

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



Cover art by Mary Martinka

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
December 31, 2023
10:30 AM**

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

PRELUDE "Greensleeves" *Richard Purvis*

WELCOME Rev. Rebekah Anderson

♠ **CAROL 133** (vv. 1, 3, 4) "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES

♠ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Sing to the Lord a new song;

All: sing to the Lord, all the earth!

One: Sing to the Lord and bless God's name;

All: tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Barbara Gorsky

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.

CAROL 140 "Once in Royal David's City" IRBY

FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19 Rev. Rebekah Anderson
Adam and Eve disobey God's command and disrupt the order and goodness of creation

CAROL 121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" ST LOUIS

SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15-18 Rev. Barbara Gorsky
God promises that, through Abraham, all the peoples of the world will be blessed

ANTHEM "Veni, Veni" *arr. Heather Keith*
Kris Ward, handbells

THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Rev. Rebekah Anderson
The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah

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

FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9 Rev. Barbara Gorsky
The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of creation

ANTHEM "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" *arr. Kastner & McChesney*
Kris Ward, handbells

FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 38 Rev. Rebekah Anderson
An angel appears to Mary and announces that she shall bear a child

CAROL 119 (vs. 1,3)	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	MENDELSSOHN
SIXTH LESSON	Luke 2:1-7 <i>Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child</i>	Rev. Barbara Gorsky
ANTHEM	“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Kris Ward, handbells	arr. Linda Lamb
SEVENTH LESSON	Luke 2:8-16 <i>Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah</i>	Rev. Rebekah Anderson
ANTHEM	“Do You Hear What I Hear?” Kris Ward, handbells	arr. Kevin McChesney
EIGHTH LESSON	Matthew 2:1-11 <i>Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus</i>	Rev. Barbara Gorsky
CAROL 151	“We Three Kings of Orient Are”	KINGS OF ORIENT
NINTH LESSON	John 1:1-14 <i>The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth</i>	Rev. Rebekah Anderson
CAROL 122	“Silent Night, Holy Night!”	STILLE NACHT
OFFERTORY	“West Indies Carol” Kris Ward, handbells	arr. Christine D Anderson
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING		Rev. Barbara Gorsky
✠ CAROL 134 (vv. 1, 2, 4)	“Joy to the World”	ANTIOCH
✠ BLESSING AND CHARGE		Rev. Rebekah Anderson
One:	May the Christ, who, by his incarnation, gathered into one the things of heaven and earth, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill, and the blessing of God almighty; the Father, the Son, and the Holy spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.	
All:	Alleluia!	
One:	Go forth in peace and joy.	
All:	Thanks be to God! Amen.	
POSTLUDE	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	Gordon Young

✠ Please stand as you are able.

Join Us for Worship January 7

Preacher: Rev. Barbara Gorsky | Genesis 1:1-5, Matthew 2:1-12

Music: 9:00 am Compass Praise Band; 10:30 am Chancel Choir & Men’s Chorus

Staff Directory

Interim Pastor / Head of Staff:

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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.

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 (9:45 am – 11:15 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.




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.

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.

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 Choose love.  Be the light.  Change the world.