



9:00 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME, GUESTS!

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



Two little kids were playing together in a sandbox in the park. Suddenly a huge fight broke out, and one of them ran away, screaming, 'I hate you!' In no time, they were back playing together as if nothing happened. Two adults observed the interaction. One commented, 'How do children do that? They were enemies five minutes ago.' The other replied, 'It's simple. They choose happiness over righteousness.' —Harriet Lerner

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 29, 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



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!



WELCOME

Adam Hendrickson

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Happy are we
All: when our treasures cannot be quantified.
One: Happy are we
All: when our knowledge is tempered by mystery.
One: Happy are we
All: when our pain is held in the balm of love.
One: Happy are we
All: when our delight comes from beyond ourselves.

"THIS IS AMAZING GRACE"

Riddle, Farro, Wickham

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS

Rev. Laura Sherwood

Merciful God, too often we fail to do what is right. Instead, we pursue evil and do not speak the truth. Even when we try our best to be faithful, still we turn away from you. Forgive us, accept us, and redeem us, that we may seek to do what you call good.

SUNG RESPONSE

"Amen"

HYMN 600

TIME OF GREETING

Adam Hendrickson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

MARK 9:38-50

Rev. Laura Sherwood

MESSAGE

"Love and Mercy"
Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

SONG

"Orphans of God"

Lindsey & LaBar

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

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

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

"Prayers of the People"

Ben Johnston-Krase

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

"BLESSED BE YOUR NAME"

Beth & Matt Redman

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

Please stand as you are able.

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

# 10:30 AM WORSHIP

## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE "A Blessing" *Michael Burkhardt*  
Youth Handbell Choir

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

WELCOME Rev. Rebekah Anderson

INTROIT "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart" *Anna Laura Page*  
Youth Handbell Choir

✠CALL TO WORSHIP Youth

One: Happy are we  
**All: when our treasures cannot be quantified.**  
One: Happy are we  
**All: when our knowledge is tempered by mystery.**  
One: Happy are we  
**All: when our pain is held in the balm of love.**  
One: Happy are we  
**All: when our delight comes from beyond ourselves.**

✠HYMN 12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" ST. DENIO

CALL TO CONFESSION Youth

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, too often we fail to do what is right. Instead, we pursue evil and do not speak the truth. Even when we try our best to be faithful, still we turn away from you. Forgive us, accept us, and redeem us, that we may seek to do what you call good...**

### SILENT CONFESSION

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

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

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption, is the one who judges us. Christ is the one who was born for us and forgives us with abundant love.  
**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 Youth

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rev. Rebekah Anderson

COMMUNITY LIFE Rev. Laura Sherwood  
*Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along to those around you.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Youth

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Mark 9:38-50  
(Pew Bible, p. 821)  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM "Prayer for Healing" *Molly Ijames*  
*"Lord of this barren land swept by the flame, Here in my wilderness I call Your name. Refuge of wounded hearts bend low to hear. Binder of broken things, Father, draw near. Friend of the sorrowing, Knower of grief. Tenderly hovering, bringing relief. Be to my weary soul quiet repose, Be in my desert place, blossoming rose. Come like a gentle wind bringing the rain; Come like a healing touch, and soothe my pain. Fill with Your presence this desolate waste; Lord of this barren land, make of these ashes, a beautiful place. Amen"*  
Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:1-12  
(Pew Bible, p. 785) Rev. Rebekah Anderson  
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Love and Mercy" Rev. Rebekah Anderson

✠HYMN 432 "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord" REPTON

## GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Barbara Gorsky

### 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 "The Call" *Erik Routley*  
*"Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a Way as gives us breadth;  
such a Truth as ends all strife: such a Life as killeth death!*

*Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a Light as shows a feast,  
such a Feast as mends in length, such a Strength as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a Joy as none can move;  
such a Love as none can part; such a Heart as joys in love!"*  
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 Rev. Barbara Gorsky  
One: O God, through the offering of these gifts, we become a more open people—open-minded in hearing your word and wisdom, open-hearted in healing a broken world, open-handed in heeding your call to charity and enacted love. With thanks for all good gifts, we present a portion of our substance and the whole of ourselves.  
**All: Amen.**

## GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✠HYMN 804 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" MARION

✠CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Rebekah Anderson

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT NEW OFFICERS

POSTLUDE "Fanfare" *John Cook*

✠Please stand as you are able.

