

# WELCOME, GUESTS!

**Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.**

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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://firstpresah.org/experience/sermons).

### DECEMBER 26, 2021 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:30 am — Worship in the Sanctuary

### REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

9:00 am — Worship in the Sanctuary

10:30 am — Worship in the Sanctuary

### 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).

## Worship Participants

Mary  
Cleo Puckett

Joseph  
Andrew Haines

Starbearer  
Henry Lopuszynski

Sheep  
Sawyer Gutzmer  
Maggie Lopuszynski  
Sarah Martinka  
Louis Pulikowski  
Jonathan White

Shepherds  
Lucas Lang  
Jayne Martinka  
Claire Tyler

Angels  
James Gutzmer  
Lily Hendrickson  
Hannah Janik  
Ellie Lindstrom  
Mary Martinka  
Eliana Pulikowski  
Audrey Tyler  
Hannah Tyler  
James White

Magi  
Jackson Gutzmer  
Rilla Puckett

Liturgists  
Mikayla Carlson  
Elijah Lang  
Anika Larson  
Abby Lindstrom

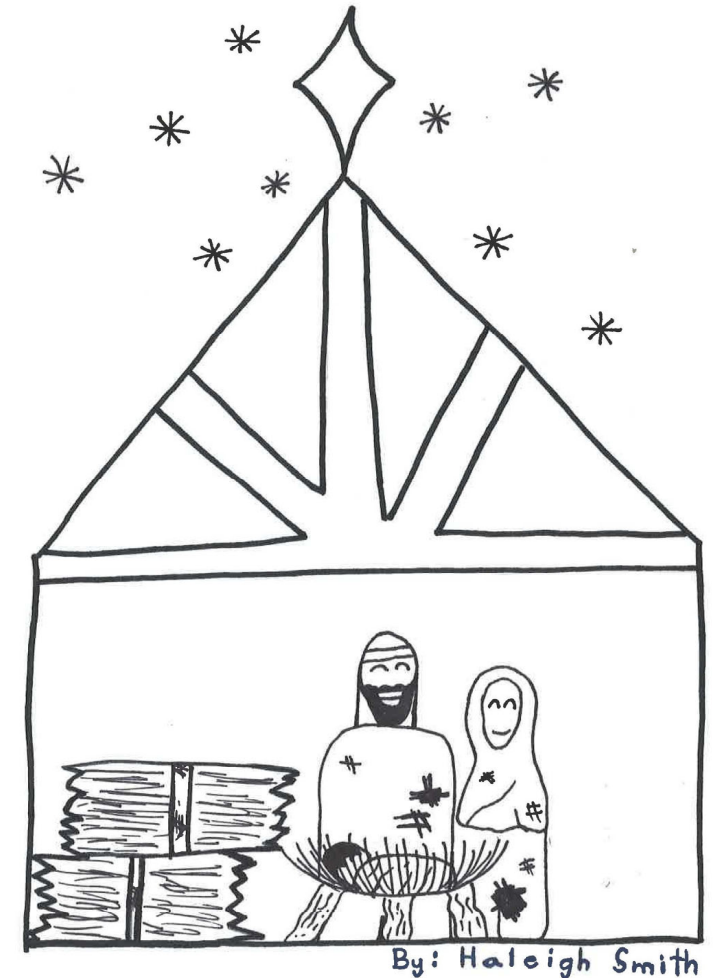
Preshool Helpers  
Michele Holifield  
Susan Schuffler  
Jane Treppa

Ushers  
Drey Family  
Larson Family  
Lopuszynski Family

Pageant Helpers  
Dan Carlson  
Jenn Fick  
Susannah Holifield  
Courtney Lang  
Codi Larson  
Kristin Lindstrom

# First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP CHILDREN'S PAGEANT A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

DECEMBER 24, 2021  
4:00 PM

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



*As we gather to worship on this holy night, O God, brighten our hearts with the message of your love, even as the angels filled the skies with the glory of your lasting gift for the world in the birth of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. Amen.*

---

---

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

---

PRELUDE Chris Urban

WELCOME Katy Allen

### ✠CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The people who once lived in darkness have been given a great light!

**All: Praise be to God who has heard our cries.**

One: Our souls sing out God’s praise.

**All: God has brought us a light of Hope and Peace.**

One: Tonight, the Light of God’s Love is given to us!

**All: And we shall see that light and let it shine through our lives.**

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

FIRST LESSON Anika Larson  
**Isaiah 9:2-7 A Prophet Speaks Words of Promise**

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES Elijah Lang & Abby Lindstrom  
The prophet Isaiah wrote of a time of darkness and promised that the people who walked in this darkness would see a great light. We light the candle of hope.

