



9:00 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME Adam Hendrickson

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE Andrew Bennett

✦ **“O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”** *arr. Hendrickson*

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

LUKE 1:5-13

MESSAGE “The Tablet” Alex Lang
Scripture: Luke 1:18-23a; 57-64

SHARING OUR GIFTS “Brave” *Bareilles & Antonoff*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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 Judy Hockenberry

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(All are invited to share the Lord’s Supper. Please hold your cup and wafer until the pastor indicates it is time to partake of the elements.)

CLOSING PRAYER

✦ **“SHOUT TO THE NORTH”** *Martin Smith*

✦ **BENEDICTION** Alex Lang

✦ Please stand as you are able.

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

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, 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.

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



“I know nothing in the world that has as much power as a word. Sometimes I write one, and I look at it until it begins to shine.”
— Emily Dickinson

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**NOVEMBER 27, 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 "In Dulci Jubilo" *J. S. Bach arr. Fox*

The prelude is your invitation to quiet preparation for the worship of Almighty God.

WELCOME Alex Lang

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE Sunday School Children

✠HYMN 82 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

HANGING OF THE GREENS Sunday School Children

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Judy Hockenberry

Holy God, we find ourselves in the season of preparation again. Yet, we are not sure if we have the energy to prepare or the desire to prepare. Forgive us for our apathy towards the arrival of your Son in the world. Remind us that we need the One who is coming. Remind us that the world needs the One who is coming. Forgive us for speaking words that do not matter and for failing to speak the important words. Stir our hearts with the power of your word so that we do prepare and we do speak the important words and we do hold onto hope in this season of Advent...

SILENT CONFESSION

(please pray a silent and personal prayer of confession during this time)

...in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

✠RESPONSE (Hymn 84 vs.1)

**Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call.**

COMMUNITY LIFE

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

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Judy Hockenberry

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:5-13
(Pew Bible, p. 831) Judy Hockenberry
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:18-23a; 57-64
(Pew Bible, p. 831) Alex Lang
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "The Tablet" Alex Lang

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

✠HYMN 108 (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5) DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "O Come, Emmanuel" *Elaine Hagenberg*
"O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear. O come thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by Thine Advent here, and drive away the shades of night, And pierce the clouds and bring us light! Rejoice Emmanuel, shall come to Thee, O Israel. O come Desire of nations, bind all people in one heart and mind; Bid envy strife and quarrels cease, and fill the world with Heaven's peace. O rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. Shall come to Thee, O Israel. O come."
Chancel Choir; Malik Johnson, cello

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(All are invited to share the Lord's Supper. Please hold your cup and wafer until the pastor indicates it is time to partake of the elements.)

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION

"Divinum Mysterium"
Malik Johnson, cello

Raymond Haan

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✠HYMN 96 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" WINCHESTER NEW

✠BENEDICTION Alex Lang

POSTLUDE "Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts" *Camille Saint-Saëns*
from *Christmas Oratorio*

✠Please stand as you are able.

Preaching: Alex Lang

Pastors: Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry

Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson

Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban

Praise Band: Compass (9:00 am service)

Flowers: **Carrie Costello**—In loving memory of Rodney and Sally Costello
The Menninga Family—In honor of Dr. George Beveridge

WORSHIP NOTES

Prayer Requests

Healing & Comfort

First Pres Community

Mario Alberico
Roger Anderson
Don & Judy Ayers
Wendy Blanck
Virginia Blocki
Jean Castles
Mary Clarbourn
Graham Gutzmer
Marylyn Jirsa
Karen Johnson
Nancy Johnson

Betty Launer
Karen Lindquist
Gloria Oak
Stu Olin
Barrett Peterson
Patty Richard
Betty Sanders
Susan Scott
Nancy Stautzenbach
Barb Tsutsumi
Bob Webb

Friends & Family

Mike Ferdinand — husband of Sharon Ferdinand
Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepora
Dorita Godfrey — sister of Karen Wilson

Sheri Jones — friend of Jan Niemeyer
Doug Martin — son of Helen Martin
Lindsey Spalding — friend of the Hockenberrys
John Stotz — friend of the Tsutsumi family

Sympathy to

The family of Sally Crooker
Jan & Sandy Richardson, on the death of Jan's brother, Jim Richardson

