

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Organized in 1855



“Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.”

— Mother Teresa

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 28, 2024

10:00 am—Sanctuary

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

“Psalm of Love”
Kris Ward, handbells

Kevin McChesney

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

WELCOME

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: All your works shall give thanks to you, O God, and all your faithful shall bless you.

All: For you uphold all who are falling and raise up all who are bowed down.

One: All look to you; you give them their food in due season.

All: You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

One: We lift our hearts and hands in thanks to you.

✠ HYMN 15 (vv. 1, 2, 3, 6)

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Majestic God, You have called us to live in peace, but we turn to conflict and hatred. You yearn for us to work together, but we keep finding reasons to dismiss each other. Forgive us and show us a better way to be your people, your body, your church...

SILENT CONFESSION

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

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

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: God knows who we were made to be and has been waiting to help restore us to ourselves, to each other, to community.

All: Thanks be to God! We are forgiven.

✠ 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 AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

COMMUNITY LIFE

Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

PNC FORMATION COMMITTEE

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 25:1-10 (Pew Bible, p. 436) Rev. Laura Sherwood
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

“Entrée De La Suite De La Folie”
First Pres Brass and Organ

Andre Campra

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 23:1-11, 23 (Pew Bible, p. 804) Rev. Barbara Gorsky
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “Seeking to Be FAITHFUL Together” Rev. Barbara Gorsky

✠ **HYMN 39** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” FAITHFULNESS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER Rev. Laura Sherwood
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 “Blessed Assurance” *arr. Christine D. Anderson*
Kris Ward, handbells

✠ **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. Laura Sherwood
One: God of unending gifts, we praise you for your abundant goodness. As you are generous, we want to be generous too. May the gifts we bring extend your generosity into the world, so that all people may be made whole by your goodness and grace.
All: Amen.

✠ **HYMN 307** “God of Grace and God of Glory” CWM RHONDDA

✠ **BENEDICTION** Rev. Barbara Gorsky

POSTLUDE “God of Grace and God of Glory” *Paul Manz*
First Pres Brass and Organ

✠ Please stand as you are able.

Flowers: **Cynthia Perry Goldsberry**—To honor the life of my mother, Dorothy Lee Perry

Fellowship Hosts: Community Life & Education Committee

First Pres Brass: Eric Allen & Colin Stanhope, trumpet; Courtney Lewis, horn, Kevin Carroll, trombone; Amy Carroll, timpani

Sources: Liturgies from Call to Worship Year B—PC(USA); scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE).

Join Us for Worship Next Sunday, August 4 (in the Chapel)

Preacher: Rev. Barbara Gorsky | Scriptures: Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 4:1-13 |

“Seeking to Be Faithful TOGETHER” | Music: Compass Praise Band

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.

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.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC) — Are you interested in helping to discern the future of our church by discovering our next pastor? Your insights and commitment will help shape the future of our congregation. Contact the committee at PastorSearch@firstpresah.org by August 11, to volunteer or recommend someone.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS — A heartfelt thank you to our Work Day Volunteers! Your participation last Friday and Saturday was outstanding. Together, we completed numerous essential tasks such as cleaning chairs, hanging doors, organizing, general cleaning, and relocating heavy objects, among others.

July 28— Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am - 11:15 am — Child care (infants - 4 years) — Room 203 (Indigo Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing

10:00 am **Worship** — Sanctuary

11:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor

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

Upcoming Events

LISTEN & LEARN — *Final Meeting Today / 11:30 am to 12:30 pm / Boardroom* — 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. Hope you will come as we explore current issues we are facing.

WORSHIP NOTE — *Sunday, August 4 / 10:00 am / Chapel* — Join us for worship **in the Chapel** next Sunday, August 4. Worship will return in the Sanctuary on Sunday, August 11, with Holy Communion.

ALL-AGES SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL — *Sunday, August 4 / 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 also meet **Sunday, 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 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 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 on **August 4, August 11, and August 18**. We hope to see you there!

SAVVY SENIORS (69+) EVENT — *Saturday, August 17 / 5:00-7:30 pm / The Moorings* — Members and friends, ages 69+, are invited to a social gathering at the Moorings. Chicken will be available. Guests with last names A-P are asked to bring a side dish, and Q-Z to bring dessert. There is a \$5.00 charge for bartender fees. Drink tickets are available for purchase (you may bring your own soft drinks). For more information or to RSVP, contact Tom & Susan Carroll at 847-956-4086 or tcarroll60@aol.com, by **August 8**.

Serving, Giving and Growing

SUMMER BOOK CLUB — *Thursday, August 29 / 7:00 pm / Parlor* — The Mission Committee is sponsoring a discussion of *Searching for Savanna* by Mona Gable. A gripping and illuminating investigation into the disappearance of Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind when she was eight months pregnant, highlighting the shocking epidemic of violence against Native American women in America and the societal ramifications of government inaction. *Searching for Savanna* confronts this history of dehumanization toward Indigenous women and the government's complicity in the crisis. Featuring in-depth interviews, personal accounts and trial analysis, *Searching for Savanna* investigates these injustices and the decades-long struggle by Native American advocates for meaningful change.

THE WEDNESDAY PRODUCE MARKET IS BACK — The Wednesday Market 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. The Wednesday Market will now also feature Summer Suppers, anyone is invited to join us for a free meal in the West parking lot. Contact Kim Hogan at k_hogan2003@yahoo.com for more information or to volunteer.

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.

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*	\$ 310.00
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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 tornadoes resulting in widespread 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.

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, or call the church office to share your pastoral needs.

Looking Ahead

July 28	Final Listen & Learn Adult Education Class
August 4	Worship in the Chapel
August 11	Worship with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary
August 17	Savvy Seniors (69+) Event
August 24	Volunteer Work Day
August 29	Summer Book Club
September 2	Labor Day - Office Closed
September 7	Beatles Concert
September 8	Two Worship Services & Education for Children & Youth Resumes
September 8	Fall Kick-off Celebration
September 11	Family Night Dinner & Programming Resumes
September 15	Sunday Education for Adults Resumes

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
Cora Bigger — sister of Launa Ismail
Jude Edlin — grandson of Ken & Judy
Hockenberry
Karl Gates — friend of Mary Kiepura
Don Gross — father of Suzanne Kowalski
Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek
Debbie & Peter Jung — friends of Jim & Ingrid
Kaufman
Mikayil K — Pastor Laura's Ukrainian family
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
Dave Weiss — brother of Rev. Barbara Gorsky
Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al &
Karen Wilson
Carol Wyse — sister of Joyce Spohr

Congratulations to

Grandparents, Ken & Judy Hockenberry, and great-grandmother, **Lois Hartung**, on the birth of twins, Theo and Jude, born July 14, to Jenny and Haley Edlin in Louisville, KY

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 **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!

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ACTIVITY BAGS — Activity bags for children are available at the Sanctuary & Chapel entrances. Please place used bags in the basket after worship.

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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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!