



9:00 AM WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of the feast, God of abundance,
All: you are always turning water into fine wine.
 One: Though the wine has run out,
All: you work miracles among us.
 One: Though the work feels impossible,
All: you accomplish wonders through us.
 One: Though many fail to perceive it,
All: you reveal your glory among us.
 One: Help us to receive your good gifts this day,
All: that we might learn to put our faith in you. Amen.

✦ “LET IT RISE”

Holland Davis

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS

Rev. Laura Sherwood

Loving Lord, we long to be your faithful people, but our good intentions run out and we come up empty. For all the ways we fall short in our sin, forgive us, Gracious One. Change us—like water into wine—to become what the world lacks, that our community, our nation, our church and all creation may know your justice and love.

✦ SUNG RESPONSE

“Amen”

HYMN 600

✦ TIME OF GREETING

Rev. Laura Sherwood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MINUTE FOR MISSION—PADS

Chuck Yedor

PSALM 36:5-10

MESSAGE

“Joy at the Core”
Scripture: John 2:1-11

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

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

“Joy to the World”

Hoyt Axton

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Revs. Barbara Gorsky & Laura Sherwood

LORD’S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(All are invited to share the Lord’s Supper. There is a station with wafers that are free of common food allergens with a separate cup located on the main floor.)

CLOSING PRAYER

✦ “LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS”

arr. Hendrickson

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

✦ Please stand as you are able.

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. You are also invited to join the conversation on Facebook, at facebook.com/firstpresah, X, 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 and Chapel entrances. Please put used bags in the basket after worship.

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 Year C*, Presbyterian Publishing; scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE).

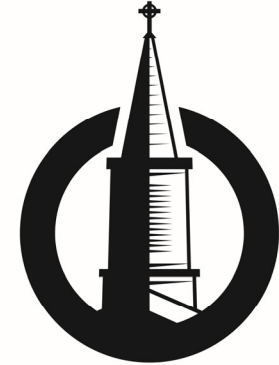


QR CODE FOR THE ONLINE GIVING PORTAL

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!

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



“Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love;
joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls.”
— Mother Teresa

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

JANUARY 12, 2025
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



10:30 AM WORSHIP

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE "Air" Gerre Hancock

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

WELCOME Rev. Barbara Gorsky

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of the feast, God of abundance,
All: you are always turning water into fine wine.
One: Though the wine has run out,
All: you work miracles among us.
One: Though the work feels impossible,
All: you accomplish wonders through us.
One: Though many fail to perceive it,
All: you reveal your glory among us.
One: Help us to receive your good gifts this day,
All: that we might learn to put our faith in you. Amen.

✦ HYMN 156 "Sing of God Made Manifest" SALZBURG

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Laura Sherwood

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving Lord, we long to be your faithful people, but our good intentions run out and we come up empty. For all the ways we fall short in our sin, forgive us, Gracious One. Change us—like water into wine—to become what the world lacks, that our community, our nation, our church and all creation may know your justice and love...

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 has lifted you up from all that has pushed you down. Gone are old names of derision: Forsaken, Desolate, Loser, Nobody. Through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, God calls you by new names: Wise, Knowing, Faithful, Healer, Prophet, Mystic. Hear, believe, and trust your new name:
All: In Jesus Christ, my name is Forgiven.

✦ 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION—PADS

Cathy Mataloni

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Laura Sherwood

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 36:5-10
(Pew Bible, p. 443) Rev. Laura Sherwood
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 2:1-11
(Pew Bible, p. 863) Rev. Barbara Gorsky
The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Joy at the Core" Rev. Barbara Gorsky

✦ HYMN 515 "I Come with Joy" DOVE OF PEACE

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

CALL AND PRAYER FOR OFFERING Rev. Laura Sherwood
(See back for other giving options.)

OFFERTORY "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" *J. S. Bach*
"Jesu, joy of man's desiring, Holy wisdom, love most bright; Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, Soar to uncreated light. Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, With the fire of life impassioned, Striving still to truth unknown, Soaring, dying round Thy throne. Through the way where hope is guiding, Hark, what peaceful music rings; Where the flock, in Thee confiding, Drink of joy from deathless springs. Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure; Theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure. Thou dost ever lead Thine own In the love of joys unknown."
Chancel Choir

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Revs. Barbara Gorsky & Laura Sherwood

THE INVITATION

THE THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please partake of the bread as it is served. We will hold the cup and drink together. Self-contained packs of gluten-free bread and juice are available on each bread tray that will be brought to the pews.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

✦ HYMN 477 "Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord" TALLIS' ORDINAL

✦ CHARGE & BENEDICTION Rev. Barbara Gorsky

POSTLUDE "Tuba Tune" *Paul Fey*

✦ Please stand as you are able.

