

9:00 AM WORSHIP

GATHERING

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Joel Raney

WELCOME

Rev. Laura Sherwood

LENGTHENING OF LIGHT

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, it was like a dream.

All: Then our mouths were filled with laughter and shouts of joy.

One: Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

All: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

One: Let those who plant with tears reap the harvest with joy.

All: Let those who go out weeping come home with shouts of joy. Let us worship God!

†"Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King"

Thomas Miller

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS Rev. Anderson Why are you so extravagant, O God? We work hard, use our intelligence, keep our ledgers balanced, accomplish feats daily, care for our families and honor our inherited legacies. Is this not enough to earn our place among the favored? Yet you throw open windows and doors, revealing a vision we do not possess, where accomplishments don't count, where tears reap joy, where peace is found in suffering, where confidence is gained by giving away what is ours to treasure. Show us again what matters. Forgive our misplaced values, and draw us into your extravagance, that we, too, might be generous with our love... (silent prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

†SUNG RESPONSE

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Graham Kendrick

†TIME OF GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

ISAIAH 43:16-21

MESSAGE

"Coming Back to Life: Healing Compassion"

Rev. Gorsky

Scripture: John 12:1-8

SONG

"Great Things"

Matt Maher

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

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

"I Must Tell Jesus"

Joel Raney

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

†"How Firm a Foundation"

Fernando Ortega

†CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

WELCOME, GUESTS!

Thank you for worshiping 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*, PC(USA); scriptures are from the New Revised Standard Updated Edition (NRSVUE).



■ ★XXX OR 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



"For God's Spirit—always sweeping over everything, helping new life to rise from the ashes—makes all things new!"—from the Lenten Devotional Coming Back to Life

LENTEN SEASON 2025

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

APRIL 6, 2025 9:00 & 10:30 AM

Choose love. Be the light. Change the world.

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights 302 N. Dunton Avenue • Arlington Heights, IL 60004 847-255-5900 • firstpresah.org • mail@firstpresah.org



Please stand as you are able.

10:30 AM WORSHIP

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Walter Schurr PRAYER
Cathy Moklebust

"I Want to Walk as a Child of Light" *Ca* Chancel Handbell Choir; Michell Fielder, oboe

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

WELCOME

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

LENGTHENING OF LIGHT

†CALL TO WORSHIP

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worship God!

♦HYMN **46**3

"How Firm a Foundation"

FOUNDATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Why are you so extravagant, O God? We work hard, use our intelligence, keep our ledgers balanced, accomplish feats daily, care for our families and honor our inherited legacies. Is this not enough to earn our place among the favored? Yet you throw open windows and doors, revealing a vision we do not possess, where accomplishments don't count, where tears reap joy, where peace is found in suffering, where confidence is gained by giving away what is ours to treasure. Show us again what matters. Forgive our misplaced values, and draw us into your extravagance, that we, too, might be generous with our 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: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven. Be glad and rejoice, for in Christ, we are a new creation.

All: Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

PRESPONSE (Refain: Hymn 377)

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

†TIME OF GREETING

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:16-21

(Pew Bible, p. 586) Rev. Laura Sherwood The Word of the Lord/Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

"Go Not Far From Me, O God"

Nicola Zingarelli

"Go not far from me, O God; cast me not away in the time of age: forsake me not when my strength faileth me. O let my mouth be filled with Thy praise: that I may sing Thy glory and honor all the day long. O let my mouth be filled with Thy praise, that I may sing all the day long."

Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 12:1-8

(Pew Bible, p. 874) Rev. Barbara Gorsky The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Coming Back to Life: Healing Compassion" Rev. Gorsky

†HYMN 201

"A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar" KEEP FROM SINGING

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Gilbert Martin

Text from Hymn 223

Chancel Choir

†RESPONSE (Hymn 662, vs. 1)

Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ, the true, the only light; Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o'er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: You have shown us, O God, the sacrifice that you desire. Now use these gifts—and use our lives—to liberate the oppressed, to break the bonds of injustice, to feed the hungry, welcome the poor and unite the human family; all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN 697

"Take My Life"

HENDON

†CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Frances Allitsen

Rev. Barbara Gorsky

CHORAL RESPONSE "The Lord Is My Light"

"The Lord is my light, and my salvation. Whom, then, shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom, then, shall I be afraid?"

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

"Toccata on 'O Sacred Head'"

Paul Fey

Please stand as you are able.

