



9:00 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME Adam Hendrickson

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Where two or three are gathered together,
All: God is in their midst.
One: We gather to proclaim the promises, to retell the stories,
All: to remember who we are as people of God.
One: Let us worship together!

✦ “10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)” Myrin & Redman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS

One: Let us approach God with the honesty of our lives:
All: Gracious God, the sins of our lives and our world are too heavy to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world, who meets us where we are and offers us eternal hope.

✦ SUNG RESPONSE “Amen” HYMN 600

✦ TIME OF GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS Adam Hendrickson & Steve Olszewski
Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.

MATTHEW 18:15-20

MESSAGE Rev. Laura Sherwood
“Love vs. Law: What’s in Your Backpack?”
Scripture: Romans 13:8-14

✦ “FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS” Everett & Slade

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING OUR GIFTS “Come Sail Away” Dennis De Young

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦ “I WILL FOLLOW” Tomlin, Ingram & Morgan

✦ CHARGE & BLESSING Rev. Laura Sherwood

✦ Please stand as you are able.

Compass: Dan Berg, guitar; Amy Carroll, piano; Kevin Carroll, bass; Adam Hendrickson, guitar/vocals; Greg Schultz, saxophone; Todd Smith, drums; 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*



“Wherever our Journey of Faith takes us,
we can be assured that God goes with us.”
— Rev. Laura Sherwood

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
9:00 & 10:30 AM**

Choose bve .Be the light.Change the w orld .

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 "Amazing Grace" *arr. Kevin Weed*
Dave Johnston, bagpipes

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

WELCOME Rev. Laura Sherwood

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

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One: Let us worship together!

✦ HYMN 409 "God Is Here!" ABBOT'S LEIGH

CALL TO CONFESSION Jo Christian

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Beautiful Savior, you have made your law clear: Love. Love one another. Owe one another nothing but love. Do no wrong to a neighbor. But we have not mastered what it is to love. We have fallen short, causing harm to others through careless action and thoughtless lack of action. Forgive us. Teach us how to love more fully, more perfectly, as generously as you love, following your law and fulfilling your will...

SILENT CONFESSION

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

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

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Christ does not judge us harshly, but forgives all our sin and leads us into new life.

All: We will not take this forgiveness for granted, but will let it transform how we live and love.

✦ RESPONSE (Hymn 775)

**I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

✦ TIME OF GREETING

COMMUNITY LIFE Rev. Laura Sherwood & Steve Olszewski
Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Jo Christian

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 18:15-20
(Pew Bible, p. 799) Jo Christian
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM "Gather Us In" *Jay Althouse*
"Gather us in, the meek and the mighty. Gather us in, the strong and the lame.
Gather us in and make our lives holy. Gather us into Your heart, again.
Gather us in, the rich and the lowly, Gather us in, the wild and the tame.
Gather us in and make our lives holy. Gather us into Your arms again.
Though we are lonely and often lost, we know You will guide us.
We'll never hunger, we'll never thirst for You are here beside us.
Gather us in, all creeds and all colors. Gather us in and make our lives holy.
Gather us into Your heart again. Gather us in and make us one."
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Romans 13:8-14
(Pew Bible, p. 923) Rev. Laura Sherwood
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON Rev. Laura Sherwood
"Love vs. Law: What's in Your Backpack?"

✦ HYMN 543 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" GREEN TYLER

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Laura Sherwood

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING Jo Christian

OFFERTORY "Amazing Grace" *arr. Mack Wilberg*
Text from Hymn 649
Chancel Choir; First Pres Brass; Dave Johnston, bagpipes

✦ DOXOLOGY (Hymn 607)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

✦ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Jo Christian

One: Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness. With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and grace for the world you dearly love.
All: Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✦ HYMN 315 "In the Midst of New Dimensions" NEW DIMENSIONS

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Laura Sherwood

POSTLUDE "St. Andrews Processional" *arr. Mark Schweizer*
First Pres Brass and David Johnston, bagpipes

✦ Please stand as you are able.

