



**9:00 AM WORSHIP**

**WELCOME**

Adam Hendrickson

**✦ CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God does good work in our hearts,  
**All: God's spirit of grace transforms us.**  
One: We gather to worship Jesus Christ,  
**All: Jesus continues to complete God's good work.**  
One: Let us be partners in God's grace,  
**All: Let us worship God!**

**✦ "FRIEND OF GOD"**

*Houghton & Gungor*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS**

Rev. Laura Sherwood

Gracious God, we want to be a source of hope for others but find it hard to see beyond our limitations. We want our hearts to be transformed but find we're too afraid to open them to others. We long to stand with people who are in need but find ourselves consumed by our own interests. Forgive us, God. Open our hearts so that we can serve all who are lost, open our minds so we can see possibility in unexpected places and awaken us to the presence of your spirit moving through all things.

**✦ SUNG RESPONSE**

"Amen"

HYMN 600

**✦ TIME OF GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

**MESSAGE**

"That Love May Overflow"

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

Scripture: Philippians 1:3-11

**APOSTLES' CREED Q&A**

**WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBER CONFIRMANDS**

**BY AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

**SHARING OUR GIFTS** (See the back page for additional giving options.)

Rev. Laura Sherwood

*"The Miracle" Clayton, Evan, Hewson, & Mullen Jr.*

**RECOGNITION OF 8TH GRADE CONFIRMANDS AND**

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**✦ "BUILD MY LIFE"**

*Younker, Martin, Kaple, Redman, & Barrett*

**✦ CHARGE & BENECTION**

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

✦ Please stand as you are able.

**Compass:** Amy Carroll, piano; Kevin Carroll, bass; Adam Hendrickson, guitar/vocals; Nate Montgomery, drums; Greg Schultz, saxophone; Todd Smith, trombone; 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. Please scan the QR code to visit our website for more information.



**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).

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ACTIVITY BAGS**

Activity bags for children are available at the Sanctuary entrance.

**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**

All liturgies are from *Call to Worship Year B* Presbyterian Publishing; Scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE).



**QR CODE FOR THE ONLINE GIVING PORTAL**

Please scan the QR code to access our online giving portal. Please select "General Fund" or other offering option. You may also text 11855 to 73256 to give. Thank you for your generous support!

**First Presbyterian Church  
of Arlington Heights**

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



"Trust each other again and again. When the trust level gets high enough, people transcend apparent limits, discovering new and awesome abilities for which they were previously unaware."  
— David Armistead

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
CELEBRATION/CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

**APRIL 28, 2024  
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

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## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

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PRELUDE "In Christ Alone" *Getty & Townend, arr. Payne*

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

WELCOME Rev. Rebekah Anderson

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP Rilla Puckett

One: God does good work in our hearts,  
**All: God's spirit of grace transforms us.**  
One: We gather to worship Jesus Christ,  
**All: Jesus continues to complete God's good work.**  
One: Let us be partners in God's grace,  
**All: Let us worship God!**

✦ HYMN 305 "Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!" DARWALL'S 148TH

CALL TO CONFESSION Susannah Landwehr

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, we want to be a source of hope for others but find it hard to see beyond our limitations. We want our hearts to be transformed but find we're too afraid to open them to others. We long to stand with people who are in need but find ourselves consumed by our own interests. Forgive us, God. Open our hearts so that we can serve all who are lost, open our minds so we can see possibility in unexpected places and awaken us to the presence of your spirit moving through all things...**

### SILENT CONFESSION

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

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

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the good news of God's promise: God's love and compassion overflow and make us new. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

✦ GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

✦ TIME OF GREETING Rev. Laura Sherwood

### COMMUNITY LIFE

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

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

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PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Sarah Levene

SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 1:3-11  
(Pew Bible, p. 953) Rev. Rebekah Anderson  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "That Love May Overflow" Rev. Rebekah Anderson

### APOSTLES' CREED Q&A

One: Do you believe in God the Father?  
**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?  
**All: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
One: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
**All: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBER CONFIRMANDS

BY PROCLAMATION OF FAITH  
Revs. Rebekah Anderson & Laura Sherwood

✦ HYMN 833 "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" ST. MARGARET

## GIVING THANKS TO GOD

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CALL AND PRAYER FOR OFFERING Rev. Barbara Gorsky  
(See the back page for additional giving options.)