Fellowship Hosts: The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

Flowers: Carolyn Schmidt—Remembering Keith

Preaching: Rev. Barbara Gorsky

Liturgist: (9:00 & 10:30am) Rev. Laura Sherwood

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
Denise Beihoffer
Dave Berkow
Carl Burklund
Laura Carlson
Elaine Chen
Mary Clarbour
Margie Conner
Nancy Conning

Bill Dillon
Cathy Dillon
Don Johnson
Nancy Johnson
Susan Kogan
Connie Leach
Mollie Lumsden
Lois Meisterheim
Patty Richard
Bea Sonderegger
Terry Wade

Friends & Family

Colton — Kathy Sobeski's neighbor's grandson
Cora — sister of Launa Ismail
Don Gross — father of Suzanne Kowalski
John Hayes — friend of Mary Kiepora
Monica Kotas — sister of Mario Alberico
Bradford Leach — brother of Jeff Leach
Lisa — daughter-in-law of Launa Ismail

Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia
Jim & Nancy Robinson — friends of Sheila Hall
Betty Sanders — friend of the congregation
Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields
Dave Weiss — brother of Rev. Barbara Gorsky
Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al & Karen Wilson

Sympathy to

June Johnson and family, on the death of granddaughter, Erin Blanchette
The family and friends of **Sandy Naehner**
The family of **Earl Oak**
The family of Tom Spaeth, friend of **Steve Smith**

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

Custodian & Facility Monitor:
Joe Webb (mornings)

Save the Date

Today PADS Training
January 14 PADS Returns to First Pres
January 15 Family Night Returns
January 19-20 MLK Service Day
February 5 Wednesdays@Noon
February 9 Souper Bowl of Caring
February 16 40th Annual Organ Fest
February 23 Annual Meeting of the Congregation

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

January 12, 2025

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.

HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR 2025 COMMITMENT CARD? — If you have not yet had a chance to turn in your Commitment Card for 2025, you are invited to place your card in the offering plate, or you can drop it off or mail it to the church office, to the attention of Debbie Walter, business administrator. You can also enter your commitment online at firstpresah.org.



PADS NEEDS HELP! JUST ONE SHIFT! — PADS Renovation Part 1 is almost complete and on **January 14**, we are opening our doors to clients. Now we need your help! We are a church that has supported PADS for over 30 years, and we need volunteers to step up and sign up to work the various shifts. If everyone agreed to work just **one** shift, we would be set for the season. We need you! The QR code will direct you to the sign up page. Thanks! Pastor Barbara



A WARM WELCOME TO NEW (MORNING) CUSTODIAN AND FACILITY MONITOR, JOE WEBB — Joe began his new position on Monday, December 30. His regular hours will be Sunday-Thursday, 8:30 am -12:30 pm. *(We are still interviewing for an evening position – together they will be responsible for custodial work, helping with set-ups and being a presence in the facility in the mornings, evenings and for special events.)*

January 12—First Sunday after Epiphany

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 with Holy Communion** — Chapel
10:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal — Choir Auditorium
10:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
10:00 am PADS Training — Fellowship Hall
10:30 am **Worship with Holy Communion** — Sanctuary
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
10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110/112
11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
12:00 pm Session Meeting — 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 CLASS: BREAKING THE CODE — *Wednesdays, January 15 - February 26 / 7:00-8:00 pm / Room 102-104* — As a follow-up to Mary Larson's *Reading the Bible with Joy* course, she will be offering a small group style Bible study on the Book of Revelation. Please join us as we discuss *Breaking the Code (Revised Edition)* by Bruce Metzger. The study goes through the entire Book of Revelation. *Breaking the Code* provides a trustworthy guide to the rich symbolism of this important biblical book. We highly encourage people to buy the book and prepare for the class each week. However, if you just want to jump in, you will be welcomed with open arms. The book is available through Christianbook.com and Amazon for \$11.99. Please prayerfully consider joining us. We're excited to traverse this study together.

PW CIRCLE MEETINGS — Presbyterian Women (PW) is a community of women helping to make a difference in the lives of others. We look forward to growing together, supporting each other and listening to God's word. Join us for our study, *Let Justice Roll Down*. For more information, contact Ingrid Kaufman at ingridkaufman@icloud.com.

