



9:00 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME Adam Hendrickson

CALL TO WORSHIP Youth

One: As we gather around the Word, font and table,
All: we pray for the faith of children.
One: We pray for trust, humility and kindness.
All: We pray for wonder, imagination and creativity.
One: Let the little children come to me, Jesus said,
All: for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

GREAT ARE YOU LORD Leonard, Ingram, & Jordan

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS Youth
United in your love, O God, we are one body across the globe. We are branches of one family whose roots run in the waters of grace. Still, O Lord, we do not act like one body. We find ways to distance ourselves with more than miles. We find ways to divide ourselves into endless groups of "us" and "them." Again and again, you call us back to the waters; again and again, we turn away. Forgive us, uniting God, and by your forgiveness, challenge us to tend to each other's wounds.

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.

PSALM 127:3-5 Youth

MESSAGE Steve Gumaer
"Rebuke, Invitation, Blessing: Jesus' Stand for Children's Worth"
Scripture: Matthew 19:13-15

SONG "Beautiful Boy" John Lennon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Rebekah Anderson

SHARING OUR GIFTS (See back for other giving options.)
"Mothers of the Disappeared"
Clayton, Evans, Hewson, & Mullen Jr.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Rev. Laura Sherwood

YOUR GRACE IS ENOUGH Matt Maher

CHARGE & BENEDICTION Steve Gumaer

Please stand as you are able.

Compass: Dan Berg, guitar; 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.

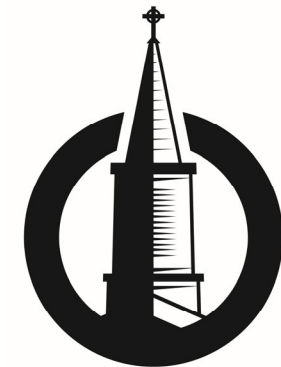
SOURCES FOR WORSHIP
All liturgies are from Call to Worship Year B Presbyterian Publishing; Scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE).

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



"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children." - Nelson Mandela

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 12, 2024 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 “Spring” from *Four Seasons* Antonio Vivaldi
“Celebration No. 4 in G” Michael Keller
Youth Handbell Choir

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

WELCOME Rev. Laura Sherwood

INTROIT “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” Stuart Townend
“How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away as wounds which mar the Chosen One brings many sons to glory. Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders. Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished. His dying breath has bro’t me life, I know that it is finished. I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom. But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer. But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.”
Youth Choir

✠CALL TO WORSHIP Youth

One: As we gather around the Word, font and table,
All: we pray for the faith of children.
One: We pray for trust, humility and kindness.
All: We pray for wonder, imagination and creativity.
One: Let the little children come to me, Jesus said,
All: for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

✠HYMN 14 “For the Beauty of the Earth” DIX

CALL TO CONFESSION Youth

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
United in your love, O God, we are one body across the globe. We are branches of one family whose roots run in the waters of grace. Still, O Lord, we do not act like one body. We find ways to distance ourselves with more than miles. We find ways to divide ourselves into endless groups of “us” and “them.” Again and again, you call us back to the waters; again and again, we turn away. Forgive us, uniting God, and by your forgiveness, challenge us to tend to each other’s wounds...

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

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS
One: Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. 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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Youth

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 127:3-5
(Pew Bible, p. 499) Youth
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM “Children of the Heavenly Father” Paul Sjolund
“Children of the Heavenly Father safely in his bosom gather; Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e’er was given. God his own doth tend and nourish, In his holy courts they flourish: From all evil things he spares them, In his mighty arms he bears them. Praise the Lord in joyful numbers. Your protector never slumbers; At the will of your Defender every foeman must surrender. Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne’er forsaketh: His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.”
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 19:13-15
(Pew Bible, p. 800) Steve Gumaer
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON Steve Gumaer
“Rebuke, Invitation, Blessing: Jesus’ Stand for Children’s Worth”

✠HYMN 490 “Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters” BEACH SPRING

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 (See back for other giving options.)

OFFERTORY “Down to the River to Pray” Ken Medema
“As I went down to the river to pray, studying about that good ole way and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way. O brother, let’s go down, come on down. O brother, let’s go down to the river to pray. Lord, listen to your children prayin’. O Lord, send your Spirit in this pace. O Lord, listen to your children prayin’, send us love, send us power, send us grace. Something’s gonna happen like the world has never known, when the people of the Lord get down to pray. A door’s gonna swing open and the walls come atumblin’ down, when the people of the Lord get down to pray.”
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 (Mark 12:41-44) Rev. Barbara Gorsky
One: To you, O God, we offer our lives—our abundance, our poverty, all that we have, all that we are—a sign of our great thanksgiving for the treasure of your grace. Take and use us for good in the world that you so love; we pray in Jesus’ name.
All: Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

✠HYMN 547 “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” AR HYD Y NOS

✠CHARGE & BENEDICTION Steve Gumaer

POSTLUDE “Prelude in B Flat Major” J. S. Bach

✠Please stand as you are able.

