



9:00 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME, GUESTS!

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Organized in 1855

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 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!



"Since [God's] delights are to be with you, let yours be found in [God]." —Alphonsus Liguori (Italian Bishop, Writer, Composer 1696-1787)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 22, 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



WELCOME

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the world around us seems to be shaking, All: God's love is our foothold, which shall not be moved. One: When the life within us is dry and parched, All: God's word is our wellspring, our fount of living water. One: Let us worship the One who offers us wisdom All: and teaches us how to serve.

"FRIEND OF GOD"

Houghton & Gungor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS

O Lord, you have called us to take up our cross and follow you: to carry the truth of your justice like a banner and bear the yoke of life as your servant. We are often hesitant, O God, to serve anyone but ourselves. We draw away from the imagery of the cross, forgetting that, in you, it has become a source of glory. Forgive us, O God, and call us once more to set aside any selfishness and follow in your way.

SUNG RESPONSE

"Amen"

HYMN 600

TIME OF GREETING

Adam Hendrickson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

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

PSALM 54

MESSAGE

"Draw Near to God" Scripture: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Rev. Laura Sherwood

SONG

"No Hard Feelings"

Avett, Avett, & Crawford

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: Lord, in your mercy, All: hear our prayer.

SHARING OUR GIFTS (See back for other giving options.)

"One Safe Place"

Marc Cohn

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

"BUILD MY LIFE"

Younker, Martin, Kaple, Redman, & Barrett

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

Please stand as you are able.

Compass: Dan Berg, guitar; Amy Carroll, piano; Kevin Carroll, bass; Adam Hendrickson, guitar/vocals; Nate Montgomery, drums; Todd Smith, trombone; Greg Schultz, saxophone

10:30 AM WORSHIP

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine" *Robert Hebble*

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

WELCOME Rev. Laura Sherwood

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the world around us seems to be shaking,

All: God's love is our foothold, which shall not be moved.

One: When the life within us is dry and parched,

All: God's word is our wellspring, our fount of living water.

One: Let us worship the One who offers us wisdom

All: and teaches us how to serve.

✦ HYMN 645 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" MIT FREUDEN ZART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You told us, O Lord, that whoever wants to be first must be last and servant of all. Oh, how we long to be first, O God: to climb every ladder, frame every achievement, get every promotion and obtain every glory. Oh, how we long to be first, O God, and oh, how we dread being last. Forgive us, O humble Christ, and by your forgiveness, teach us. Teach us to reframe our priorities. Teach us to be servants first, and to let our lives flow from a heart of faith...

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! Amen.

✦ 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

COMMUNITY LIFE

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

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 54

(Pew Bible, p. 454)

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

ANTHEM

"Just a Closer Walk"

C.E. Sutherland

"Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it Jesus if you please. Daily walking close to Thee, let it be dear Lord, let it be. I am weak but Thou art strong, Jesus keep me from all wrong, I'll be satisfied as long as I walk dear Lord close to Thee."

Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

(Pew Bible, p. 982) Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

SERMON

"Draw Near to God"

Rev. Laura Sherwood

✦ HYMN 824

"There Is a Place of Quiet Rest"

MC AFEE

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

"Cantique De Jean Racine"

Gabriel Fauré

"O Lord of Hosts, How lovely are Thy dwellings. My soul longs for Thy courts, O Lord.

My heart and flesh cry out; O Lord, for Thee my heart and flesh cry out. O blest are they whose hope is forever in Thee; Who praise Thy name, who sing their songs within

Thy holy house. O Lord, include Thine ear; Look down, my spirit longs for thee.

A sun and Shield is the Lord of Hosts. In Thee I trust; Look down and hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer."

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

One: In gratitude for the grace of God, in the warmth of God's hospitality, and in the spirit of the generosity embodied by Christ, We dedicate these offerings to the work of God. Thanks be to God!

All: Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✦ HYMN 320

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

WAREHAM

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

POSTLUDE

"A Trumpet Minuet"

Alfred Hollins

✦ Please stand as you are able.

Fellowship Hosts: The Bridge

Flowers: **Laura Liston**—In loving memory of Don and Marie Helbling

Donald & Helen Ross—In loving memory of loved ones

Preaching: Rev. Laura Sherwood

Liturgist: (9:00 am) Rev. Rebekah Anderson

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

Mario Alberico
Carole Anderson
Judy Ayers
Pat Baker
Dawn Bruce
Lee Bruce
Laura Carlson
Jean Castles
Mary Clarbour

Nancy Conning
Marilyn Giacoppi
Betty Launer
Corinne Peterson
Patty Richard
Scott Sinclair
Amy Sonderegger
Bea Sonderegger