Circles 1, 2, 3: Wednesday, January 15 / 9:30 am / Parlor

Circle 7: Tuesday, January 21 / 7:00 pm / Parlor

SIXTH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE COMMUNITY FOOD AND HOUSEHOLD ESSENTIALS DRIVE — *Sunday, January 19 & Monday, January 20 / 9:00 am - 12:00 pm* — The MLK Day of Service is an annual event held nationally to encourage communities to take action to build the beloved community of Dr. King's dream. MLK Day is the only federal holiday designated as a National Day of Service to encourage all to volunteer to improve their community. Donations can be dropped off in the lobby on Sunday, January 19, during worship services. On Monday, January 20, drop off your non-perishable food and paper good donations at the front steps of the church. Volunteers will unload your donations from your car. Walk-up donations are also welcomed. All donations will go to local pantries. **When deciding what to donate, here are some helpful hints:** household items such as paper towels, toilet paper, and dish detergent are not eligible for purchase with a Link card; consider pop-top lids as sometimes people do not have a can opener; olive oil, garlic, salt, pepper and other spices can transform a meal; remember items like Hamburger Helper are only good if you have ground beef; baking mixes that require only water are better; coffee is a luxury; sugar and flour are always needed; Kraft Mac & Cheese requires milk and butter, consider Velveeta that comes with the sauce. Questions? Contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson at rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org for more information.

Serving, Giving, and Growing

COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE — *Sundays, through March 2 / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110* — Coffee Grounds is a member-led study group open to ALL adults, of ALL ages. *Invitation to the New Testament* (An 8-week Disciple Bible Study) — Explore the writings of the New Testament using the story of Jesus as the starting point. This survey of the testament looks at how the early church took ownership of and was shaped by the story of Jesus and how the church learned how to develop as disciples and create communities of faith. Participants gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the New 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.

REFUGEEONE THANK YOU! — Dear church family, thank you so much for your generous response in supporting our refugee family. Within a very short time, we were able to collect everything that we needed. This week we are renting a truck and completely furnishing an apartment for a family that has been in a refugee camp in Uganda since 2019, after fleeing violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Now they will have a new home. A special thanks to Kim, John and Ben Nowak who found needed furniture and brought it to church. Kim Nowak and I spent Sunday afternoon cleaning the apartment. Moving day volunteers include: Therese and Ben Haines, Carol and Kevin Kelley, Amy Lumsden, David Hogan and Jack Hempleman. Amy Hempleman also tracked down a lot of the decorative items that will make the house much more homey. I'm eternally grateful to all of them! I love this church and your commitment to helping those in need. Thank you again! —Kim Hogan

BLANKET DRIVE SPECIAL OFFERING — *Collection through January & February* — On our cold winter nights, it is wonderful to have a warm house and a cozy blanket to wrap ourselves in. Not everyone is lucky to have that warmth and comfort. During the months of January and February, PW will be collecting for the Church World Services Blanket Drive. A \$10 donation will provide a blanket for someone needing a little support, warmth and encouragement. Please help by donating! Checks may be made out to First Presbyterian Church, indicate Blanket Drive in the memo, or you may donate online by selecting Blanket Drive in the drop down menu. Thank you! Questions? Contact Lois Meisterheim at mlmeisterheim@gmail.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.

PLEASE GIVE TO COVER YOUR PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT — Each year every Presbyterian church is apportioned a share of the ecclesiastical expenses of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. These are the activities that make us Presbyterian. This apportionment is based on church membership. In 2025, this apportionment is \$38.00 per member. Any funds you designate for the apportionment will be used for this purpose and will free up our General Fund dollars to be used in supporting the vision, overall ministry and missions of our congregation. Please consider contributing your share of the Per Capita Apportionment. An Initial Offering Envelope for this purpose has been included with the 2025 weekly offering envelopes. If you do not receive envelopes, please use one of the Per Capita envelopes from the pew pockets in the Chapel and Sanctuary or donate online by selecting 'Per Capita' in the dropdown menu.

Worship Next Sunday

January 19, 2025: Baptism of the Lord

9:00 am — Worship (Chapel)
Music: Compass Praise Band

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

Preacher: Rev. Rebekah Anderson
Scriptures: Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Sermon Title: "New Beginnings"

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	\$176.00
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NEW GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Dia Nuevo — Our first quarter bookmarks will go to the support of Dia Nuevo, a Spanish speaking, new worshipping community of the Chicago Presbytery in Hanover Park. Dia Nuevo is comprised of first generation immigrants from Colombia, Venezuela and Guatemala.

FAMILY NIGHT HELP WANTED — There are many ways to help support this vital ministry to church and community members. Please consider ways you could help:

- **Sponsor** the full or partial cost of dinner for one night (*average cost is \$400 for 100 people*). Contact *Debbie Walter* in the Church office or choose "Family Night" from the dropdown on our Giving page.
- **Bring Dessert** — we need a few people each week to bring four dozen servings of dessert.
- **Wash Dishes & Cleanup** — we need three people each week to help wash, dry and put away dishes.
- **Attend!** The most important part of Family Night is YOU — whether you can help with funds, food or cleanup, ***your presence is the best gift of all!***

FOOD BARREL COLLECTION — The Mission Committee has voted to direct the donation of nonperishable food items to the Wheeling Township Food Pantry. Please place items in the barrels located in the Narthex and outside the Chapel. The next time you are at the grocery store, why not pick up a few healthy nonperishable items to donate? Thank you for your past and continued support!

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.