Matthew wrote of the Magi who followed the light of the glorious star in the east that led them to the promised King. We light the candle of peace.

Luke wrote of the night when the sky lit up with an army of angels to shout the news that the promised Messiah had been born. We light the candle of joy.

John declared that this great light is Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. We light the candle of love.

CALL TO CONFESSION Mikayla Carlson  
God came to us as an infant, surprising the wise, encouraging the faithful, and bringing hope to all. God came to know us, to teach us, to heal us, and to save us. Again and again, we have fallen short of what God hopes for us. But again and again, God offers us grace and unconditional love. Recognizing our faults and God’s unfailing goodness, let us pray together in one voice.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
**Gracious God, with joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ’s birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time. Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors.” This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.**

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

We come together on this holy night, gathering as the family of God, to seek the light, the hope, the good news of Christ’s birth. Hear again this good news: God so loved the world that God sent his only son to save the world. In this we find hope, we find grace, we find love, we find God! Let us rejoice!

✠HYMN 583 “Glory to God” *Gloria*  
“Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!”

## HEARING GOD’S WORD:

### WITNESSING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST THROUGH STORY

---

SECOND LESSON Anika Larson  
**Isaiah 11:1-6 The Peace Christ Will Bring Is Foretold**

HYMN 119 (vv. 1, 3) “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *Mendelssohn*

THIRD LESSON Abby Lindstrom  
**Luke 1:26-32 Mary Finds Favor With God**

HYMN 145 (vv. 1, 3) “What Child Is This” *Greensleeves*

FOURTH LESSON Elijah Lang  
**Luke 2:1-7 Christ Is Born**

HYMN 115 “Away in a Manger” *Mueller*

FIFTH LESSON Mikayla Carlson  
**Luke 2:8-14 Shepherds Hear the Good News**

HYMN 136 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” *Go Tell It*

SIXTH LESSON Anika Larson  
**Luke 2:15-18 The Shepherds Go to See the Child**

HYMN 113 “Angels We Have Heard on High” *Gloria*

SEVENTH LESSON Elijah Lang & Abby Lindstrom  
**Matthew 2:1-11 (portions) A Star Shines in the East**

HYMN 147 (vv. 1, 3, 5) “The First Nowell” *The First Nowell*

---

## GIVING THANKS TO GOD

---

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE TC Anderson

### OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY “Everyone Can Sing at Christmas” *Mark Burrows*  
Children’s Choir  
Nick Pulikowski, director

---

## GOING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

---

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

*(All children are invited to come forward at this time to sing “Silent Night.” The congregation may turn their candles on using the switch on the bottom to illuminate the church during the singing of “Silent Night”.)*

✠HYMN 122 “Silent Night, Holy Night!” *Stille Nacht*  
*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. Round yon virgin, mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight. Glories stream from heaven afar. Heavenly hosts sing, “Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.”*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light, radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

*Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

✠BENEDICTION Alex Lang  
*(Children will return to their seats following the Benediction.)*

✠HYMN 134 (vv. 1, 2, 4) “Joy to the World” *Antioch*

POSTLUDE “Toccata on ‘Adeste Fideles’ ” *Richard Purvis*

---

---

✠Please stand as you are able.

**Pastors:** Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson, Steve Howery  
**Director of Music and Worship:** Adam Hendrickson  
**Associate Director of Music and Organist:** Christopher Urban

# WELCOME, GUESTS!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://firstpresah.org/experience/sermons).



WITH GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR DONATIONS TO HELP BEAUTIFY FIRST PRES FOR THIS ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON

Anonymous  
Jan Ashley  
Ron & Pat Baker  
The Beihoffer Family  
Andrew Bennett  
The Berkow Family  
Jerry Bolin  
Ruth Burkholder  
Sue Campbell  
Mikayla Carlson  
Tom & Susan Carroll  
Bill & Jo Christian  
Bob & Liza Churchill  
Sally Crooker  
Kelly, Bailey, & Reagan Dean  
Jim & Kathy Doering  
Norman & Patricia Fein  
Sharon Ferdinand  
The Roger Fick Family  
Jim & Marilyn Graves  
The Haines Family  
Mary Halatek  
Lois Hartung  
The Hogan Family  
Burt & Sally Jensen  
Jim & Ingrid Kaufman  
Marty Kraybill  
Don & Barb Larson  
Witold & Betty Launer  
Richard & Meredith Levinsky  
Barb Martin & Family  
Matt & Lois Meisterheim  
Rhoda Merilatt  
Walter & Sandra Meyer  
Jan Niemeyer  
Earl & Gloria Oak  
John & Jerri Olszewski  
The Peddicord Family  
Barrett & Corinne Peterson  
Jan & Sandy Richardson