Fellowship Hosts: The Bridge Preaching: Rev. Barbara Gorsky

Liturgists: (9:00 am) Revs. Laura Sherwood & Rebekah Anderson

(10:30 am) Rev. Laura Sherwood

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
1 1101	1,00	Committee

Don Johnson Mario Alberico Carole Anderson Nancy Johnson Denise Beihoffer Connie Leach Sally Blaseck Mollie Lumsden Carl Burklund Stu Olin Laura Carlson Patty Richard Mary Clarbour Bea Sonderegger Terry Wade Margie Conner Lin Willour Nancy Conning Bill Dillon

Friends & Family

John Hayes — friend of Mary
Kiepura
Judy — family of Mark Bishop
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

Betty Sanders — friend of the congregation

Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields

James Vasiliades — brother-in-law of Carolyn Nunley

Dave Weiss — brother of Rev.

Barbara Gorsky

Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al & Karen Wilson

Sympathy to

The Levene Family—on the death of Eric's father, Dave Levene

Serving in the Armed Services

Brandon Latuzek — nephew of Elaine Chen

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

About First Pres

STAFF

Today

Interim Pastor / Head of Staff: Laura Sherwood Interim Associate Pastor: Barbara Gorsky

Associate Pastor of Children, Youth and Families: Rebekah Anderson

Associate Director of Music and Organist: Christopher Urban

Director of Children's Choirs: Nick Pulikowski

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 Monitors:

Joe Webb (mornings) Iden Jajou (evenings)

Save the Date

New Member & Visitor Lunch

April 8	Restaurant Walk
April 13	Palm Sunday
April 13	Concert Series: Haydn's Creation
April 13	Restaurant Walk
April 17	Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service at St. John UCC
April 18	Good Friday Service of Darkness in the Sanctuary
April 19	Easter Egg Hunt
April 20	Easter Sunday Worship: 6:30, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am
April 27	Children's Musical (One worship service 10:30 am)
<u>*</u>	•

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

April 6, 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.

SHADOW PRAYER BOX — Throughout the season of Lent, we invite you to write down a personal prayer and place it in the Shadow Prayer Box. These prayer cards are a place where you can share a prayer for yourself, for others, or for the world, that may be difficult to speak. You can tell the truth about a hurt or wound, ask for forgiveness, and allow hurt, grief, and concern to pour out of you freely. The prayers in the box will remain private and the pastors will hold all in their weekly prayers during Lent. You can find a Shadow Prayer Box near the Welcome Center and in the Chapel.

NEW MEMBER & VISITOR LUNCH — Today / 11:45 am / Fellowship Hall — Our next new members class will take place today, at 11:45 am in Fellowship Hall. All recent visitors are invited to attend. Please join us!

PALM SUNDAY — *Sunday, April 13* — During worship services next week, we begin Holy Week with the distribution of palm branches to mark the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

WRITE NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR CONFIRMANDS — As

Confirmands embark on new journeys of faith, we invite you to share words of encouragement and love with each of them. Starting today, decorated paper bags with the names of both our 8th grade Celebrants and our 10th grade Confirmands will be placed in the Parlor before and after worship and in Fellowship Hall during Family Night. We invite you to share words of encouragement, prayers and kindness to uplift our Confirmands. These will be given to them in worship on Celebration Sunday, May 4.

April 6—Fifth Sunday in Lent

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

9:00 am Lenten Study — Boardroom

10:00 am Adult Choir Rehearsal — Choir Auditorium

10:00 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex

10:30 am Worship — 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 (Grade 8) — Room 109/111

10:30 am Coffee: Grounds for Discussion & Service — Room 110/112

11:30 am Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex

11:30 am PNC — Boardroom

11:45 am New Member & Visitor Lunch — Fellowship Hall

12:00 pm Deacons — Room 110/112

4:00 pm Dance Rehearsal — Sanctuary

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 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 vouth.

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 CLASS: Spiritual Practices — Wednesday, April 9 / 7:00-8:00 pm / Chapel / Instructor: Rev. Barbara Gorsky — During the season of Lent, we will explore "spiritual practices". In this class, we will sample different ways to connect with God and how these connections can deepen our sense of God's presence in our everyday lives. Be open, be willing and be prepared to see God in new and exciting ways!

SIGN-UP FOR THE CHILDREN'S MUSICAL — Our children will perform a musical on Sunday, April 27, at the 10:30 am worship service (only one service this day). This time of music, drama and crafts is open to all children K-5th grade. Our rehearsals will take place on Wednesday evenings through April 23. Contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson to register.

FAMILY NIGHT SCHEDULE NOTE — Family Night will **not** meet on Wednesday, April 16 (Holy Week).



RESTAURANT WALK — Tuesday, April 8 (6:00 pm) & Sunday, April 13 (6:00 pm, after Haydn Concert) / Bistro Chen (10 E. Miner St, AH) — This is a great way to connect with other members of the congregation and support a local restaurant. Scan the QR code to sign up or contact the church office.