OFFERTORY "May the Living Christ Be with You" *Richard Clemmitt*  
*"May the living Christ be with you:  
Before you to show you the way, Beside you to befriend you,  
Behind you to encourage you, Above you to watch over you,  
Beneath you to cushion you, And within you to give you peace.  
Holding you in peace. Holding you in love. Amen."*  
Chancel Choir; Phil & Courtney Lewis, horns

### RECOGNITION OF 8TH GRADE CONFIRMANDS AND

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION  
Revs. Rebekah Anderson & Barbara Gorsky

### 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 receive Holy Communion. Please partake of the bread as it is served. We will hold the cup and drink together. There are wafers provided on each tray that are free of these common food sensitivities: gluten, wheat, casein, dairy, nut, egg, corn, yeast, soy, low/no sodium.)*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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## GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

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✦ HYMN 761 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" BEECHER

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Rebekah Anderson

POSTLUDE "Epilogue" *Norman Gilbert*

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✦ Please stand as you are able.

**Flowers:** Mary Halatek—Remembering Walt on his birthday  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Children's & Youth Ministries  
**Preaching:** Rev. Rebekah Anderson  
**Liturgists:** Susannah Landwehr, Sarah Levene, Rilla Puckett  
**Director of Music and Worship:** Adam Hendrickson  
**Associate Director of Music and Organist:** Christopher Urban  
**Tech Support and Livestream:** Amy Senior and Jonah White

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## WORSHIP NOTES

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# Prayer Requests

## Healing & Comfort

### First Pres Community

Bob Ahrens	Laura Carlson
Mario Alberico	Jean Castles
Carole Anderson	Mary Clarbourn
Roger Anderson	Roger Fick
Don & Judy Ayers	Marilyn Giacoppi
Ron Barczak	Marylyn Jirsa
Virginia Blocki	Patty Richard
Dawn Bruce	John Sonderegger
Kurt Carlisle	

### Friends & Family

Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepora	Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields
Don Gross — father of Suzanne Kowalski	Tom Spaeth — friend of Steve Smith
Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek	Claire Walsh — cousin of Mary Hebden
Desa Peric — great-granddaughter of Steve Smith	Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al & Karen Wilson
Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia	

### Sympathy to

Bruce Blanck, on the death of his wife, **Wendy Blanck**  
 Beth Buzogany (former member) and family, on the death of her husband Bruce  
 The family of **Priscilla Heerens**  
 The family of **Karen Johnson**

### Serving in the Armed Services

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

# About First Pres

## STAFF

<b>Interim Pastor / Head of Staff:</b> Laura Sherwood	<b>Business Administrator:</b> Debbie Walter
<b>Interim Associate Pastor:</b> Barbara Gorsky	<b>Senior Administrative Assistant:</b> Mary Fino
<b>Associate Pastor of Children, Youth and Families:</b> Rebekah Anderson	<b>Administrative Assistant / Receptionist:</b> Carol Vega
<b>Director of Music and Worship:</b> Adam Hendrickson	<b>Facilities Director:</b> Tony Scheurich
<b>Associate Director of Music and Organist:</b> Christopher Urban	<b>Facilities Coordinator:</b> Michele Holifield
<b>Worship Technicians:</b> Amy Senior, Jonah White	<b>Director of First Pres PDO &amp; Preschool:</b> Coleen Anzalone
	<b>Nursery Coordinator:</b> Beth Johnson

## Save the Date

Today	Celebration/Confirmation Sunday
May 1	Wednesdays@Noon
May 5	Children's Spring Musical (During 10:30 am Worship)
May 8	God's Honest Truth
May 12	Guest Preacher: Steve Gumaer, NOVI
May 15	Last Family Night of the Program Year
May 19	Pentecost / Baccalaureate Sunday

**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 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!

# Church Life

April 28, 2024

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.

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

**ALL-CHURCH MISSION STUDY — Last Day to Submit At-home Version —** Please complete the at-home version online for Sessions 1, 2 and 3 by today (look for the button on our church website). Your reflections will help us get an understanding of the Church's history and heritage, passions for ministry and mission, and visions for the future and your next pastoral leadership. Questions? Contact Pastors Laura Sherwood or Barbara Gorsky.

**CELEBRATION & CONFIRMATION SUNDAY — Today** — Today in worship, we celebrate important milestones in the lives of our youth: 8th graders who have completed the Confirmation class are entering a period of discernment about ultimately joining the church and 10th graders who have completed their discernment are being welcomed as members of the church. Thank you for helping us celebrate all of them!

**WRITE NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> AND 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CONFIRMANDS — Today** — All are invited to write a personal note of encouragement to any or all of our confirmands. Stop by the tables in the Parlor or Chapel.

**NEXT SUNDAY: CHILDREN'S SPRING MUSICAL — There will be only one worship service on Sunday, May 5, at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary** — Presenting *For Goodness' Sake* with words and music by Cynthia Wright. This fun children's musical retells the familiar lessons of the Ten Commandments through music and drama. The show is set on a typical Sunday morning with a family rushing to get to church. During their car trip to church, they listen to a radio program interpreting each commandment as a song performed by the choir.