Serving in the Armed Services

AMN Charles Arthur Brousseau, Air Force — son of Liz Moses and Bob Wendling
MU3 Wesley Carroll, Navy — son of Kevin and Amy Carroll, grandson of JoAnn Thompson
Maj. Michael B. Ford, US Army Reserves — stepson of Kris Ford
Brandon Latuzek — nephew of Elaine Chen
E5MM Marc Robert McGrath, Jr., Navy — grandson of Donald and Jacqueline Schultz
Capt. John Olszewski, USMC — nephew of Steve and Lisa Olszewski
Sergeant Benjamin David Schultz, Air Force — grandson of Donald and Jacqueline Schultz
Colonel Gretchen Wiltse — sister of Vincent and Heidi Wiltse

About First Pres

STAFF

Pastor / Head of Staff: Alex Lang
Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Judy Hockenberry
Pastor Emeritus: Harry Thompson
Associate Pastor Emerita: Dianne Shields
Interim Youth Director: Jeni Eklund
Director of Children's Ministries: Katy Allen
Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson
Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban
Worship Technicians: Amy Senior, Jonah White

Business Administrator: Debbie Walter
Senior Administrative Assistant: Mary Fino
Administrative Assistant / Receptionist: Carol Vega
Facilities Director: Tony Scheurich
Facilities Coordinator: Michele Holifield
Director of First Pres PDO & Preschool: Coleen Anzalone
Nursery Coordinator: Beth Johnson
Volunteer Librarian: Matt Meisterheim

Save the Date

November 27 Hanging of the Greens
December 3 Christmas Breakfast
December 4 Messiah Sing-Along
December 11 All-Church Christmas Caroling
December 14 PW Christmas Tea
December 18 Cookie Walk
December 18 Concert: The Glory of Christmas

LIVE WEBCAST & WORSHIP RECORDINGS — 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. If you need help with technical problems, please send an e-mail to webcasting@firstpresah.org.

GET CONNECTED — Join the conversation on Facebook, at facebook.com/firstpresah; Twitter, at @FirstPresAH; and Instagram, at @firstpresah. Download the free ACS Church Life app or visit the website to access the church directory or manage your giving online. Simply set up a user account at firstpresah.org under the Member Login tab to get started. We look forward to connecting with you!

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.



Choose bve .Be the light.Change the world.

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Church Life

November 27, 2022

We believe in building the kingdom of God in this world. We strive to be a welcoming and inclusive church that celebrates the diversity existing in our community. That means bringing good news to the poor, freedom to the oppressed, welcoming the stranger, and loving one another as Jesus loves us. We do this by choosing love and being the light that changes the world. Thank you for worshiping with us in this spirit.

HANGING OF THE GREENS — Today / 10:30 am Worship Service — Our preschoolers - 5th graders are invited to participate in Hanging of the Greens during the 10:30 am worship service. This tradition marks the beginning of Advent and includes adorning the Sanctuary with candles and greens, along with sharing a short liturgy. After the Advent candle lighting and following the first hymn, the kids will come forward to hang the greens and place the battery powered pillar and votive candles. At the conclusion, we will exit the Sanctuary for the remainder of our Sunday school time together.

ALL-CHURCH BREAKFAST — Saturday, December 3 / 9:00 am-10:30 am / Fellowship Hall — Men's Monday Morning Bible Study invites you to the annual Christmas Breakfast served by Scout Troop 32. All are welcome! Come and enjoy food, fellowship and fine conversation!

SHARE A PART OF YOUR CHRISTMAS STORY — In the season of Advent, our sermon series will focus on objects from the Christmas narrative that have particular significance to us as Christians and inform our understanding of Jesus and how we are to live as Christians. To go along with our sermon series, we would like to invite you to share a picture of an object that has meaning to you in the Christmas season. Perhaps an ornament, a nativity scene passed down through generations or a movie. *When you submit the picture, please include a short description of why the object is particularly meaningful to you.* You can submit your photo and description to Katy Allen at katyallen@firstpresah.org or at church **through December 18** and enjoy the display in the Narthex through January 8.

HELP US CLOSE THE 2022 BUDGET DEFICIT — As we near the end of the year, we are facing a budget deficit of \$200,000. In worship on October 30, Gary Gehm, chair of the Administration & Finance Committee, challenged each member to prayerfully consider giving an additional \$400 (or \$800 per couple) in 2022. It will only take 500 members giving \$400 to totally erase our deficit. Your vital gift will help us maintain the life changing mission and ministry that First Pres offers. For questions or more information, contact Gary Gehm at AdminFinance@firstpresah.org.