Dave & Bonnie Schaap  
Carolyn Schmidt  
Nancy St. Clair  
Christopher Urban  
Kris Ward & Jim McElwee  
The White Family  
Mike & Lin Willour  
Allen & Karen Wilson

# First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



“Want to keep Christ in Christmas? Feed the hungry,  
clothe the naked, forgive the guilty,  
welcome the unwanted, care for the ill, love your enemies,  
and do unto others as you would have done unto you.”  
— Steve Maraboli

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2021  
8:00 PM

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



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](https://firstpresah.org) • [mailbox@firstpresah.org](mailto:mailbox@firstpresah.org)



*Order of Worship*  
*December 24, 2021 ~ Christmas Eve 8:00 pm*

---

---

## FESTIVAL OF PREPARATION

---

DUET “Do You Hear What I Hear?” *arr. Kevin McChesney*  
Kris Ward, handbells; Carol Frieburg, piano

DUET “Joseph’s Song” *Jim Strathdee*  
Adam Hendrickson, baritone; Dan Richardson, bass

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

SOLO “Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head” *John Jacob Niles*  
Kathy Sobeski, soprano

DUET “Carol of the Bells” *arr. Michele Sharif*  
Kris Ward, handbells; Carol Frieburg, piano

CAROL 132 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” In Dulci Jubilo

SOLO “O Holy Night” *Adolphe Adam*  
Nick Pulikowski, tenor

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

---

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 The Hogan Family

One: We light the Christ candle to symbolize God’s promise fulfilled.

One: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all on whom his favor rests.

**All: Blessed be the name of the Lord.**

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

## THE PROPHECY

---

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
(Pew Bible, p. 555) TC Anderson  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “And the Glory of the Lord” *G. F. Handel*  
Chancel Choir

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## THE BIRTH

---

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:1-7  
(Pew Bible, p. 833) Steve Howery  
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

---

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:8-15  
(Pew Bible, p. 833) TC Anderson  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “Star Carol” *John Rutter*  
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:16-20  
(Pew Bible, p. 833) TC Anderson  
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 MAGI AND THE GIFTS

---

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-3, 7-11  
(Pew Bible, p. 783) Steve Howery  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

✠CAROL 147 (vv. 1-3, 5) “The First Nowell” The First Nowell

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND CHRISTMAS OFFERING

OFFERTORY “There Is Faint Music” *Dan Forrest*  
Chancel Choir

## THE MEANING

---

SERMON “The Sacred Story” Alex Lang

### PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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

*Please turn on your candles as we sing “Silent Night”. During the last verse, raise your candle. Turn your candles off following the Benediction and place them in the receptacles in the Narthex as you leave.*

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

BENEDICTION Alex Lang

CHORAL RESPONSE “Hallelujah Chorus” *G.F. Handel*  
Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE “Toccata on ‘Adeste Fideles’” *Richard Purvis*

---

---

✠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

### DECEMBER 26, 2021 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**10:30 am** — Worship in the Sanctuary

### REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

**9:00 am** — Worship in the Sanctuary

**10:30 am** — Worship in the Sanctuary

### 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).

# WELCOME, GUESTS!

Thank you for worshiping with us this morning.

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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://firstpresah.org/experience/sermons).

## DECEMBER 26, 2021 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:30 am — Worship in the Sanctuary

## REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

9:00 am — Worship in the Sanctuary

10:30 am — Worship in the Sanctuary

## 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).



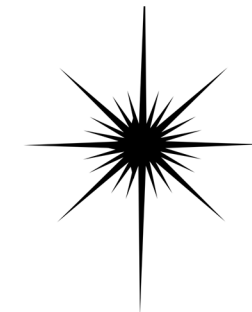
WITH GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR DONATIONS TO HELP BEAUTIFY FIRST PRES FOR THIS ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON

