

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Organized in 1855



**“While you are proclaiming peace with your lips,
be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.”**

— Francis of Assisi

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 18, 2024
10:00 AM—Sanctuary

302 N. Dunton Ave | Arlington Heights, IL 60004 | (847) 255-5900 | firstpresah.org

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

“Concerto in C Major”
“Improvisation”

Paul Fey
Paul Fey

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

WELCOME

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Give thanks to God!

All: We thank God for joy, for laughter, for gifts of every kind.

One: Give thanks to God for the depths of what we feel and experience in our faith.

All: We thank God for struggles, for solitude, for fears.

One: Give thanks to God in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: We thank God that in our joys as well as our pain, our losses as well as our laughter, are in God's heart and hands.

One: Let us worship God.

✠ HYMN 620

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LAUDA ANIMA

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, You call us to follow in your footsteps and to walk in love, just as Jesus did but we fall short. Too often we choose paths of self-righteousness rather than paths of faith and love. We allow bitterness, anger and malice to take root in our hearts. We turn away from your light. Forgive us, Lord. Help us open our hearts so we can share your love with generosity and grace. Fill us with your Spirit so that we may live in a manner worthy of our calling, that reflects your love and light in all that we do. In Jesus' name, we pray...

SILENT CONFESSION

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

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

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is greater than we can wish for or imagine. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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 AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

Rev. Laura Sherwood

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

(All children and youth can follow their leader to the Loaves & Fishes Garden for All-ages Sunday School.)

COMMUNITY LIFE

Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 34:9-14 (Pew Bible, p. 441) Rev. Laura Sherwood
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

“I Need Thee Every Hour” *Dale Wood arr. Morrone*
Michelle Fielder, oboe; Joan Morrone, horn; Michael Morrone, violin

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 5:15-20 (Pew Bible, p. 952) Rev. Rebekah Anderson
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“Seek Peace and Pursue It” Rev. Rebekah Anderson

✠ **HYMN 652**

“A Grateful Heart” ROCKINGHAM

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

OFFERTORY

“Concerto No. 6” *J.S. Bach arr. Morrone*
Michelle Fielder, oboe; Joan Morrone, horn; Michael Morrone, violin

✠ **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 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 450**

“Be Thou My Vision” SLANE

✠ **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

POSTLUDE

“Postlude on ‘Monkland’ ” *Albert Travis*

✠ Please stand as you are able.

Flowers: Cynthia Perry Goldsberry—To honor the life of my father, Edwin James Perry

Fellowship Host: Cathy Mataloni

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 25

Preacher: Rev. Laura Sherwood | Scriptures: Psalm 34:15-22; Ephesians 6:10-20 | “Learning God’s Way”

Music: Diana Richardson, soprano; Kathy Sobeski, soprano