Sunday, November 27 — First Sunday of Advent

8:45 am - 11:45 am — Child care (infants - 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing
9:00 am **Worship** — Sanctuary
10:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal — Choir Auditorium
10:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
10:30 am **Worship** — Sanctuary
10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110/112
10:30 am Preschool Sunday School (3- & 4-year olds) — Room 206
10:30 am K-5 Sunday School — Room 304
10:30 am Confirmation (Grade 8) — Room 109/111
10:30 am Sunday School (Grades 6-7 & 9-12) — Room 301/302
11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym

Upcoming Events


FAMILY NIGHT PROGRAMMING — *Wednesday Evenings / 6:00-8:00 pm / September through May* — Come and share dinner and fellowship with families from First Pres and the broader community. This program includes dinner, adult education and programs for youth and children. Contact Katy Allen at katyallen@firstpresah.org for more details.


Weekly Schedule:


- 6:00-7:00 pm: Drop-in dinner time for all ages
- 6:00-6:30 pm: Middle School hand chimes
- 6:45-8:00 pm: Christmas Camp (Preschool-5th grade)
- 7:00-8:00 pm: Middle School Youth & Adult Education

ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER: Restorative Faith — *Wednesdays, through December 14 / 7:00 pm / Sanctuary / Instructor: Rev. Alex Lang* — Rev. Lang will be teaching his book *Restorative Faith*. The book is designed to help explore many of the logical pitfalls created by traditional Christian doctrine and to replace them with a more consistent theology for people with a 21st century worldview. The book can be purchased on Amazon.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC OPPORTUNITY — *Wednesday nights: November 30, December 7, December 14 and December 21 during Family Night / 6:00-6:30 pm* — This December, Middle Schoolers will have the opportunity to learn hand chimes in a four-week program, leading up to ringing a piece at the 4:00 pm Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve. Practice will take place just before dinner and youth group. Youth of all musical abilities are welcome to participate (it's easy) and they should be able to attend a minimum of two rehearsals. If your middle schooler is interested in participating, please contact Jeni Eklund at jeniekklund@firstpresah.org.

 **CHRISTMAS CAMP SCHEDULE** – *Wednesday evenings, November 30-December 21 / 6:45-8:00 pm* — Preschoolers-5th graders will participate in Christmas Camp during Family Night. Children will learn the music and drama for our Christmas Eve Family Worship and Pageant. They'll also enjoy making some Christmas crafts. Children's Choir and Kids Connect will return to their usual times on January 8.

 **MESSIAH SING-ALONG** — *Sunday, December 4 / 4:00 pm / Sanctuary* — Join Northwest Symphony Orchestra and soloists for Handel's *Messiah*. The many will become one as the audience serves as the chorus. Warm up your vocal cords as we fill the Sanctuary with beautiful music, such as the *Hallelujah Chorus*, honoring the birth of our Savior.

 **ALL CHURCH CAROLING** — *Sunday, December 11 / 4:00 pm* — Join a caroling group to spread Christmas cheer throughout our community, followed by a pizza dinner at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. RSVPs are not necessary, but helpful. Contact Katy Allen at katyallen@firstpresah.org with questions or to RSVP.

PW CHRISTMAS TEA — *Wednesday, December 14 / 12:10 pm / Sanctuary, Parlor* — The entire congregation is invited to a Christmas Concert featuring harp and organ in the Sanctuary followed by tea in the Parlor at 1:00 pm.

COOKIE WALK — *Sunday, December 18 / Parlor* — Support Youth Ministries by participating in this delicious event. Stop in the Parlor after each service to select cookies for each \$5-per-box donation!

Serving, Giving, and Growing

COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE — *Sundays / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110* — This Advent Season, Coffee Grounds will focus on service each Sunday with a different project. Whether or not you will be able to join us, won't you please consider providing some items to help us out as we strive to show love and support to others during this season? We'd love to have you with us in person or in-spirit. **December 4** — CARDS & LETTERS FOR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN AND HOMEBOUND MEMBERS: Join us to send wishes of home and love to service men and women, along with homebound members. Contact Kelly Dean at k_p_dean@hotmail.com.

THE BRIDGE: ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY — *Saturday, December 10 / 7:00 / The Ingemunson Home* — Bring an appetizer, \$10 per person for the beverage fund, and an unwrapped toy. Please RSVP to Kate at kate.ingemunson@gmail.com or text 773-405-3735.

