



**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*



“The true character of ministry  
is a servant’s heart.”  
— Harold J. Warner

**WELCOME**

Adam Hendrickson

**✦ CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: To you, O God of the heavens, we lift our eyes.  
**All: Have mercy on us!**  
One: God has been our dwelling place from generation to generation.  
**All: Hear us when we call!**  
One: From everlasting to everlasting, God is with us.  
**All: We will magnify your holy name!**

**✦ “10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)”**

*Myrin & Redman*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS**

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

**Holy God, hear our prayer: For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness; for the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us; for the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist; for the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us; we pray for the courage to admit our fault, the strength to amend our actions, and the hope that your grace awaits us. Through Christ we pray...**

**✦ SUNG RESPONSE**

“Amen”

HYMN 600

**✦ TIME OF GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**REFLECTION ON GIVING**

Mike Noble

**JUDGES 4:1-7**

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

**MESSAGE**

“Investing in Ministry & Mission” Rev. Dr. Craig Howard  
Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

**SONG**

“A Change is Gonna Come”

*Sam Cooke*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

One: Lord, in your mercy,  
**All: hear our prayer.**

**SHARING OUR GIFTS**

“With My Own Two Hands”

*Ben Harper*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**✦ “GOD OF JUSTICE”**

*Tim Hughes*

**✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Craig Howard

✦ 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

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.

**SOURCES FOR WORSHIP**

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). Confession 9:00 am, written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’. Used with permission.

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY  
COMMITMENT SUNDAY**

**NOVEMBER 19, 2023  
9:00 & 10:30 AM**

Choose bve .Be the lght.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 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine" *Robert Hebble*

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

WELCOME Rev. Barbara Gorsky

INTROIT "Come with a Grateful Heart" *Bailey & Mayo*  
"Come to God with a grateful heart, ready to serve and ready to praise. God made everything, all creatures great and small. God loves everyone and God is Lord of all! God so loved the world, he sent his only son. Jesus came to share God's love for everyone! Come on, children! Come to God with a grateful heart, ready to serve and praise. Praise the Lord!"  
Children's Choir; Nick Pulikowski, director

### ✦CALL TO WORSHIP

One: To you, O God of the heavens, we lift our eyes.  
**All: Have mercy on us!**  
One: God has been our dwelling place from generation to generation.  
**All: Hear us when we call!**  
One: From everlasting to everlasting, God is with us.  
**All: We will magnify your holy name!**

✦HYMN 367 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" ST GEORGE'S WINDSOR

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of abundance, you have given us so many gifts. You bless us with talents, resources, skills, and knowledge, and yet we hide them under a bushel. We hoard these gifts, instead of following you and sharing with those in need. We have been poor stewards of all you have given. Forgive us, and help us grow what we are given, that it might be returned in service to you...**

#### SILENT CONFESSION

*(please pray a silent and personal prayer of confession during this time)*  
...in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

#### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: One of the indescribable gifts of God is the forgiveness that never ends.  
**All: In gratitude, we will share. In gratitude, we will praise.**

✦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

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

#### REFLECTION ON GIVING

Mike Noble

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Rev. Barbara Gorsky

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Judges 4:1-7  
(Pew Bible, p. 191) Rev. Barbara Gorsky  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" *Allen Pote*  
*"I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, and I wonder from where comes my help? My help, it comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will not let you stumble, He will not let you fall, the Lord is your keeper. The sun will not strike you by day nor the moon by night, the Lord will keep your life. The Lord will keep you from all evil. He will keep your life. He will keep your going out, and your coming in from this time forth, and forevermore"*  
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:14-30  
(Pew Bible, p. 807) Rev. Dr. Craig Howard  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Investing in Ministry & Mission"  
Rev. Dr. Craig Howard

✦HYMN 719 "Come, Labor On" ORA LABORA

## GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Barbara Gorsky

#### 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

OFFERTORY "All Creatures of Our God and King" *Mark Hayes*  
*Text from Hymn 15*  
Chancel Choir

✦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

One: God of the harvest, you are continually planting the seeds of your love in our world and in our lives. As we bring our gifts to you, may they be seeds of your grace, peace, and hope, planted deeply in our community.

**All: Amen.**

## GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✦HYMN 643 "Now Thank We All Our God" NUN DANKET

✦CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Craig Howard

POSTLUDE "Now Thank We All Our God" *J. S. Bach arr. Fox*

✦Please stand as you are able.