Listing of Worship Leaders:

Preaching: Rev. Laura Sherwood
Liturgist: (9:00 am) Adam Hendrickson; (10:30 am) Jo Christian
Pastor: Rev. Laura Sherwood, Interim Pastor/Head of Staff
Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson
Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban
Praise Band: Compass (9:00 am service)

First Pres Brass: Eric Allen and Jered Montgomery, trumpet; Joan Morrone, horn; Todd Smith, trombone

Tech Support and Livestream: Amy Senior and Jonah White

Flowers: Marilyn Giacoppi—In thoughtful and loving memory of the most wonderful husband ever, Joseph Giacoppi

Sources: Unless otherwise noted, scripture readings are from the NRSVUE (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition); Litanies and prayers are from *The Call to Worship*, published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

WORSHIP NOTES

Prayer Requests

Healing & Comfort

First Pres Community

Mario Alberico
Don & Judy Ayers
Barbara Berkow
Wendy Blanck
Virginia Blocki
Laura Carlson
Susan Carroll
Jean Castles
Mary Clarbour
Marilyn Giacoppi

Marylyn Jirsa
Don Johnson
Gordon Palmer
Patty Richard
Betty Sanders
Susan Scott
Nancy Stautzenbach
Barb Tsutsumi
Martha Wade
Bob Webb

Friends & Family

Saraya Angle — niece of Tonya Griffin
Jennifer Dix — daughter of Sam & Jan Dix
Mike Ferdinand — husband of Sharon Ferdinand
Terry Finger — cousin of Marilyn Yantis
Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepura
Henry Hagemann, Jr. — family of Lauren Kelleher
Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek
Klee Family — family of the Ficks
Gary Meunier — friend of Kim Hogan

Virginia Moertel — sister of Marty Kraybill
Janet Muhm — mother of Pauline Pohl
Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia
Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields
Ken Stiles
Dale VanEck — friend of Corinne Peterson
Claire Walsh — cousin of Mary Hebden
James Wilson — cousin of Sheila Hall

Sympathy to

Kathy Sobeski, on the death of her sister-in-law, Claire Sobeski

Serving in the Armed Services

AMN Charles Arthur Brousseau, Air Force — son of Liz Moses and Bob Wendling
MU2 Wesley Carroll, Navy — son of Kevin and Amy Carroll, grandson of JoAnn Thompson
Lt. Col. Michael B. Ford, US Army Reserves — stepson of Kris Ford
Brandon Latuzek — nephew of Elaine Chen
Capt. John Olszewski, USMC — nephew of Steve and Lisa Olszewski
Col. Gretchen Wiltse — sister of Vincent and Heidi Wiltse

About First Pres

STAFF

Interim Pastor / Head of Staff:
Laura Sherwood

Pastor Emeritus: Harry Thompson

Associate Pastor Emerita:
Dianne Shields

Director of Children's & Youth Ministries: Rebekah Anderson

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

Save the Date

Today Kick-off Sunday
September 13 Family Night Returns
September 17 Sunday Adult Education Returns
October 4 Wednesday@Noon
October 8 Concert
October 15 Anniversary Speaker
October 22 New Member Class

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 Laura Sherwood, at laurasherwood@firstpresah.org or 847-255-5900, extension 229 or call the church office to share your pastoral needs.

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 email 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!



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Church Life

September 10, 2023

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.

NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE, EDUCATION, FALL KICKOFF AND RETURN OF HSYG: TODAY — Today, we move back to two worship times, 9:00 am (modern) and 10:30 am (traditional). Education also resumes for children and youth from 10:30-11:30 am. Nursery care is available from 8:45-11:45 am. **Sunday adult education begins September 17.** If you have questions about children's or youth offerings, please contact Rebekah Anderson at rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org.

Please join us after the 10:30 am worship service for food, fun and fellowship in the parking lot. Activities include a bouncy slide for children, petting zoo, pony rides and live music. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor to see all First Pres has to offer.

HSYG KICKS OFF TONIGHT — Youth in grades 9-12 are invited to return to youth group. We'll meet at the church from 6:00-8:00 pm for fellowship, food and games. Can't wait to see you there! If you have questions, please contact Rebekah Anderson at rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org.

BACKPACK COLLECTION FOR REFUGEEONE — *Through September 20* — The Mission Committee is sponsoring a backpack drive for RefugeeOne. As RefugeeOne welcomes new refugee families each day, it is important that the children have the needed supplies to start school. You can drop off your new backpacks and supplies on Sunday mornings through September 17, Wednesday evenings at Family Night, September 13 and 20, and during church office hours through September 20. For more information, contact Michele Holifield at micheleholifield@firstpresah.org.