Friends & Family

Colton — Kathy Sobeski's neighbor's Grandson
Cora Bigger — sister of Launa Ismail
Don Gross — father of Suzanne Kowalski
Donna Hames — friend of Mary Halatek
John Hayes — friend of Mary Kiepura
Debbie & Peter Jung — friends of Jim & Ingrid Kaufman
Monica Kotas — sister of Mario Alberico
Bradford Leach — brother of Jeff Leach
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
Ron and Peg Slack — friends 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

Sympathy to

Judy Ayers, on the death of her husband, Don Ayers
The Bolin family, on the death of Jerry Bolin
Karen Jirsa, on the death of her mother, Marylyn Jirsa

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

Director of First Pres PDO & Preschool: Coleen Anzalone

Nursery Coordinator: Beth Johnson

Save the Date

Today	Safe Sanctuary Training
September 25	PW Program: <i>Safe Landing</i>
September 29	Congregational Meeting
September 29	September Book Club
October 2	Wednesdays@Noon
October 13	Concert
October 20	New Member Class
October 30	Wednesdays@Noon

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; 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!



Choose love. Be the light. Change the world.



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

Church Life

September 22, 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.

SUNDAY FLOWERS SIGNUP — *Today* — Are you looking for a way to honor or remember a special person, celebrate a special day such as a birthday or anniversary or just because you love to see fresh flowers on Sundays? Donate \$40 to the Sunday flower fund. Presbyterian Women will be available in the lobby after services today to accept your donations.

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING — *Today / 11:30 am / in the Boardroom* — Incoming officers and new and current volunteers who work with children or youth (birth – 18 years) must have Safe Sanctuary training. If you have not been trained within the past three years, consider attending this session. To check your training status, contact Mary Fino at 847-255-5900 or maryfino@firstpresah.org.

CALL FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — *Sunday, September 29 / 11:30 am / Sanctuary* — Session has called for a meeting of the congregation for the purpose of electing officers for the class of 2027 on **Sunday, September 29, immediately following the 10:30 am worship service.**

SEPTEMBER BOOK STUDY — *Sunday, September 29 / 12:00 pm / Boardroom* — *Refugee High* (Winner of the Studs and Ida Terkel Award) — *Refugee High* is a riveting chronicle of the 2017–18 school year at Sullivan High. Equal parts heartbreaking and inspiring, *Refugee High* raises vital questions about the priorities and values of a public school and offers an eye-opening and captivating window into the present-day American immigration and education systems.

September 22 — Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 am – 11:15 am — Child care (infants – 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing
9:00 am **Worship** — Chapel
10:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal — Choir Auditorium
10:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
10:30 am **Worship** — Sanctuary
10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110/112
10:30 am Preschool Sunday School (3- & 4-year olds) — Room 206
10:30 am K-5 Sunday School — Room 304
10:30 am Sunday School (Grades 6-7 & 9-12) — Room 301/303
10:30 am Confirmation — Room 109/111
11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
11:30 am Safe Sanctuary Training — Boardroom
5:00 pm Youth Handbell Choir Rehearsal — Bell Choir Room
5:45 pm Youth Handbell Choir/HSYG Dinner — Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym

Upcoming Events



FAMILY NIGHT PROGRAMMING — *Wednesdays / 6:00-8:00 pm / September through May* — Come and share dinner and fellowship with families from First Pres and the broader community. This program includes dinner, adult education and programs for children and youth.

Weekly Schedule:

- 6:00-7:00 pm:** Drop-in dinner time for all ages
- 6:30-7:00 pm:** Children's Choir (grades K-5)
- 7:00-8:00 pm:** Classes and programs, including:
 - ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER adult Christian education
 - Kids Connect (grades K-5)
 - Middle School Youth Group (grades 6-8)

ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER: *The Confessions* — *Wednesdays, through September 25 / 7:00 pm / Chapel / Instructors: Rev. Laura Sherwood, Rev. Barbara Gorsky & Rev. Craig Howard* — This final class will focus on the confession process and the new confession being written for the PC(USA). The class will be led by Rev. Craig Howard, Executive Presbyter of the Chicago Presbytery. Craig began serving as Executive Presbyter of Chicago at the end of 2021. Before coming to Chicago, he served as Presbytery Leader of Giddings-Lovejoy in St. Louis, Ministry Relations Officer with the Presbyterian Foundation and as Presbytery Executive for the Presbytery of Milwaukee.

PW FALL GATHERING — *Wednesday, September 25 / 9:30 am / Parlor* — ***Safe Landing*** a Family's Journey Following the Crash of American Airlines Flight 191 — PW is sponsoring a program with Kim Jockl and Melody Smith whose parents, Bill and Corrine Borchers, were killed when American Airlines flight 191 crashed into an open field just north of Touhy Avenue in Elk Grove Township on May 25, 1979. After decades of grieving, soul searching, recollecting and connecting with the families of others who were killed in the crash, the siblings have put their personal story of survival and dealing with such a sudden loss into a book titled *Safe Landing*. It's a combination of pictorial essay and a series of personal accounts of how the family has coped for the last 45 years with the sudden loss of their parents. Books will be available for purchase at the program. All are invited. For questions please contact JoAnn Thompson at jaht623@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAYS@NOON — *Wednesday, October 2 / 12:10 pm / Sanctuary* — Join us for the first recital of the season featuring Brian Schoettler, organ. Brian is from First United Methodist Church in Evanston.