CONCERT SERIES: HAYDN'S CREATION — Sunday, April 13 / 4:00 pm / **Sanctuary** — The oratorio depicts and celebrates the creation of the world as narrated in the Book of Genesis. We'll also celebrate First Pres' 170th anniversary with an Illinois premiere of *Tributum*, for bagpipes and orchestra.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT — Saturday, April 19 / 10:00 am — Children of all ages are invited to join us for our annual Easter egg hunt! We will begin in Fellowship Hall and separate children by age groups. Join us to hunt for eggs and enjoy a light breakfast. Register at firstpresah.org/ experience/special-events/.

EASTER COMMUNITY SUNRISE WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP — Sunday, April 20 / 6:30 am worship at North School Park / 7:00 am Donuts and Coffee at St. John UCC (next to North School Park) — First Pres is partnering with St. John UCC for this year's Easter Sunrise service. Gather with us at the amphitheater in North School Park at 6:30 am. Coffee and donuts will be provided at St. John. All are welcome!

HELP US FLOWER THE CROSS — Sunday, April 20 — On Easter Sunday, please bring cut flowers to help decorate the Easter cross in front of the Sanctuary doors on Dunton Avenue. Flowers are a symbol and a reminder of the power of resurrection and rebirth.

Serving, Giving, and Growing

LENT - SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY — Sundays, through April 13 / 9:00 am / Boardroom — For many, Lent is a time to "give up," or sacrifice something as a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice. This year, we invite you to ADD something for Lent. Put an extra hour a week on your calendar to read the Bible stories of the season and reflect on them. Together, see these familiar stories with fresh eyes. We can find new meanings for our lives today. Join us, and make Lent a time for new ideas and new hope.

LENT - COFFEE: GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION & SERVICE — Sundays, through April 13 / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110 — Coffee Grounds is a member-led study group open to ALL adults, of ALL ages. A World Worth Saving: Lenten Spiritual Practices for Action: by George Hovaness Donigian. For anyone who dismisses Lent as a seemingly endless time of self-sacrifice and introspection, this study for Lent offers a breath of fresh air. It connects prayer and other inner spiritual practices with outward actions of mercy and compassion. George Donigian guides you to grow in your prayer life by praying about daily news reports, discovering the needs around you and responding with love and compassion.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING COLLECTION — through April 20 — Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in -need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and support for the poor and oppressed. This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

WE NEED VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND MISSIONFACTORY

VOLUNTEERS — We need volunteers of all ages to make VBS and Mission Factory happen! VBS and MissionFactory will take place July 7-11. Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to help with VBS and youth in grades 9-12 are invited to help with MissionFactory. Are you a college student who is home for the summer? We'd love your help! Mark your calendar, VBS and MissionFactory training will take place on Sundays, June 22 and June 29, following worship at 11:45 am in the Boardroom, and on Tuesdays, June 24 and July 1, at 6:30 pm in the Boardroom. We appreciate your generosity and hope you can join us!

JOIN THE FIRST PRES GOLF LEAGUE — The First Pres Golf League is organizing teams for the season at Palatine Hills Golf Course. During May through August, we will have Tuesday evening tee-times for 9-hole rounds. Whether you are already a great golfer or just learning how to play, you are welcome to join the league. We also need substitutes! Please contact Arlene Bullerman at 847-670-0319 or abullerman@earthlink.net.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 13: Palm Sunday Worship: 9:00 & 10:30 am / Sanctuary April 17: Maundy Thursday: 6:00 pm Dinner & 7:00 pm Worship / St. Iohn UCC

April 18: Good Friday Service of Darkness: 7:00 pm / Sanctuary April 20: Easter Sunday

6:30 am — Community Sunrise Worship in North School Park (in the event of inclement weather, worship will be at St. John UCC)

8:00 am — Modern Worship in the Chapel

9:30 & 11:00 am — Traditional Worship with Chancel Choir and First Pres Brass in the Sanctuary

Childcare will be available for Palm Sunday and 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am on Easter Sunday.

Worship Next Sunday

April 13, 2025: Palm Sunday

9:00 am — Worship (Chapel)

10:30 am — Worship (Sanctuary)

Music: Youth Choir and Children's Choir

Preacher: Rev. Laura Sherwood

Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 31:9-16 Scriptures:

Sermon Title: "Coming Back to Life: Light and Shadow"

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	\$0.00
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GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) — Our second quarter bookmarks will go to support PDA's California fire relief efforts. PDA has been actively engaged in responding to the devastating wildfires affecting communities within the Pacific, San Gabriel, and San Fernando Presbyteries.

WEDDING & FUNERAL GUILD VOLUNTEERS WANTED — Please consider joining our newly created Wedding & Funeral Guild and be a part of something special. For more information, please contact Rev. Barbara Gorsky at barbaragorsky@firstpresah.org.



PADS NEEDS HELP! LAST MONTH OF THE SEASON! — 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. The QR code will direct you to the sign up page. Thanks! Pastor Barbara



影響器 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.

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**
- Wash Dishes & Cleanup
- Attend! 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!