SUNDAY FLOWERS SIGNUP — *Today and September 17* — Are you looking for a way to honor or remember a special person, celebrate a special day such as a birthday or anniversary or just because you love to see fresh flowers on Sundays? Donate \$40 to the Sunday flower fund. Presbyterian Women will be available in the lobby after services today and September 17 to accept your donations. Contact Sue Henderson for any questions or special requests.

September 10 — Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 am – 11:15 am — Child care (infants – 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing
9:00 am **Worship** — Chapel
9:30 am Brass Rehearsal — Sanctuary
10:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal — Choir Auditorium
10:00 am Fellowship Time—Parlor, Narthex
10:30 am **Worship** — Sanctuary
10:30 am Preschool Sunday School (3- & 4-year olds) — Room 206
10:30 am K-5 Sunday School — Room 304
10:30 am Sunday School (Grades 6-7 & 9-12) — Room 301/303
10:30 am Confirmation — Room 109/111
11:30 am Fall Kick-Off Celebration — East Parking Lot
6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym

Upcoming Events



FAMILY NIGHT PROGRAMMING — *Begins Wednesday, September 13 / 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 children and youth.

Weekly Schedule:

- 6:00-7:00 pm: Drop-in dinner time for all ages
- 6:30-7:00 pm: Children's Choir (grades K-5)
- 7:00-8:00 pm: Classes and programs, including:
 - ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER adult Christian education
 - Kids Connect (grades K-5)
 - Middle School Youth Group (grades 6-8)

ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER: *Listening for God's Voice in a Murky Time* — *Wednesdays, September 13-October 11 / 7:00 pm / Chapel / Instructors: Rev. Laura Sherwood & Rev. Nancy Dolan* — Transitions and change bring opportunities but also uncertainty and questions, whether in our personal lives, or in the life of the Church. Discernment is an ancient spiritual practice which helps us wade through the murkiness of such times, while also drawing us closer to God. In this series, you'll be invited into that practice as together we explore what discernment is, how to practice it and the various opportunities for discernment in our lives, both personal and within the Church.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR — *Wednesdays, starting September 13 / 6:30-7:00 pm / Sanctuary* — Come for dinner from 6:00-6:30 pm and then join us in the Sanctuary for 30 minutes of music making and fellowship. Children will sing in worship throughout the program year. Contact Nick Pulikowski at nickpulikowski@firstpresah.org for more details.

FAMILY NIGHT COOKBOOK — A dedicated team of Family Night cooks has been busy this summer creating the first Family Night cookbook. Pre-sales for the *Family Night Favorites Cookbook* begin at Family Night on Wednesday, September 13. Delivery of the cookbooks will be late October to early November just in time to make a perfect holiday gift. The cookbook will be a beautiful three-ring binder and comes with access to the e-book version. The cost for each book is \$20. The proceeds will provide some new kitchen equipment and 10% of the sales will support our community food programs such as The Wednesday Market and the Loaves and Fishes Garden.

RESTAURANT WALK IS BACK! — Our popular Restaurant Walk fellowship program returns for another session! Sign-up throughout September. Meals will take place at Mago (115 W Campbell) in downtown Arlington Heights during October. This is a great way to connect with other members of the congregation and support a local business. Scan the QR code on the right to sign up. Available dates: **Sunday, October 8, 12:30 pm; Tuesday, October 10, 6:00 pm; Sunday, October 15, 12:30 pm; Tuesday, October 17, 6:00 pm; Sunday, October 22, 12:30 pm; Tuesday, October 24, 6:00 pm.**



PW CIRCLE MEETINGS — Presbyterian Women is a community of women helping to make a difference in the lives of others. We look forward to another year of growing, supporting each other and listening to God's word. Join us for our new study, *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*.
Circle 7: Tuesday, September 19 / 7:00 pm / Parlor
Circles 1, 2, 3: Wednesday, September 20 / 9:30 am / Parlor

Serving, Giving, and Growing

COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE — *Sundays / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110* — Sunday morning study group with members leading Bible study and discussion. Coffee Grounds will begin meeting weekly on **September 10** with an informal social gathering (light breakfast snacks will be provided). Contact Kelly Dean at k_p_dean@hotmail.com with any questions.

SUNDAY EDUCATION FOR ADULTS — *Begins Sunday, September 17-November 19 / 9:00 am / Boardroom / Dr. Donald Kaasch / The Calamitous First Century* — What is the Christian New Testament? What were the social, economic and political conditions in the Roman Province of Judea? What language(s) were spoken in the region? Who wrote the 27 contributions that make up the New Testament? What was the process? Who was Paul? Did the writers of the New Testament have direct experience with Jesus? And lots more!