WINE & CHEESE TASTING WITH THE BRIDGE (*A Social Group for Adults ages 50 - 60+*) — *Saturday, October 5 / 6:00 pm / Home of Brian & Mary Larson* — \$25.00 per person for wine & cheese samplings. Plan to bring a small appetizer to share before the tasting, or a heavy appetizer/small dessert for afterward. Kelly and Mary will coordinate this with those planning to attend. RSVP to Kelly Dean at k_p_dean@hotmail.com by **September 28**.

NEW MEMBER & SEEKERS CLASS — *October 20 / 11:45 am / Boardroom* — Our next new members class will take place on Sunday, October 20, at 11:45 am in the Boardroom. For more information or to join the class, contact Rev. Laura Sherwood at laurasherwood@firstpresah.org.

Serving, Giving, and Growing

COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE — *Sundays / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110* — Coffee Grounds is a member-led study group open to ALL adults, of ALL ages. **Through November 10: *Invitation to the Old Testament* (8-week study)** — Explore the Old Testament's story of God and God's calling of the people of Israel through the many "voices" of the biblical text. Hear the magnificence of a Creation hymn, discover the law and wisdom teachings, listen to the warning of the prophets and explore the poetry of the Song of Solomon. Ideal experience for adults who are interested in the practice of prayer and worship and would like to connect prayer practice with Scripture. The study is accessible for adults with little prior Bible experience. Participants gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Old Testament as an integral part of the Christian Bible and a renewed discovery of our identity in God and God's vision for all things. Questions? Contact Kelly Dean at k_p_dean@hotmail.com.

PW FOOD DRIVE — *Sundays October 6-20* — Presbyterian Women will be holding their annual collection of financial donations for the purchase of food items for the families served by Christopher House and Firman Community Services, two organizations that help families in need. Cash and checks made out to Presbyterian Women will be accepted. Donations can also be accepted on the church website. All of the donations will help these organizations to purchase nutritious items for their clients. Please stop by the table in the Narthex between services!

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF OUR NURSERY! — Would you like to volunteer your services at either the first or second service? We are looking for once a month volunteers or substitutes. **Requirements:** Must be 18 or older, take "SAFE SANCTUARY" training, work in pairs once a month or more, have fun with babies/toddlers! Times available 8:45-10:15 am or 10:15-11:45 am. If this volunteer position interests you, please contact Beth Johnson at btj0914@hotmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HOST SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP TIME — Fellowship Time takes place after worship services for about 30 minutes. Anyone can host! 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.



BAPTISM SUNDAY — *November 17* — Our next Baptism Sunday will be Sunday, November 17, at either 9:00 and/or 10:30 am worship. In preparation for Baptism, there **will be a class on Sunday, October 20, at 11:45 am** in the Chapel. To begin the process of scheduling a baptism, please complete the baptism form on our website and submit to Mary Fino by email. Since all baptisms must be approved by Session which meets once a month, submitting a baptism form at least two months before the desired baptism date will help to ensure requested baptism dates can be honored.

FOOD BARREL COLLECTION — The Mission Committee has voted to direct the donations for the 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.

Worship Next Sunday

September 29, 2024: Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Election of Officers

9:00 am — **Worship** (Chapel)
Music: Compass

10:30 am — **Worship** (Sanctuary)
Music: Chancel Choir

Preacher: Rev. Rebekah Anderson
Scriptures: James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50
Sermon Title: "Forgiveness"

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	\$1,701.00
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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 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.

PADS UPDATE — We have spent the summer focused on revamping our PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) program, and it has come to our attention that the PADS area is in need of significant restoration that will take some time to complete. We have established a Steering Team to oversee the functioning of PADS and this team will provide a broader base of people to advise us as we move forward. Because there is so much work to be done, we have decided to postpone the opening of PADS until January 2025. For many of you this will be a disappointment, but we simply need more time to complete our tasks of restoring the area and increasing our volunteer base. If you have previously supported this outreach monetarily, we encourage you to continue as we will still need financial support when our doors open again in January. The PADS Steering Team includes: Amy Hempleman, Cathy Mataloni, Mark Bishop, Sue Dean, Darl Pochert, David Hogan and Chuck Yedor. If you have any questions of concerns feel free to reach out to anyone on the team or Pastor Barbara.

MARY AND MARTHA'S LENDING CLOSET — 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.