Fellowship Hosts: Stewardship Committee
Flowers: **Kris Ford**—In honor of my mom, Millie Engelbretsen
Donald & Helen Ross—In loving memory of our loved ones
Carolyn Schmidt—In loving memory of my mother, Frances Bence and mother-in-law, Loustell Schmidt
Preaching: Steve Gumaer
Liturgists: (9:00 am) Rev. Rebekah Anderson, Rev. Barbara Gorsky & Youth
(10:30 am) Rev. Barbara Gorsky, Rev. Laura Sherwood & Youth
Director of Music and Worship: Adam Hendrickson
Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban
Tech Support and Livestream: Amy Senior and Jonah White

WORSHIP NOTES

Prayer Requests

Healing & Comfort

First Pres Community

Bob Ahrens
 Mario Alberico
 Carole Anderson
 Roger Anderson
 Don & Judy Ayers
 Virginia Blocki
 Dawn Bruce
 Kurt Carlisle

Laura Carlson
 Jean Castles
 Mary Clarbourn
 Marilyn Giacoppi
 Marylyn Jirsa
 Patty Richard
 Bea Sonderegger

Friends & Family

Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepura
 Don Gross — father of Suzanne Kowalski
 Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek
 Monica Kotas — sister of Mario Alberico
 Desa Peric — great-granddaughter of Steve Smith

Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia
 Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields
 Tom Spaeth — friend of Steve Smith
 Claire Walsh — cousin of Mary Hebden
 Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al & Karen Wilson

Congratulations to

Don & Donna Holmes, on the birth of their great-grandson, Dylan Anthony Joyce

Sympathy to

Mario & Claudia Alberico, on the death of their nephew, David Kotas
 Bonnie Barczak, on the death of her husband, Ron Barczak
 Mike Beecher, on the death of his father
 Bob Kret, on the death of his wife, Nancy Kret
 The family of Mary Mack

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

Interim Pastor / Head of Staff:
 Laura Sherwood

Interim Associate Pastor:
 Barbara Gorsky

Associate Pastor of Children, Youth and Families: 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	Guest Preacher: Steve Gumaer, NOVI
Today	Youth Stock Sale
May 15	Last Family Night of the Program Year
May 19	Pentecost / Baccalaureate Sunday / New Members Received
May 21	Summer Issue <i>Chimes</i> Deadline
May 26	Summer Worship Schedule Begins (One service 10:00 am)
May 27	Memorial Day Parade Hospitality
June 2	Buffalo Grove Pride Parade

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, or 847-255-5900, extension 225 or Rev. Laura Sherwood, at 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. 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!

Church Life

May 12, 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.



GUEST PREACHER, STEVE GUMAER, NOVI — *Today* — Steve is Co-founder & CEO of NOVI and he was our Annual Speaker in October where he shared the work NOVI is doing around the world. He has dedicated his life to helping children in war-torn communities. For more than three decades he has worked to deliver relief, aid, and programs to support families uprooted by war in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Ukraine. He has a Master's Degree in Transformational Development, is an EMT, and is the driving force behind the development of the NOVI community.

BUY STOCK TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH — *Sundays: Today & May 19* — The Youth Stock Sale is back! Mark your calendars for when you can buy shares from the middle and high school youth following each worship service. Shares cost \$10 each and 100% of proceeds support Youth Missions! This year, the middle schoolers will be serving with Youth Works in Indianapolis, Indiana, and the high schoolers will be serving in Logan County, West Virginia.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM — *May 26 through September 1* — Starting on Sunday, May 26, and continuing through Sunday, September 1, we will have **one worship service at 10:00 am**. Worship will be held in the Chapel on July 7, August 4 and September 1. All other worship services will be in the Sanctuary. On Sunday, September 8, we will return to two services at 9:00 am in the Chapel and 10:30 am in the Sanctuary.

May 12 — Seventh Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day

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** — Chapel
 9:30 am Youth Handbell Choir 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 — Fellowship Hall
 10:30 am Sunday School (Grades 5-7 & 9-12) — Fellowship Hall
 11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
 6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym, Fellowship Hall



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First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights
 302 North Dunton, Arlington Heights, IL 60004
 847-255-5900 / www.firstpresah.org / mail@firstpresah.org



Upcoming Events



FAMILY NIGHT — END OF YEAR CELEBRATION! —
Wednesday, May 15 / 6:00 pm — Join us for our year-end celebration of Family Night. Enjoy dinner and fellowship as we say goodbye to another program year!