### April 28 — Fifth Sunday of Easter / Celebration & Confirmation Sunday

8:45 am – 11:15 pm — Child care (infants – 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing  
 9:00 am **Worship** — Chapel  
 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 Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110  
 11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex  
 12:30 pm Restaurant Walk — Off-site (Armand's)  
 5:00 pm Youth Handbell Choir Rehearsal — Bell Choir Room  
 5:45 pm Youth Handbell Choir/HSYG Dinner — Fellowship Hall  
 6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym, Fellowship Hall



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

**First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights**  
 302 North Dunton, Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
 847-255-5900 / [www.firstpresah.org](http://www.firstpresah.org) / [mail@firstpresah.org](mailto:mail@firstpresah.org)



## 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.

### Weekly Schedule:

**6:00-7:00 pm:** Drop-in dinner time for all ages

**7:00-8:00 pm:** Classes and programs, including:

- ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER adult Christian education
- Children's Spring Musical Rehearsal
- Middle School Youth Group (grades 5-8)

**ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER CLASS** — *Wednesdays, through May 1 / 7:00-8:00 pm / Chapel / Mahler 2, "Resurrection" Symphony / Adam Hendrickson* — Gustav Mahler is one of the greatest and most prophetic composers of all time, having lived and composed during the incredible transition from the 19th to the 20th century. Join First Pres Music Director, Adam Hendrickson, for an in-depth discussion and analysis of one of his most celebrated works.

**CHILDREN'S SPRING MUSICAL REHEARSAL** — *Wednesday evenings, Through May 1 / 7:00-8:00 pm / Sanctuary* — Children will perform their musical in worship on Sunday, May 5, at the 10:30 am service. Contact Nick Pulikowski at [nickpulikowski@firstpresah.org](mailto:nickpulikowski@firstpresah.org) for more information.

**APRIL RESTAURANT WALK** — *Today (12:30 pm) & Tuesday, April 30 (6:00 pm) / Armand's (101 W. Campbell, AH)* — Our popular Restaurant Walk fellowship program returns for another session! This is a great way to connect with other members of the congregation and support a local restaurant. Register through the link in Weekly Highlights or call the church office. Contact Pastor Barbara Gorsky at [barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org](mailto:barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org).

**GARDENERS WANTED** — *Monday, April 29 / 7:00 pm / Parlor* — The church's gardeners are looking for additional volunteers to help maintain our landscaping. This meeting is a chance to meet other gardeners and ask any questions you may have. Please contact Walt Meyer at 847-253-1701 or [aw5171@earthlink.net](mailto:aw5171@earthlink.net) for more information.

**FINAL WEDNESDAYS@NOON RECITAL** — *Wednesday, May 1 / 12:10 pm / Sanctuary* — Christopher Urban, organ. Our final noontime recital will focus on music of spring and rebirth from the hymn tune *All Things Bright and Beautiful* to Edvard Grieg's *The Last Spring*.

**BAPTISM CLASS** — *Sunday, May 5 / 9:30 am / Chapel* — All families interested in scheduling a baptism, and those who would like to learn more about baptism in the Presbyterian church, are invited to join Revs. Laura Sherwood, Barbara Gorsky and Rebekah Anderson for this informative class.

**GOD'S HONEST TRUTH** — *Wednesday, May 8 / 7:00 pm / Sanctuary* — The theme for the evening is **Untold: Hidden Stories From Our Past**. Come and join us for what will certainly be a great evening! (There will be no Engage & Encounter class on Wednesday, May 8).

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SALAD LUNCHEON** — *Wednesday, May 15 / 12:00 pm / Fellowship Hall* — Presbyterian Women invite you to our May Gathering Salad Luncheon followed by a program presented by Natalie Griffin and Amy Philpott the co-founders of Gerry's Cafe. Gerry's Cafe provides jobs and training opportunities for adults with disabilities.

## Serving, Giving, and Growing

**COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE** — *Sundays, through May 5 / 10:30 am / Room 110 / What's So Amazing About Grace?* — In *What's So Amazing About Grace?* award-winning author Philip Yancey explores grace at street level. If grace is God's love for the undeserving, he asks, then what does it look like in action? If Christians are its sole dispensers, then how are we doing at lavishing grace on a world that knows far more of cruelty and unforgiveness than it does of mercy? In his most personal and provocative book ever, Yancey offers compelling, true portraits of grace's life-changing power. He searches for its presence in his own life and in the church. He asks, "How can Christians contend graciously with moral issues that threaten all they hold dear?" And he challenges us to become living answers to a world that desperately wants to know, *What's So Amazing About Grace?*

**COLLECTION FOR VETERANS** — *May 1-27* — Throughout the month of May, First Pres will again host a drive to collect **new** move-in essentials for veterans as they transition to permanent housing. Beginning May 1, there will be an information table in the Narthex where you can drop off donations, pick up a list of needed items and get more information. Donated items can also be dropped off during the week in the church office and in the Parlor during the Arlington Heights Memorial Day Parade. The **Veterans Exiting Homelessness Program** is a collaborative effort between Military Outreach USA and the Department of Veteran Affairs. Any questions, contact Kim Hogan at [khogan559@gmail.com](mailto:khogan559@gmail.com).