Anonymous  
Jan Ashley  
Ron & Pat Baker  
The Beihoffer Family  
Andrew Bennett  
The Berkow Family  
Jerry Bolin  
Ruth Burkholder  
Sue Campbell  
Mikayla Carlson  
Tom & Susan Carroll  
Bill & Jo Christian  
Bob & Liza Churchill  
Sally Crooker  
Kelly, Bailey, & Reagan Dean  
Jim & Kathy Doering  
Norman & Patricia Fein  
Sharon Ferdinand  
The Roger Fick Family  
Jim & Marilyn Graves  
The Haines Family  
Mary Halatek  
Lois Hartung  
The Hogan Family  
Burt & Sally Jensen  
Jim & Ingrid Kaufman  
Marty Kraybill  
Don & Barb Larson  
Witold & Betty Launer  
Richard & Meredith Levinsky  
Barb Martin & Family  
Matt & Lois Meisterheim  
Rhoda Merilatt  
Walter & Sandra Meyer  
Jan Niemeyer  
Earl & Gloria Oak  
John & Jerri Olszewski  
The Peddicord Family  
Barrett & Corinne Peterson  
Jan & Sandy Richardson

Dave & Bonnie Schaap  
Carolyn Schmidt  
Nancy St. Clair  
Christopher Urban  
Kris Ward & Jim McElwee  
The White Family  
Mike & Lin Willour  
Allen & Karen Wilson

# First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



“Want to keep Christ in Christmas? Feed the hungry,  
clothe the naked, forgive the guilty,  
welcome the unwanted, care for the ill, love your enemies,  
and do unto others as you would have done unto you.”  
— Steve Maraboli

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2021  
10:00 PM

Choose love . Be the light . Change the world .



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](https://firstpresah.org) • [mailbox@firstpresah.org](mailto:mailbox@firstpresah.org)



First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights  
302 N. Dunton Avenue • Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
847-255-5900 • [firstpresah.org](https://firstpresah.org) • [mail@firstpresah.org](mailto:mail@firstpresah.org)



*Order of Worship*  
*December 24, 2021 ~ Christmas Eve 10:00 pm*

---

---

## FESTIVAL OF PREPARATION

---

### CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN

DUET “What Child Is This?” *arr. Lloyd Larson*  
Bailey Dean, English Horn; Paige Orals, oboe

DUET “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” *Duane Funderburk*  
Andrew Orals, violin; Tom Walter, cello

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

---

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP Alex Lang

### OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES College Youth  
(Jackson Yedor, Alex and Sam Schuffler)

One: Tonight we will light the Christ candle to symbolize God’s promise fulfilled.  
One: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all on whom his favor rests.  
**All: Blessed be the name of the Lord.**

### ✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Light shines on those who live in darkness,  
**All: for a child is born to us this night.**

✠ CAROL 133 (vs. 1, 3, 4) “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Adeste Fidelis

CALL TO CONFESSION TC Anderson

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. 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!**

## THE PROPHECY

---

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
(Pew Bible, p. 555) Bailey Dean  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “I Hear the Prophet Callin’ ” *Pepper Choplin*  
Reagan Dean, Adam Hendrickson, Kristen Walter, vocals  
Steve Walter, guitar; Adam Stanhope, djembe

## THE BIRTH

---

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:1-7  
(Pew Bible, p. 833) Madison Treppa  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “Away In A Manger” *arr. Stephen Decesare*  
Bailey Dean, English Horn; Paige Orals, oboe

## THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS

---

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:8-20  
(Pew Bible, p. 833) Emily Allen  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

✠ CAROL 119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Mendelssohn

## THE STAR AND THE GIFTS

---

FOURTH SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-3, 7-11  
(Pew Bible, p. 783) TC Anderson  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

✠ CAROL 147 (vv. 1, 2, 4) “The First Nowell” The First Nowell

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND CHRISTMAS OFFERING  
TC Anderson

OFFERTORY “I Wonder As I Wander” *John Jacob Niles*  
Kristen Walter, alto; Steve Walter, guitar; Tom Walter, cello

## THE MEANING

---

SERMON “The Sacred Story” Alex Lang

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER  
Alex Lang/TC Anderson

### THE INVITATION

### THE THANKSGIVING

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

### SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION ANTHEM “The Holly and the Ivy” *arr. Mark Dugas*  
Andrew Orals, violin

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

*Please turn on your candles as we sing “Silent Night”. During the last verse, raise your candle. Turn your candles off following the Benediction and place them in the receptacles in the Narthex as you leave.*

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

BENEDICTION Alex Lang

✠ POSTLUDE “Joy to the World” *Nigel Williams*  
Colin Stanhope, trumpet; Adam Stanhope, timpani

✠ 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

**High School and College Musicians:**

Emily Allen, alto saxophone  
Bailey Dean, oboe and English Horn  
Reagan Dean, vocals  
Andrew Orals, violin  
Paige Orals, oboe  
Adam Stanhope, timpani  
Colin Stanhope, trumpet  
Tom Walter, cello