

# First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

*Organized in 1855*



“Whenever I’m afraid, I put my trust in you.”

— Psalm 56:3

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**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY  
VBS AND MISSIONFACTORY SUNDAY  
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM  
July 14, 2024  
10:00 am—Sanctuary**

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# 10:00 AM

## TRUST GOD TO SPARK JOY

### PRELUDE

"Songs of America"

*arr. Douglas Wagner*

Chancel Handbell Choir; Nick Pulikowski, director

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

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

### ✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: I lift my eyes up to the mountains, from where does my help come?

**All: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

One: We look not to the mountains or valleys, even heaven or earth,

**All: for God is found among us.**

One: Wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name,

**All: God is here among us.**

One: Come, let us worship the God of Creation, the God of People, the God of Community.

**All: Let us follow Jesus, for Jesus is The Way. Let us worship together in joy and faith!**

### ✠ HYMN 815

"Give to the Winds Thy Fears"

FESTAL SONG

## TRUST GOD TO GIVE US PEACE

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

One: In the lives of neighbors who suffer brokenness and pain:

**All: We confess you are still speaking!**

One: In the struggle of the poor whose rights are not honored:

**All: We confess you are still speaking!**

One: In a world crying out for wisdom, love and mercy:

**All: We confess you are still speaking!**

One: In a world calling for the blessing of truth:

**All: We confess you are still speaking! Bless us to hear!**

One: Let us confess together:

**All: We confess that in our lives we often hide behind our work and play, schools, jobs, fun and fashion. We let ourselves get so busy that we forget the cause of the poor and the suffering. We confess we allow the powers of this world to silence our witness. Teach us to champion the cause of justice for all, strengthen us to love our neighbor and speak truth no matter the cost. Amen.**

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: The Word of God assures us that in Christ, we are forgiven, made new and empowered to love through the Spirit of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### ✠ GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME (Hymn 582)

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

### ✠ TIME OF GREETING

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

Harrison James Fuentes — born October 11, 2023, son of William and Kelsey Fuentes

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

Earle Copes

*"Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,  
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine."*

VBS Kids

**COMMUNITY LIFE** *Please sign the Friendship Pad & pass to those around you.* Rev. Laura Sherwood**TRUST GOD TO GIVE US WISDOM****SCRIPTURE READINGS**Matthew 22:37-39, Psalm 56:3 (Pew Bible, p. 804, 455) Youth  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!****ANTHEM**"Go Go Go with Us"  
"Peace, Sweet Peace"  
VBS Kids**SERMON**

"Camp Firelight and Welcoming Our Neighbors" Rev. Rebekah Anderson

**✠ HYMN 848**

"Trust in God"

SONG 13

**TRUST GOD TO LEAD THE WAY****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.****OFFERTORY**"Bring Him Home" from *Les Misérables* Schonberg arr. Rick Holdsworth*"God on high, Hear my prayer, In my need, You have always been there. He is young, He's afraid, Let him rest, Heaven blessed. Bring him home. He's like the son I might have known. If God had granted me a son. The summers die, One by one, How soon they fly, On and on, And I am old, And will be gone. Bring him peace, Bring him joy, He is young, He is only a boy, You can take, You can give, Let him be, Let him live. If I die, Let me die, Let him live, Bring him home."*

Chancel Handbell 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**

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

One: God, you are the creator of all things, all people, all that we treasure in this life. We ask your blessing upon these gifts, that they may help to show the way of your love, light and peace for all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

**All: Amen.****TRUST GOD TO GO WITH US****✠ HYMN 838**

"Standing on the Promises"

PROMISES

**✠ CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

**POSTLUDE**

"Fanfare"

*Healey Willan*

✠ Please stand as you are able.

**Fellowship Hosts:** Deacons**Worship Leaders:** Camp Firelight VBS Kids and MissionFactory Youth**Sources:** Camp Firelight VBS 2024 from Cokesbury Publishing; Call to Worship <http://rev-o-lution.org/>;Confession from *Empowered to Love and Speak Truth*, written by LT Leticia Rouser, a chaplain in the United States Navy; scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition NRSVUE).

# Church Life

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.

**MISSION STUDY TEAM - THE "LAST BLAST" FOLLOW-UP SURVEY — *Final Day Today*** — "Last Blast" is a 3-minute/8 question survey for all First Pres members and friends to help us answer critical remaining questions before our pastor search. Complete your survey online at <https://firstpresah.org/fpc-follow-up-survey/> or in print, available throughout the church, by **July 14**. The Mission Study Presentation, shown in worship on June 30, is available on our website.