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE WORK TRIP TO CALVERT CITY, KY — *October 15-21 / Registration Closes September 15* — Individual registration for the Fall 2023 Presbyterian Disaster Assistance work trip to Calvert City, KY is open. The cost for the trip is \$275 which includes all lodging, meals, supplies and activities. We will be partnering with organizations in the area to assist in rebuilding due to the devastation that resulted from the December 2021 tornadoes and recent flooding. All skill levels are welcome. For more information, contact Michele Holifield at micheleholifield@firstpresah.org or Kim Hogan at k_hogan2003@yahoo.com.

MISSION DELEGATION TO FRONTERA DE CRISTO — *March 10-15, 2024 / Registration is Open* — Join others from First Pres on a journey to the Arizona/Mexico border for a time of learning and reflection on life at the border. During our time, we will be hosted by the Presbyterian Borderland Ministry, Frontera de Cristo. A \$200 deposit is required to reserve your spot. You will need a passport for this journey, so make your plans now as passport application wait times are currently high. The cost for the trip includes transportation, lodging, meals and daily activities. For more information, contact Michele Holifield at micheleholifield@firstpresah.org or Kim Hogan at k_hogan2003@yahoo.com.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF OUR NURSERY! — Would you like to volunteer your services at either the first or second service? We are looking for once a month volunteers or substitutes. **Here are the requirements:** Must be 18 or older, take "SAFE SANCTUARY" training, work in pairs once a month or more, have fun with babies/toddlers! Times available 8:45-10:15 am or 10:15-11:45 am. If this volunteer position interests you, please contact Beth Johnson at btj0914@hotmail.com.



PDO WELCOME BACK: CELEBRATING 45 YEARS IN CHILDCARE! — First Pres PDO & Preschool wants to welcome back all of the returning families from First Pres and the surrounding community. We are excited to open our doors tomorrow, September 11, for our 45th season!!! Hoping for another great year for our teaching staff and all of the students!

JOIN THE GOONIES (COUPLES & SINGLES UNDER 35) — *Tuesday, September 19 / 6:00 pm* — Hey you guys! The Goonies group is going to have their second meeting at Kilwin's in downtown Arlington Heights. The whole family is invited to this one and after we grab our ice cream, we'll hang out at Harmony Park. We hope to see you there!

Worship Next Sunday

September 17, 2023: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am — Worship (Chapel)
Music: Compass

10:30 am — Worship (Sanctuary)
Music: Chancel Choir

Preacher: Rev. Laura Sherwood
Scriptures: Matthew 8:1-4; Genesis 11:1-9
Sermon Title: "Will We Be Different on Monday?"

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	\$124.00
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CURRENT GIVING OPPORTUNITY: *Novi* — Our Annual Speaker this year will focus on an organization working with children affected by the war in Ukraine. During the months of September, October and November, you have the opportunity to support their mission to provide emotional support, nutritious food and access to education for children living in Ukraine. 4.5 million children remain in Ukraine, and Novi works to provide care for these children who are exposed to violence, displacement and emotional trauma.

TWO IMPORTANT UPDATES FOR OUR INTERIM JOURNEY

1. Our original goal of having a new Interim Associate Pastor in place by September 1 was not possible. We are currently in the process of seeking someone to fill that position, with Presbytery's help. We do not know how long this will take and will keep you informed.
2. We need your help. It will take all of us working together and praying for one another to fill all the needs of the Church especially while we are without a second Interim pastor.

Please consider how you might help with such things as: Offering a sermon, being a liturgist in worship, supporting any of our programs with your attendance or volunteering in some way, helping the staff to know any needs of members and community, participating in our new Community Assistance Team, to name just a few. To learn more about how your skills and talents might help during this time, please email any member of the Session, staff or Pastor Laura.

No matter what – everyone can pray. *Please remember the staff, all our leaders and the entire congregation in your regular prayers. THANK YOU!*

Pastor Laura "PL" Sherwood, Interim Pastor/Head-of-Staff
laurasherwood@firstpresah.org

NEW MEMBER & SEEKERS CLASS — *October 22 / 11:45 am / Boardroom* — Our next new members class will take place on Sunday, October 22, at 11:45 am in the Boardroom. Lunch will be provided. Contact Rev. Laura Sherwood at laurasherwood@firstpresah.org for more information or to join the class.