plate and read in Church Life how you can participate starting January 18.

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Through the abundance of your steadfast love, I will enter your house.
All: I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you.
One: Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness.
All: Make your way straight before me.
One: Let us worship God!

✦ “YOU NEVER LET GO”

Beth & Matt Redman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TC Anderson

Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.

1 JOHN 4:7-12

MESSAGE “5. God is Love” Alex Lang
Scripture: Luke 15:11-24

✦ “ONE THING REMAINS (YOUR LOVE NEVER FAILS)”

Johnson, Gifford, & Riddle

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 sins, as we forgive
those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

SHARING OUR GIFTS

“Love One Another” Robin Mann

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦ “FORVER” Chris Tomlin

✦ BENEDICTION Alex Lang

✦ Please stand as you are able.

Compass: TC Anderson, guitar/vocals; Dan Berg, guitar; Amy Carroll, keyboard; Kevin Carroll, bass; AJ Coleman, drums; Adam Hendrickson, guitar/vocals; Greg Schultz, saxophone; Katie Walsh, vocals

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, Twitter, at @FirstPresAh, and Instagram, 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 (8:45 am – 11:45 am).

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

For worship in the Sanctuary, large print bulletins, and hearing amplifiers (some with T-Coil lanyard adapters) 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/experience/livestream. To download or listen to a podcast of today’s sermon, search Apple podcasts for **The Word @ First Pres**. Past sermons are available at firstpresah.org/experience/sermons.



“It is written that God is love, and that we are God’s expressed likeness, the image of the Eternal Being. Love is self-givingness through creation, the impartation of the Divine through the human. Love is an essence, an atmosphere, which defies analysis, as does life itself. It is that which IS and cannot be explained. Only love knows love, and love knows only love. Words cannot express its depths or meaning. A universal sense alone bears witness to the divine fact:
God is Love and Love is God.”
— Ernest Holmes

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**JANUARY 2, 2022
9:00 & 10:30 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 • firstpresah.org • mail@firstpresah.org



10:30 AM WORSHIP

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Carolyn Hamlin
The prelude is your invitation to quiet preparation for the worship of Almighty God.

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WELCOME Alex Lang

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

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One: Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness.

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One: Let us worship God!

✠ HYMN 13 "The Mighty God with Power Speaks" Kingsfold

CALL TO CONFESSION Steve Howery

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of heaven and earth, we confess that, all too often, we take for granted your love for us and are unwilling to extend that unconditional love to others. Although you leave the door open for us, we are unwilling to leave the door open for those we deem unworthy. We reject those who have rejected us. We hold grudges. We sow division. Forgive us for not loving others as you have loved us and help us to open our hearts to better walk in the footsteps of Jesus...

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!

COMMUNITY LIFE Alex Lang

Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Steve Howery

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 4:7-12
(Pew Bible, p. 991) Steve Howery
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM "Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown" David Mennicke
"Come, O Thou Traveler unknown, Whom still I hold, but cannot see; My company before is gone, And I am left alone with Thee; With Thee all night I mean to stay, And wrestle till the break of day. With thee all night I mean to stay, And wrestle till the break of day. I need not tell Thee who I am, My misery and sin declare; Thyself hast called me by my name; Look on Thy hands, and read it there! But who, I ask Thee, who art Thou? Tell me Thy name, and tell me now. Yield to me now, for I am weak, But confident in self-despair; Speak to my heart, in blessings speak, Be conquered by my instant prayer. Speak, or Thou never hence shalt move, And tell me if thy name is Love! Speak, or thou never hence shalt move, And tell me if thy name is Love. 'Tis Love, 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me! I hear Thy whisper in my heart! The morning breaks, the shadows flee; Pure universal Love Thou art: To me, to all, Thy mercies move; Thy nature and Thy name is Love."
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:11-24
(Pew Bible, p. 850) Alex Lang
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "5. God is Love" Alex Lang

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

✠ HYMN 435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" In Babilone

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Steve Howery

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 "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another" V.D. Thompson
"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God. Herein is love, not that we loved God but that He loved us and sent his Son, to atone for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us we also ought to love one another. If we love one another, God abideth in us, and his love is made perfect in us. God is love, and whoso abideth in love abideth in God and God abideth in him. Beloved, let us love one another."
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 316 "Where Charity and Love Prevail" Twenty-Fourth

✠ BENEDICTION Alex Lang

POSTLUDE "Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts" Camille Saint-Saëns

✠ Please stand as you are able.

Preaching: Alex Lang

Pastors: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson, Steve Howery

Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson

Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban

Praise Band: Compass (9:00 am service)

WORSHIP NOTES