**JOIN THE REVENUE WORKING GROUP** — We are looking for creative or entrepreneurial minds or those with experience in event planning to join a Revenue Working Group. The goal of the work group would be to discuss revenue potential of the Church, including potential events or fundraisers, and review notes from recent brainstorming sessions. The proceeds could be used to support the General Fund or a special mission as recommended by the group to Session. Please contact Garrett Childs at [garrett\\_childs@hotmail.com](mailto:garrett_childs@hotmail.com) if you are interested in joining the group. Let's raise some money!

**HEARTS OF COMPASSION NEEDED!** — The Deacons are looking for individuals who have a heart for reaching out to those who experience isolation and loneliness. If you get energy from visiting people, connecting with those who are not able to come to church, we **NEED YOU!** Please contact Deacon Bill Hellyer at [mbillhellyer@gmail.com](mailto:mbillhellyer@gmail.com) or Rev. Barbara Gorsky at [barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org](mailto:barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org).

**WELCOMING & HOSPITALITY TEAM** — Do you like to bake cookies? Do you have a heart for welcoming strangers? We are in the process of forming a **new** "Welcoming & Hospitality Team" to provide receptions for our various programs and events, as well as having a welcoming presence to anyone who comes through our doors. The goal is to have a team of 10-15 people so each person will not be burdened with too much work. Interested? Contact Rev. Barbara Gorsky at [barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org](mailto:barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org).



**VBS AND MISSIONFACTORY REGISTRATION IS OPEN! / Register Online** — Register for Vacation Bible School (preschool-4th grade) and MissionFactory (rising 5th and 6th graders) online. The cost is \$35 per child. These programs will be offered concurrently, July 8-12, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm each day. Contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson, [rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org](mailto:rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org) with questions.

## Worship Next Sunday

**May 5, 2024: Sixth Sunday of Easter / Children's Musical**

**10:30 am** — Children's Musical (Sanctuary)  
*Music:* Children's Choir

*Scriptures:* Exodus 20:1-17  
*Sermon Title:* For Goodness' Sake

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*	\$567.00
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\***GIVING OPPORTUNITY: *The Wednesday Market*** — From April to June, our Sunday morning bookmark donations will go to support our Wednesday Produce Market. The market runs from July 10 through September 4. This was a very successful community outreach last year and we'd like to keep it going. The money collected will go towards the purchase of food for the community dinner we offer each week and supplies for pickles and pesto made from garden produce that are given away. For more information about the Wednesday Produce Market or to volunteer to serve at the market, contact Kim Hogan at [k\\_hogan2003@yahoo.com](mailto:k_hogan2003@yahoo.com).

**NEW ONLINE GIVING PORTAL, ABUNDANT, IS HERE!** — We are thrilled to announce that we have transitioned to a new eGiving platform called Abundant, designed to make your online giving experience as seamless and straightforward as possible. This change comes with many benefits, including enhanced security, flexible giving options and an intuitive user interface. **It also allows members to cover the processing fee for online credit card giving by clicking the button *Contribute to help offset processing costs*.** These are fees that could be going to the mission and ministry of First Pres. Click the "Donate" button on the website to get started! Contact business administrator, Debbie Walter, at [debbiewalter@firstpresah.org](mailto:debbiewalter@firstpresah.org), if you have any questions.

**PADS (PUBLIC ACTION TO DELIVER SHELTER)** — As the PADS season comes to an end, we would like to thank the faithful volunteers who gave of their time and resources to make our church a welcoming place for the guests each week. We were able to staff our shelter and make a home-cooked meal once a week from October through April. We are especially grateful to the people who were willing to work a shift, especially overnight! Thank you to all who donated food and funds, you all made a difference.

**MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET** — If you have not checked out the Lending Closet yet, now is the time. Reserve items for any event you are hosting. Mary and Martha's Lending Closet is a one-stop shop for all things entertaining, from tables and chairs to serving dishes, dishes, glassware, vases, centerpieces, outdoor games, and even a giant movie screen and projector. It's the perfect place to borrow for your next book club, shower, neighborhood gathering, casual or fancy dinner party. A donation to the Closet goes towards programs that address food insecurity in the Chicagoland area. Make an appointment today to reserve your items or to see what is available. Email [maryandmartha@firstpresah.org](mailto:maryandmartha@firstpresah.org).