**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM — *Through September 1*** — We will have **one worship service at 10:00 am**. Worship will be held in the Chapel on August 4 and September 1. All other 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.

## **July 14—VBS and MissionFactory Sunday**

9:45 am - 11:15 am — Child care (infants - 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor  
Christian Education (CE) Wing

10:00 am **Worship - Baptism** — Sanctuary

11:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor

11:30 am Adult Ed: Listen & Learn — Boardroom

6:00 pm HSYG — Fellowship Hall

## Upcoming Events

**LISTEN & LEARN — *Sundays, Today - July 14, July 21 & 28*** — You are invited to join Pastors Rebekah and Barbara for a time of gathering to "Listen & Learn." We will meet to listen to a podcast titled *Unlocking Us* by Brené Brown and then discuss issues that surface around the topics in the podcast. We will meet in the Boardroom from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Hope you will come as we explore current issues we are facing.

**WEST (MAIN) PARKING LOT CLOSURE — *Monday & Tuesday, July 15 & 16*** — The West Parking Lot will be closed for sealcoating and restriping. The lot will reopen on Wednesday, July 17. If you have any questions, please contact Michele Holifield.

**HELP WANTED: VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ALL-CHURCH WORK DAYS — *Friday & Saturday, July 19 & 20 / 9:00 am - Noon / Fellowship Hall*** — Calling all ages to gather to help with projects around the church. If you have the skills of organizing, cleaning or moving, we need you! There are jobs for all ages and skill levels. We will gather in Fellowship Hall to pick assignments. If you cannot come for the whole time, drop in when you are available. Contact Michele Holifield at [micheleholifield@firstpresah.org](mailto:micheleholifield@firstpresah.org) with questions.

**ALL-AGES SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL — *Sunday, July 21 / 10:00 am*** — We have Sunday School from 10:00-11:00 am that is open to any children and youth. We'll be working together in the Loaves and Fishes Garden, learning Bible stories and playing games. All-ages Summer Sunday School will meet **Sundays, July 21, August 4 and August 18**. All-ages Sunday School will follow the Children's Message in worship, then move to the Loaves and Fishes Garden (weather permitting). In cases of inclement weather, we will remain in Fellowship Hall. We hope you can join us for a great summer!

**SUMMER BOOK CLUB — Thursday, July 25 / 7:00 pm / Parlor** — The Mission Committee is sponsoring a discussion of *A Place Called Home: A Memoir* by David Ambroz. A galvanizing, stirring memoir about growing up homeless and in foster care and rising to become a leading advocate for child welfare, recognized by President Obama as an American Champion of Change. *A Place Called Home: A Memoir* was PORCHLIGHT BESTSELLER Zibby Owens 2022 Book of the Year.

**SUMMER CONCERT SERIES — Saturday, July 27 / 4:00 pm / Sanctuary** — Come for the final concert in the Summer Concert series! A light reception will follow. The concert is free and open to the community. Bring a friend! Performance by Andrew Marlin, bassoon.

**SUMMER YOUTH GROUP** — We had so much fun in youth group this year. Let's keep the fun going this summer! **Middle School Youth Group** will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm for light snacks, games and a lesson on **July 17, July 24, July 31, August 7, August 14 and August 21. High School Youth Group** will meet on Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm for light snacks, games and a lesson **today and July 21, August 4, August 11, and August 18.** We hope to see you there!

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MISSION TRIP REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN!** — 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 this trip is \$450 per person. Scholarships are available. Please contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson to register by email.

## Serving, Giving and Growing

**THE WEDNESDAY PRODUCE MARKET IS BACK** — The Wednesday Market returned on July 10 and will run through September 4. We'll distribute produce from the Loaves & Fishes Garden free to the community from 6:00-7:00 pm. If you are a gardener with spare produce, we'd love your donations! We are always looking for volunteers to help setup and distribute produce. For more information or to volunteer, contact Kim Hogan at k\_hogan2003@yahoo.com.

**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!

**FOOD BARREL COLLECTION** — The Mission Committee has voted to direct the donations for the next quarter (July-September) to the Village of Mount Prospect Food Pantry in support of the families displaced by the recent apartment fire. Please place items in the barrels located in the Narthex and outside the Chapel.

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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*	\$ 180.00
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**\*NEW GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Tornado and Windstorm Fund** — Through September, Sunday morning bookmark donations will support the *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Tornado and Windstorm Fund*. In response to the recent outbreak of tornados resulting in wide-spread damage in the Midwest and elsewhere, the Mission Committee has voted to direct the bookmark funds to the PDA Tornado and Windstorm Fund. This fund supplements the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering to enable a significant response to tornadoes and windstorms. This might include immediate relief, long-term rebuilding and emotional/spiritual care.



**MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET** — Mary and Martha's Lending Closet is ready for the summer season. If you have not checked out the Lending Closet yet, now is the time. Reserve items for your graduation party, backyard BBQ or any event you are hosting. What exactly is Mary and Martha's Lending Closet? It's 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 for that fun backyard movie viewing. It's the perfect place to borrow for your next book club, graduation party, shower, neighborhood gathering, casual or fancy dinner party. What are the fees? A donation to the closet goes towards programs that address food insecurity in the Chicagoland area. To make an appointment to reserve your items, email [maryandmartha@firstpresah.org](mailto:maryandmartha@firstpresah.org).

**PASTORAL CARE** — If you have a death in the family, an anticipated surgery, the birth of a baby, or if you or a loved one are struggling, your pastors and church family want to be there to support you. Contact Rev. Barbara Gorsky, at [barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org](mailto:barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org), or call the church office to share your pastoral needs.

## Looking Ahead

Today	Listen & Learn Adult Education Class
July 15-16	Main Parking Lot Closed
July 19-20	Volunteer Work Days
July 21	High School Mission Trip Participant Commissioning in Worship
July 21	All-ages Sunday School
July 21	Listen & Learn Adult Education Class
July 25	Summer Book Club
July 27	Summer Concert: Andrew Marlin, bassoon
July 28	Listen & Learn Adult Education Class

# Prayer Requests

## *Healing & Comfort*



### ***First Pres Community***

Mario Alberico  
Carole Anderson  
Don & Judy Ayers  
Virginia Blocki  
Dawn Bruce  
Lee Bruce  
Laura Carlson  
Jean Castles

Mary Clarbour  
Nancy Conning  
Marilyn Giacoppi  
Marylyn Jirsa  
Betty Launer  
Patty Richard  
Scott Sinclair  
Bea Sonderegger

### ***Friends & Family***

Colton — Kathy Sobeski's neighbor's grandson  
Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepora  
Don Gross — father of Suzanne Kowalski  
Debbie & Peter Jung — friends of Jim & Ingrid  
Kaufman  
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  
The family of Louise Tischendorf — friends of  
Ken & Susan Weller  
Claire Walsh — cousin of Mary Hebden  
David Weiss — brother of Rev. Barbara Gorsky  
Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of  
Al & Karen Wilson

### ***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

# Staff Directory

**Interim Pastor / Head of Staff:**

Laura Sherwood | laurasherwood@firstpresah.org

**Interim Associate Pastor:**

Barbara Gorsky | barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org

**Associate Pastor of Children, Youth & Families:**

Rebekah Anderson | rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org

**Director of Music and Worship:**

Adam Hendrickson | adamhendrickson@firstpresah.org

**Associate Director of Music and Organist:**

Christopher Urban | chrisurban@firstpresah.org

**Worship Technicians:** Amy Senior, Jonah White

**Nursery Coordinator:** Beth Johnson

**Business Administrator:**

Debbie Walter | debbiewriter@firstpresah.org

**Senior Administrative Assistant:**

Mary Fino | maryfino@firstpresah.org

**Administrative Assistant / Receptionist:**

Carol Vega | carolvega@firstpresah.org

**Facilities Coordinator:**

Michele Holifield | micheleholifield@firstpresah.org

**Director of First Pres PDO & Preschool:**

Coleen Anzalone | coleenanzalone@firstpresah.org

## 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).

**ALL-AGES SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL** — This summer we will have Sunday School from **10:00-11:00 am** that is open to any children and youth. We'll be working together in the Loaves and Fishes Garden, learning Bible stories and playing games. All-ages Summer Sunday School will meet on **July 21, August 4 and August 18**. All-ages Sunday School will begin by meeting in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am before going to the Loaves and Fishes Garden (weather permitting). In cases of inclement weather, we will remain in Fellowship Hall. We hope you can join us for a great summer!

**SUMMER YOUTH TRIPS & EVENTS** — Contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson at rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org.

**SUMMER ADULT CHRISTIAN ED SCHEDULE** — Contact Rev. Barbara Gorsky at barbaragorsky@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](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).

**GET CONNECTED** — Join the conversation on Facebook, at [facebook.com/firstpresah](http://facebook.com/firstpresah); X, 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. We look forward to connecting with you!



**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!