**Flowers:** **Carrie Costello**—In loving memory and thanksgiving for my parents, Rod and Sally Costello  
**Bill, Liz & Emily Thompson**—In memory of Bill's mom, Nancy E. Thompson

#### Listing of Worship Leaders:

**Preaching:** Rev. Dr. Craig Howard, Chicago Executive Presbyterian

**Liturgist:** (9:00 & 10:30 am) Rev. Barbara Gorsky

**Pastors:** Rev. Laura Sherwood, Interim Head of Staff; Rev. Barbara Gorsky, Bridge Interim

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

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

**Praise Band:** Compass (9:00 am service)

**Tech Support and Livestream:** Amy Senior and Jonah White

## WORSHIP NOTES

# Prayer Requests

## Healing & Comfort

### First Pres Community

Mario Alberico  
Don & Judy Ayers  
Wendy Blanck  
Virginia Blocki  
Dawn Bruce  
Laura Carlson  
Jean Castles  
Mary Clarbourn  
Marilyn Giacoppi

Launa Ismail  
Marylyn Jirsa  
Sandy Naeher  
Patty Richard  
Sandy Richardson  
Susan Scott  
Nancy Stautzenbach  
Barb Tsutsumi  
Martha Wade

### Friends & Family

Saraya Angle — niece of Tonya Griffin  
Jennifer Dix — daughter of Sam & Jan Dix  
Mike Ferdinand — husband of Sharon Ferdinand  
Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepora  
Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek  
Jason Krigas — brother of Lauren Kelleher  
Gary Meunier — friend of Kim Hogan  
Virginia Moertel — sister of Marty Kraybill  
Tom Nemeč — friend of Kevin & Carol Kelley

Desa Peric — great-granddaughter of Steve Smith  
Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia  
Larry Pohlman — friend of Kevin & Carol Kelley  
Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields  
Tom Spaeth — friend of Steve Smith  
Ken Stiles  
Susan Strasser — friend of Krigas family  
Dale VanEck — friend of Corinne Peterson  
Claire Walsh — cousin of Mary Hebden

### Sympathy to

Dave & Linda Berkow, on the death of Dave's mom, Barbara Berkow  
Robert and Amy McMullen, on the death of their son, Ameer McMullen (nephew of Lee Bruce)

### 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

**Bridge Interim Associate Pastor:**  
Barbara Gorsky

**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 Commitment Sunday / Guest Preacher Rev. Craig Howard  
Today Concert: My Country 'Tis of Thee / Wise & Sage Dinner  
November 22 Office Closes at 12:30 pm (Thanksgiving holiday)  
November 23-24 Office Closed (Thanksgiving holiday)  
December 2 Holiday Decorating of the Church  
December 3 Concert: Messiah Sing-along  
December 17 Cookie Walk  
December 17 Concert: Glory of Christmas

**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 Rev. Barbara Gorsky, at [barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org](mailto:barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org), or 847-255-5900, extension 225 or Rev. Laura Sherwood, at [laurasherwood@firstpresah.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://firstpresah.org/experience/sermons). If you need help with technical problems, please send an email to [webcasting@firstpresah.org](mailto:webcasting@firstpresah.org).

**GET CONNECTED** — Join the conversation on Facebook, at [facebook.com/firstpresah](https://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](http://firstpresah.org) under the Member Login tab to get started. We look forward to connecting with you!



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

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# Church Life

November 19, 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 worshipping with us in this spirit.

**WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS:** Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.



**TODAY: GUEST PREACHER, REV. DR. CRAIG HOWARD** — Rev. Howard began serving as Executive Presbyter of Chicago at the end of 2021. Before coming to Chicago, he served as Presbytery Leader of Giddings-Lovejoy in St. Louis, Ministry Relations Officer with the Presbyterian Foundation and as Presbytery Executive for the Presbytery of Milwaukee. Craig is a native of Chicago's south suburbs. He completed his undergraduate work at DePaul University and earned MDiv and DMin degrees from McCormick Theological Seminary. His spouse is the Rev. Marilyn Gamm, who is also a pastor in St. Louis. They have two adult daughters who both live in Chicago.

