

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Organized in 1855



“What you are is God’s gift to you, what you become is your gift to God.”

— Hans Urs von Balthasar

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 1, 2024
10:00 AM—Chapel

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

10:00 AM

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Adam Hendrickson

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God teaches us the way of righteousness,

All: the way of love, the way of peace.

One: We glorify God,

All: gathering to hear God's word.

One: We glorify God,

All: enacting God's word in the world.

✠ SONG

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Paul Baloche

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God among us, forgive us when we assume you are far from us and when we fail to recognize our part in your ongoing ministry. We lament that so many feel forsaken. We grieve for all the wounds not healed, actions not taken and calls not answered. Teach us to participate in your mission in the world, to remember our baptism, hear the call on our lives and help those who are sent our way. Transform us, so that we may be more like Christ...

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 is among us! We have been baptized into Christ, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. In Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Amen!

✠ 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

Adam Hendrickson

COMMUNITY LIFE

Adam Hendrickson

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 15 (Pew Bible, p. 430)

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (Pew Bible, p. 818) Rev. Barbara Gorsky

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Hearts Close to God"

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

✠ **HYMN 824**

“There Is a Place of Quiet Rest”

MC AFEE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE 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 THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“One Step Closer”

Clayton, Evans, Hewson, and Mullen Jr.

✠ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

One: We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work, the wisdom of your word and the generosity of your grace. Let the gifts of our lives bear witness to your goodness and mercy, your faithfulness and justice, and your steadfast love for all.

All: **Amen.**

✠ **HYMN 475**

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

✠ **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

SENDING MUSIC

✠ Please stand as you are able.

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, September 8

Preacher: Rev. Laura Sherwood | Scriptures: Psalm 146; Isaiah 35:4-7a | “Streams in the Desert”

Music: Compass Praise Band (9:00), Chancel Choir & First Pres Brass (10:30)

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.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE NOTE — Next **Sunday, September 8**, we will return to two services at 9:00 am in the Chapel and 10:30 am in the Sanctuary. Education for children & youth begins. Sunday adult education returns on Sunday, September 15.

September 1—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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** — Sanctuary

11:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor

Upcoming Events

OFFICE CLOSURE — *Tomorrow, Monday, September 2* — The office will be closed for the Labor Day holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, September 3, at 8:30 am.

CONCERT: THE BEATLES 60TH ANNIVERSARY — *Saturday, September 7 / 4:00 pm / West Parking Lot* — Join us for a concert celebrating the Beatles 60th anniversary of their concert on September 5, 1964, at the International Amphitheater in Chicago. Led by Adam Hendrickson and band, some of the music performed will include songs from the 1964 concert. Make sure you bring a lawn chair or comfortable seating. This is a kid-friendly event and the playground will be opened and supervised for children. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be cancelled.

SAVE THE DATE! FALL KICK-OFF — *Next Sunday, September 8 / 11:30 am* — Join us for this all-church celebration of the beginning of another program year. There will be food, fellowship and fun for all ages! Bring a friend. Mark your calendar now. Many volunteers will be needed to make this event a success. Opportunities include setting up/taking down, baking, serving and helping with the petting zoo. **To volunteer, scan the QR code to the right.**



PRAYER VIGIL FOR 9/11 — *Wednesday, September 11 / 12:00 pm / Sanctuary* — Join us as we remember the nearly 3,000 people killed during the 9/11 attacks in New York, Washington, DC and on Flight 93 in Shanksville, PA. The service will take place in the Sanctuary.

Serving, Giving and Growing

PW BIBLE STUDY BOOK SALE — *Sunday, September 8 / Narthex* — Presbyterian Women will be selling the 2024-25 Bible Study books, *Let Justice Roll Down*, on September 8 in the Narthex following worship. The regular print books are \$12 each, and large print versions are \$15. Cash or checks are accepted. If paying cash, singles are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HOST SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP TIME — Fellowship Time takes place after the worship service for about 30 minutes. Who can be a Fellowship Time host? Anyone can! Gather your family, a group of families, a group of friends, your book club, or your committee and scan the QR code to sign-up.



FINAL WEDNESDAY PRODUCE MARKET — *Wednesday, 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. Contact Kim Hogan at k_hogan2003@yahoo.com for more information or to volunteer.

JOIN A MUSIC ENSEMBLE THIS FALL — *Contact Adam Hendrickson, adamhendrickon@firstpresah.org.*
Adult:

Chancel Choir – Rehearses every Thursday at 7:00 pm, beginning September 5. Sings weekly at 10:30 am service.

Men's Chorus – Rehearses first and third Thursday at 6:30 pm, beginning September 5. Sings about six times a year at 10:30 am service.

Chancel Handbell Choir – Rehearses every Thursday at 5:30 pm, beginning September 5. Rings about six times a year at 10:30 am service.

Compass Praise Band – Rehearses every Sunday at 8:00 am, beginning September 8. Plays weekly at 9:00 am service.

Children (Grades K-5):

Children's Choir – Rehearses every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, beginning September 11. Sings about six times a year at 10:30 am service.

Youth (Grades 6-12):

Handbell and Vocal Choir – Rehearses every Sunday at 5:00 pm, beginning September 8. Rings/sings monthly in worship.

FAMILY NIGHT RETURNING SOON! — *Wednesday, September 11* — Family Night returns Wednesday, September 11, with dinner at 6:00 pm followed by programming for all ages at 7:00 pm. Come connect with old friends or make new friends!

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*	\$1,238.00
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CURRENT 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 Martha's LENDING CLOSET

MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET — If you have not checked out the Lending Closet yet, now is the time. 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

- September 2 Labor Day - Office Closed
- September 5 Rehearsals resume for Chancel Choir, Men's Chorus and Chancel Handbell Choir
- September 7 The Beatles 60th Anniversary Concert
- September 8 Two Worship Services & Education for Children & Youth Resumes
- September 8 Fall Kick-off Celebration
- September 11 Prayer Vigil for 9/11
- September 11 Family Night Dinner & Programming Resumes
- September 15 Sunday Education for Adults Resumes
- September 22 PW Flower Sign-up

Prayer Requests

Healing & Comfort



First Pres Community

Mario Alberico
Carole Anderson
Don & Judy Ayers
Dawn Bruce
Lee Bruce
Laura Carlson
Jean Castles
Mary Clarbour

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

Friends & Family

Colton — Kathy Sobeski's neighbor's grandson
Cora Bigger — sister of Launa Ismail
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
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
Jood Singer — daughter-in-law of Jo Christian
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

Will and **Leah Lorenzo** on the birth of their son, Tyler Edward Lorenzo. Congratulations to grandparents, **Rick and Laura Liston**, and aunts and uncle, Mark & Katie Liston and **Becky Liston**.

Tyler and Taylor Nutting, on the birth of their son, Brody Knox Nutting. Congratulations to great-grandparents, **Donald and Donna Holmes**.

Sympathy to

William Blocki, on the death of his mother, **Virginia Blocki**
The Slivovsky family, on the death of **Ed Slivovsky**

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

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).

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.

GET CONNECTED — Join the conversation on Facebook, at 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!