**Fellowship Hosts:** Community Life & Education Committee  
**Preaching:** Rev. Rebekah Anderson  
**Liturgists:** (9:00 & 10:30 am) Revs. Barbara Gorsky & Laura Sherwood, Youth  
**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 Clarbourn  
Nancy Conning

Chuck Cooper  
Marilyn Giacoppi  
Don Johnson  
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

### 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	Congregational Meeting
Today	September Book Club
October 2	Wednesdays@Noon
October 6	World Communion Sunday
October 13	Stewardship Sunday
October 13	Concert
October 20	Bible Sunday (3rd & 8th Grades)
October 20	New Member Class
October 30	Wednesdays@Noon
October 30	All Saints' Day Service: <i>Requiem</i>

**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](mailto:barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org), or 847-255-5900, extension 225 or Rev. Laura Sherwood, at [laurasherwood@firstpresah.org](mailto: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](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). If you need help with technical problems, please send an email to [webcasting@firstpresah.org](mailto:webcasting@firstpresah.org).

**GET CONNECTED** — Join the conversation on Facebook, at [facebook.com/firstpresah](https://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!



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# Church Life

September 29, 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.

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

**SEPTEMBER BOOK STUDY** — *Today / 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.

**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.

### September 29 — Nineteenth 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  
9:30 am Youth Handbell Choir Rehearsal — Sanctuary  
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  
11:30 am Congregational Meeting — Sanctuary  
11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex  
12:00 pm September Book Club — 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)

**NEW! ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER: *Feasting on the Word of God: Reading the Bible With Joy*** — *Wednesdays, through October 23 / 7:00 pm / Chapel / Instructor: Mary Larson* — Come on a journey with fellow Christians to enjoy reading the Bible just like you would any other book. Mary Larson is an English teacher who really loves to read and a Christian woman who wants people to enjoy reading the Bible. You don't have to come to every class because each will stand alone. Come with an open heart, an open mind and your beautiful, God-given curiosity! **Week 1:** Who's Afraid of the Big Old Book?, **Week 2:** Heroes Who Are Just Like Us, **Week 3:** I Know This Happened Thousands of Years Ago but Could Have Been Yesterday, **Week 4:** Different Versions but Same Story

**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](mailto:k_p_dean@hotmail.com).

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY** — *Sunday, October 6* — This special day gives us the opportunity to celebrate our oneness in Christ with all of our brothers and sisters around the world. Please join us in worship as we set the communion table and give to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Come celebrate with us!

**CHIMES DEADLINE** — *Tuesday, October 8* — The deadline for the November issue of The Chimes is Tuesday, October 8. Please submit articles to Chris Urban at [chrisurban@firstpresah.org](mailto:chrisurban@firstpresah.org).

**MUSIC FOR ORGAN & ORCHESTRA** — *Sunday, October 13 / 4:00 pm / Sanctuary / Adam Hendrickson, conductor Christopher Urban, organ* — We will draw from the vast musical literature written for organ and orchestra that is rarely heard. Featured work will be Camille Saint-Saëns' *Symphony No. 3 in C minor, Op. 78*, "Organ Symphony".

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**PLEASE DONATE A BAG OF CANDY FOR TRUNK OR TREAT** — We need your help! Last year's Trunk or Treat event in the West Parking Lot was such a huge success that we ran out of candy. This year, we are asking the congregation to help out by donating a bag of candy. Candy can be dropped off at the church starting on September 30. Also, if you are interested in participating by decorating your car trunk, please contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson at [rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org](mailto:rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org). Thank you for your help making this event so much fun!

## Worship Next Sunday

### October 6, 2024: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost / Worship with Holy Communion

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

10:30 am — Worship (Sanctuary)  
*Music:* Men's Chorus

*Preacher:* Rev. Laura Sherwood  
*Scriptures:* Luke 13:29, 24:30-31; James 5:13-20  
*Sermon Title:* "One Bread, One Body"

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	\$1,781.00
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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. ***New giving opportunity coming next week!***

**FOOD BARREL COLLECTION** — The Mission Committee has voted to direct the donations for the quarter (October-December) to the Wheeling Township Food Pantry. Please place items in the barrels located in the Narthex and outside the Chapel.

**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](mailto:maryandmartha@firstpresah.org).