**COMMITMENT SUNDAY / TODAY** — Today is your opportunity to uphold your commitment to the continuing mission of First Pres, so that we may continue to do good in our world and follow through Christ's vision for the church. We will be collecting your commitment cards this morning during the offering.

**MY COUNTRY 'TIS OF THEE: A PATRIOTIC CONCERT** — *Today / 4:00 pm / Sanctuary* — Join us for a concert celebrating our Veterans. There will be performances by guest soloists, piano, organ and instrumentalists. This memorable evening will include a special tribute to all those who have served and currently serve our country. Those 60+ are encouraged to stay for the Wise & Sage Dinner at 5:30 pm.

**WISE & SAGE DINNER** — *Today / 5:30 pm / Fellowship Hall* — The High School youth will host the annual Thanksgiving dinner for members who are 60+ years of age. Be sure to attend the 4:00 pm concert just prior to the dinner!

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE** — The church office will close at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, November 22, and remain closed Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

### November 19 — Commitment Sunday

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  
9:00 am Adult Education — Boardroom  
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 5-7 & 9-12) — Room 301/303  
10:30 am Confirmation — Room 109/111  
10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110  
11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex  
4:00 pm Concert Series: My Country 'Tis of Thee — Sanctuary  
5:30 pm Wise & Sage Dinner — Fellowship Hall

## Upcoming Events



FAMILY NIGHT PROGRAMMING — *Wednesdays / 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.



FAMILY NIGHT — THERE IS NO FAMILY NIGHT THIS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

**NO CLASS THIS WEDNESDAY! ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER** — *The History and Consequences of the Doctrine of Discovery: Why It Still Matters for the Church Today / Through December 13 / Michele Holifield* — The 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the PC(USA) 2016 called upon the PC(USA) to repudiate the centuries old Doctrine of Discovery. The Assembly also called on congregations to learn about the Doctrine of Discovery and the consequences to indigenous people to support Native Americans today. We will spend our time talking about the history, the role Presbyterian Mission has played over the past 200 years and the resulting injustices that Native Americans face today because of the Doctrine of Discovery and cultural successors such as broken treaties, forced removal and forced assimilation. Some of the topics we will address include boarding schools, violence against women, land rights, native spirituality and Christianity, and intergenerational trauma. As we look at these difficult topics we will look with hope to a future of partnership and community with our Native American neighbors.

**ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS DECORATING** — *Saturday, December 2 / 9:30 am / Narthex* — Be part of this wonderful tradition by joining in with members of your church family to transform our church home for the season of Advent and Christmas. Meet in the Narthex at 9:30 am. All are welcome as there is a variety of tasks for all ages.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** — *Sunday, December 3 / 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. 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.

**MESSIAH SING-ALONG** — *Sunday, December 3 / 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 BREAKFAST** — *Saturday, December 9 / 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! Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, December 5.

**THE BRIDGE CHRISTMAS PARTY** — *Saturday, December 9 / 7:00 pm / Hosted by Kate & Kirk Ingemunson* — Please bring an appetizer to share and \$10 per person for the beverage fund. We will be collecting unwrapped toys to donate to the Wheeling Township Toy Drive. RSVP to Kate Ingemunson by December 7 at [kate.ingemunson@gmail.com](mailto:kate.ingemunson@gmail.com). Wear Christmas Pajamas!!

## Serving, Giving, and Growing

**COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE** — *Last Class Today / 10:30 / Room 110* — *Invitation to Psalms* (A Short-Term Disciple Bible Study) — Make a deeper connection to the world of the Psalms so that these well-known scriptures can help you give voice to all aspects of our human experience - joy, faith, uncertainty and sorrow. **NEW CLASS begins Sunday, November 26 through December 17 / 10:30 am / Room 110** — *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch* (4-week study) — We don't know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know he did. In this Advent study, Matt Rawle explores the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* including, how did the Grinch's heart grow three sizes come Christmas morning? How did Christmas save the Grinch? Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives? This season, look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith and see how Christ speaks to us through our culture. Contact Kelly Dean at [k\\_p\\_dean@hotmail.com](mailto:k_p_dean@hotmail.com) with any questions.