NEW SUNDAY ADULT ED CLASS — *Sundays, through December 18 / 9:00 am / Boardroom / Rev. Ken Hockenberry / Advent in Plain Sight* by Jill J. Duffield — Duffield will draw our attention to ten ordinary objects that appear in the biblical narratives of messianic prophesy and incarnation. Through everyday objects, we can find new meaning in the biblical account of Jesus' coming.



HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR COMMITMENT CARD? — If you have not yet had a chance to turn in your Commitment Card for 2023, you are invited to place your card in the offering plate today. Or, you can drop it off or mail it to the church office, to the attention of Debbie Walter, business administrator. You can also enter your commitment online at firstpresah.org. Thank you for your support!

CHRISTOPHER HOUSE FAMILY TO FAMILY— *Last day to sign up* — Many have enjoyed providing wrapped Christmas gifts for Christopher House families in the past. Your gifts meet needs of a family and help them have a special holiday. Please consider participating this year. Individuals, families, clubs or groups of friends can sign up through today. Stop by the table in the Narthex. If you choose to contribute to the Thrive Fund, visit the website by **December 10**, and select PW-CH Thrive Fund from the drop-down menu or send a check to the church office (please note Thrive Fund on the memo line). If you have questions, contact Liz Thompson at lizht85@yahoo.com.

WINTER ITEM COLLECTION FOR FIRMAN HOUSE — *Donate throughout December* — Our congregation truly was the light that changed the lives of so many children at Firman Community Services last winter. Your generosity allowed so many children the warm winter items needed to face our cold winter winds. Once again, Presbyterian Women are asking for donations to the 2023 winter item drive. The free-will donations will warm the hearts and the bodies of the less fortunate clients of Firman House. Checks can be made out to Presbyterian Women (note winter items in memo), or by donating online on our website. Thank you from Presbyterian Women and the children of Firman House. Questions? Contact Kathy Doering at 847-255-4364.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL — Pick up your family Advent Devotional today: *From Generation to Generation*. Devotionals will be available in the literature rack in the back of church. A link to the digital version of the devotional is also available in Weekly Highlights.

Worship Next Sunday

December 4, 2022: Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am — Worship (Sanctuary)

Music: Compass

10:30 am — Worship (Sanctuary)

Music: Men's Choirs and Chancel Choir

Preacher: Alex Lang

Scriptures: Luke 2:8-15, 1 Samuel 16:1-13a

Sermon Title: "The Sheep"

Sermon Series: "Christmas Tableaus"



NEW SERMON SERIES: 'CHRISTMAS TABLEAUS' — *Sundays, through December 24* — Our Advent sermon series, *Christmas Tableaus*, will look at five illustrations, or tableaus, that are associated with Jesus' birth. Each sermon will take an illustration (which could be objects, animals or things like stars) and discuss how that illustration informs, not only the story of Jesus' birth, but also our faith. As we will discover, each of these illustrations within the birth narrative have particular significance to us as Christians in that they tell us interesting information about the person of Jesus, who he was and how we are supposed to live as Christians.

If you give electronically but would like to put something in the offering plate, we invite you to use the laminated bookmarks available in the pew rack in front of you. We will be keeping you abreast of your generosity.

Bookmarks

\$1,503.00

CURRENT GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Hurricane Ian caused catastrophic damage and flooding in the state of Florida. Any money attached to our bookmarks will be donated to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which is providing support to those affected by this disaster.

MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET — Mary and Martha's Lending Closet is ready to help you with all of your holiday hospitality. We have all that you need to host friends and family. If you have not visited Mary and Martha's, stop in on Sunday morning, Wednesday evening or make an appointment to see all that we have to offer. We have the turkey roaster you might need when you run out of oven space or a complete set of Christmas dishes for that special gathering. Tell your family and friends about us. We love referrals. We look forward to seeing you this holiday season. Contact Mary and Martha's Lending Closet at maryandmartha@firstpresah.org.

PADS — Through generous donations and hours of service of friends and members of First Pres, our shelter has opened during the fall, winter and spring months for over 30 years. We are grateful for your continued generosity. Follow the links in Weekly Highlights to donate goods and money for meals or to volunteer. We are especially looking for volunteers for our 3:00-7:00 am shift. If this is something you could do even once per month, please consider signing up. PADS site directors this year are Amy Hempleman, Cathy Mataloni and Michele Holifield. Please contact pads@firstpresah.org with any questions.

DON'T FORGET OUR FOOD BARRELS! — Please remember our food barrels, which are located throughout the church. Donations of nonperishable food items benefit many families and individuals who are clients of several local organizations that we support. Please note that foods past their expiration dates will have to be thrown away.