This Week's Schedule:

6:00-7:30 pm: Drop-in dinner time for all ages, Fellowship Hall

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.

WEAR RED, ORANGE OR YELLOW — *Sunday, May 19* — Help us celebrate Pentecost Sunday by wearing red, orange or yellow in recognition of the liturgical colors of the Spirit and Fire. This is also the last Sunday to give to the PC(USA) Pentecost Offering.

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY — *Sunday, May 19* — Join us for Baccalaureate Sunday during worship on May 19, when we'll celebrate the incredible accomplishments of our students and wish them well as they embark on new journeys. Is your loved one graduating this year? We want to recognize them in worship as part of Baccalaureate Sunday. Please send info for your graduate to Rev. Rebekah Anderson by email.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED — *Sunday, May 19* — Please join us in welcoming our newest members of the First Pres family of faith, who will be received during worship next Sunday.

PW CIRCLE 7 SALAD DINNER — *Tuesday, May 21 / 6:30 pm / Parlor* — PW Circle 7 will meet in the Parlor for an end of the year salad dinner. RSVP to Karen Wilson at 847-669-2677, and indicate what you will bring to share.

CHIMES DEADLINE — *Tuesday, May 21* — The deadline for the combined summer issue (June, July, August) of *The Chimes* is Tuesday, May 21. Please submit articles to Chris Urban at chrisurban@firstpresah.org.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE HOSPITALITY HELP WANTED — *Monday, May 27* — First Pres will once again extend hospitality to parade viewers on Monday morning, May 27. If you are interested in helping, contact Arlene Bullerman at abullerman@earthlink.net or 847-670-0319.



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 with questions.

YOUTH MISSION TRIPS REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN! — The middle school mission trip to Indianapolis, Indiana will take place from June 16 to June 21. The high school mission trip to Logan County, West Virginia will take place from July 27 to August 2. Register online, the all-inclusive cost for each trip is \$450 per person. Scholarships are available. Please contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson to register by email.

Serving, Giving, and Growing

PENTECOST OFFERING — *Sunday, May 19* — Pentecost celebrates the renewal of the relationship between God and the community of faith. Through our gifts to the Pentecost Offering, we are there to help build a foundation of faith in our youth which will last a lifetime. **40%** will be donated to support NOVI, which helps children in war-torn communities (see guest preacher highlight on front page). **25%** supports Young Adult Volunteers (YAV), serving in communities around the world and growing as leaders through transformative Christian service. **25%** supports ministries with youth including the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. **10%** is devoted to children at-risk and supports to improve education and provide safe havens. Please give generously.

COLLECTION FOR VETERANS — *Through May 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. 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 K_Hogan2003@yahoo.com.

LOAVES & FISHES GARDEN DONATIONS WANTED — It's almost time for planting in the Loaves and Fishes Garden! **We're looking for tomato, cucumber, basil, jalapeno and milkweed starter plants to get our garden started.** Our children and youth will plant them during Family Night on May 15. Do you have a starter plant that you'd be willing to donate for us to plant? Starter plants can be dropped off at the church office until May 15. Please contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson at rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org with any questions.

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 if you are interested in joining the group. Let's raise some money!

JOIN THE NEW INSURANCE/RISK MANAGEMENT TEAM — We are looking for church members with a background and/or interest in insurance/risk management to serve on a new Insurance Team, led by our church treasurer, Dave Berkow. Contact Dave at dwberkow@att.net if you'd like to join the team!

BUFFALO GROVE PRIDE PARADE — *Sunday, June 2* — The Mission Committee invites the congregation and friends to join us on June 2 as we represent First Pres in the 6th annual family-friendly Buffalo Grove Pride Parade. The parade starts at 11:00 am; we will gather about 10:00 am with exact details to come later. Following the parade is a Pride Picnic at Mike Royko Community Park with live entertainment, food trucks and family entertainment, so stay for the fun! There will be an opportunity to sign up in the Narthex Sunday mornings, beginning today. Questions? Contact Kim Hogan at K_Hogan2003@yahoo.com.

Worship Next Sunday

May 19, 2024: Pentecost / Baccalaureate Sunday

9:00 am — Worship (Chapel)

Music: Compass Praise Band

10:30 am — Worship (Sanctuary)

Music: Chancel Choir

Preacher: Rev. Barbara Gorsky

Scriptures: Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27, John 16:4b-15

Sermon Title: "The Spirit at Work"

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*	\$930.00
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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.

THANK YOU! — A big thank you goes out to all who donated to the Blanket Drive. With all the displaced people in the world, the need is great. As of the end of February, First Pres collected \$2,190 which will provide 219 blankets for people throughout the world! Thank you for your generosity!

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, if you have any questions.

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.