**SUNDAY EDUCATION FOR ADULTS** — *Last Class Today / 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? Who wrote the 27 contributions that make up the New Testament? **NEW CLASS begins Sunday, December 3 through December 17 / 9:00 am / Boardroom / Rev. Ken Hockenberry / A Surprising God** — The world that is emerging from the global pandemic raises old questions with a new urgency: Where do we find hope when it seems in such short supply? What are the signs of God's peace in our divided country and world? Where do we find a deeper sense of joy? In their new devotional, *A Surprising God*, Tom Long and Donyelle McCray remind us that these are the questions of Advent. These writers invite us to an honest reflection on the challenges of being people of faith in this present moment. You can purchase this devotional book on Amazon – *A Surprising God: Advent Devotions for an Uncertain Time* WJK Press, 2021.

**PW CIRCLE MEETING** — Presbyterian Women is a community of women helping to make a difference in the lives of others. Join us for our study, *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*. **Circle 7: Tuesday, November 21 / 7:00 pm / Parlor**

**MEALS ON WHEELS SIGN-UPS** — *Today* — First Pres has agreed to deliver Meals on Wheels for three routes during the month of December. Please stop at the table in the Lobby where you can see the routes and sign up!

**CHRISTOPHER HOUSE FAMILY TO FAMILY SIGN-UPS** — *Sundays, through November 26* — Individuals, families, clubs or groups are welcome to sign up. Stop by the table in the Narthex. Gifts should be wrapped and dropped off between 8:30-9:45 am on Saturday, December 2, in the East Parking Lot. Volunteers will load and deliver them to Christopher House. You may also purchase an Aldi or Jewel gift card for \$25.00 to help provide meals at Christmas. Contact Liz Thompson at [lizht85@yahoo.com](mailto:lizht85@yahoo.com) with any questions.

**CHRISTMAS CAMP REGISTRATION** — *Sign-ups are open!* — Children's Ministries and First Pres' Music Ministries are excited to offer a Christmas Pageant experience for our preschoolers – 5th graders. Christmas Camp will incorporate drama, music and crafts on Wednesday nights beginning November 29 through December 20, from 6:45-8:00 pm. Registration is free and all are welcome. For more information, contact Rebekah Anderson at [rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org](mailto:rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org).

## Worship Next Sunday

**November 26, 2023: Christ the King Sunday**

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

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

*Preacher:* Rev. Laura Sherwood  
*Scriptures:* 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 17:11-19  
*Sermon Title:* "A Faith That Makes Us Well"

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	\$1,738.00
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**CURRENT GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Novi** — Our Annual Speaker this year focused on an organization working with children affected by the war in Ukraine. During the month of December, 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.

**DONATE SNACKS FOR PADS AND JOURNEYS THE ROAD HOME** — As we continue our theme of 'Journey', you have the opportunity to donate snack items for those experiencing homelessness in our community. Snacks that can be carried in a backpack will be collected through November 26. Items can be dropped off on Sunday mornings in the lobby, Wednesday nights at Family Night or in the basket inside Door 9 during regular church office hours. The following items are most needed: peanut butter or cheese crackers, tuna or chicken pouches, small bags of crackers like Cheez-its or Goldfish, trail mix, beef jerky, dried nuts and dried fruits. Questions, contact Michele Holifield or Kim Hogan.

**THE FIRST PRES FAMILY NIGHT COOKBOOKS ARE HERE!** — The First Pres Family Night Cookbooks are here. Cookbooks will be available on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings at Family Night throughout November and December. If you are unable to pick one up during those times, contact the cookbook team at [famnightcookbook@gmail.com](mailto:famnightcookbook@gmail.com) to arrange pick-up. The cost of the cookbook is \$20 and includes over 100 recipes. Proceeds from the sale of the cookbooks will provide some new Fellowship Hall kitchen equipment with 10% of the proceeds going to programs that address food insecurity.

**PADS (PUBLIC ACTION TO DELIVER SHELTER) SITE HAS REOPENED** — The First Pres PADS overnight shelter has opened for the season. Each evening, we need twelve volunteers to fill our shifts. Training is provided for all volunteers. We also have many opportunities to donate food and other items for our guests. If you have any questions or would like more information, email [pads@firstpresah.org](mailto:pads@firstpresah.org).

**MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET** — Mary and Martha's Lending Closet is ready to help you with all of your holiday hospitality. If you have not visited Mary and Martha's, make an appointment to see all that we have to offer. We look forward to seeing you this holiday season. Contact Mary and Martha's Lending Closet at [maryandmartha@firstpresah.org](mailto:maryandmartha@firstpresah.org).