

9:00 AM WORSHIP

GATHERING

"Lord of the Dance"

Ioel Raney

WELCOME

Rev. Laura Sherwood

LENGTHENING OF LIGHT

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: Let all who fear the Lord say,

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: The Lord has answered our prayer and become our salvation. All: God's steadfast love endures forever! Hosanna, hosanna!

One: Let us worship God.

†"HOSANNA (PRAISE IS RISING)"

Brenton Brown

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND HOPEFULNESS

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

Triumphant God, we join the crowds of the ages in shouting your praises. While our lips give you glory, our lives seldom reflect your purposes. We sing easily of your greatness, but living faithfully is often beyond us. We hear of your salvation, yet sin is still close and real, daily leading us away from you. Have mercy on us. Ride into our hearts with healing grace. Forgive what we have done and direct who we shall be. Lord, save us. Hosanna!... (silent prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

†SUNG RESPONSE

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Graham Kendrick

†Time of Greeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

LUKE 19:28-40

MESSAGE

Rev. Laura Sherwood

"Coming Back to Life: Light and Shadow" Scripture: Psalm 31:9-16

†"Bring Forth the Kingdom"

Marty Haugen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

"Draw Me Close"

Kelly Carpenter

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

†"How Maiestic Is Your Name"

Michael W. Smith

†CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

Please stand as you are able.

Music: Sam Baker, guitar/vocals; Todd Smith, drums; Chris Urban, piano

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).



■ ● 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



LENTEN SEASON 2025

"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

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 13, 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

10:30 AM WORSHIP

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

"Trumpet Tune in D"

Bert Landman

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

WELCOME

Rev. Laura Sherwood

LENGTHENING OF LIGHT

Adrian Kociubinski

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Children

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. One: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: Let all who fear the Lord say,

One: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: The Lord has answered our prayer and become our salvation. One: God's steadfast love endures forever! Hosanna, hosanna!

All: Let us worship God.

†HYMN 197

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

ELLACOMBE

(Children's Palm Processional)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Eric Wetzel

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eric Wetzel

Triumphant God, we join the crowds of the ages in shouting your praises. While our lips give you glory, our lives seldom reflect your purposes. We sing easily of your greatness, but living faithfully is often beyond us. We hear of your salvation, yet sin is still close and real, daily leading us away from you. Have mercy on us. Ride into our hearts with healing grace. Forgive what we have done and direct who we shall be. Lord, save us. Hosanna!...

SILENT CONFESSION

(please pray a silent and personal prayer of confession during this time) ...in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Eric Wetzel

One: He who rode into Jerusalem, struggled on the cross, and was sealed in a tomb is risen from the dead! Jesus Christ has defeated sin forever. This is good news!

All: 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

William Haines

COMMUNITY LIFE

Rev. Rebekah Anderson

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

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elijah Lang

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:28-40

(Pew Bible, p. 854) Jaxon Drey

The Word of the Lord/Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

"A Festive Intrada" Youth Handbell Choir Cvnthia Dobrinski

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 31:9-16

(Pew Bible, p. 439) Brianna Smith The Word of the Lord/Thanks be to God!

LITURGICAL DANCE "Lord of the Dance"

Joel Raney

Mikavla Carlson and Haleigh Smith

SERMON

Rev. Laura Sherwood

"Coming Back to Life: Light and Shadow

†Hymn 196

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

ST. THEODULPH

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Emily Wetzel

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.) Emily Wetzel

OFFERTORY

"Hosanna"

Christian Gregor

"Hosanna, Blessed is He that comes, He that comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Praise ye the Lord on High, All ye Nations sing praise to His Name. Children's and Youth Choirs

PRESPONSE (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

Kevin Bogoev

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 198

"Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

ST. DROSTANE

♦CHARGE **&** BENEDICTION

Rev. Laura Sherwood

POSTLUDE

"Toccata on 'St. Theodulph'"

Michael Burkhardt

Please stand as you are able.

Fellowship Hosts: Deacons

Preaching: Rev. Laura Sherwood

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

(10:30 am) Children & Youth

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 Don Johnson 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 Erik's father, Dave Levene

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: **Business Administrator:** Debbie Walter Laura Sherwood **Interim Associate Pastor: Senior Administrative Assistant:** Barbara Gorsky Mary Fino Associate Pastor of Children, Youth Administrative Assistant / and Families: Rebekah Anderson Receptionist: Carol Vega Director of First Pres PDO & Associate Director of Music and **Organist:** Christopher Urban Preschool: Coleen Anzalone Director of Children's Choirs: Nursery Coordinator: Beth Johnson Nick Pulikowski **Custodian/Facility Monitors:** Worship Technicians: Joe Webb (mornings) Amy Senior, Jonah White Iden Jajou (evenings)

Save the Date

Today	Palm Sunday
Today	Concert Series: Haydn's Creation
Today	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 21	Office Closed
April 27	Children's Musical (One worship service 10:30 am)

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



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 13, 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.

PALM SUNDAY — Today — During worship services, we begin Holy Week with the distribution of palm branches to mark the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

CONCERT SERIES: HAYDN'S CREATION — Today / 4:00 pm / Sanctuary — The oratorio depicts and celebrates the creation of the world as narrated in the Book of Genesis.

WRITE NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR OUR CONFIRMANDS —

As our Confirmands embark on new journeys of faith, we invite you to share words of encouragement and love with each of them. Decorated paper bags with the names of both our 8th grade Celebrants and our 10th grade Confirmands will be placed in the Narthex 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 13—Palm Sunday

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

9:30 am Children & Youth 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 Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex

12:00 pm Session Meeting - New Members & Confirmands Meet & Greet — Boardroom

2:30 pm Concert Rehearsal — Sanctuary

4:00 pm Concert Series: Haydn's Creation — Sanctuary

5:00 pm Concert Reception — Parlor, Narthex

5:45 pm 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)

FAMILY NIGHT SCHEDULE NOTE — Family Night will not meet on Wednesday, April 16 (Holy Week). Rehearsal for the children's musical will meet on April 16, at 6:45 pm in the Sanctuary.



RESTAURANT WALK — Today (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.

PW CIRCLE MEETINGS — Presbyterian Women (PW) is a community of women helping to make a difference in the lives of others. Join us for our study, Let Justice Roll Down. For more information, contact Ingrid Kaufman at ingridkaufman@icloud.com.

Circle 7: Tuesday, April 15 / 7:00 pm / Parlor Circles 1, 2, 3: Wednesday, April 16 / 9:30 am / Parlor

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.

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL DURING WORSHIP — Sunday, April 27 / 10:30 am / Sanctuary — Kindergarten-5th graders present Storms by Mark Burrows. Through music and fun, children will share about where God is during the storms in our lives. There will be only one worship service at 10:30 am.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED — Sunday, April 27 / 10:30 am / Sanctuary — Please join us in welcoming our newest members of the First Pres family of faith, who will be received during worship on Sunday, April 27.

Serving, Giving, and Growing

LENT - SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY — Final Class

Today / 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 — Final Class Today / 10:30-11:30 am / Room 110 — Coffee Grounds is a memberled 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 neighborsin-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 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). Coffee and donuts fellowship to follow at 7:00 am at St. John

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 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am on Easter Sunday.

Worship Next Sunday

April 20, 2025: Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday

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

8:00 am — Modern Worship (Chapel)

Music: Praise Band

9:30 & 11:00 am — Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

Music: Chancel Choir and First Pres Brass

Rev. Rebekah Anderson *Preacher:* Scriptures: Luke 24:1-12; Luke 24:13-32

Sermon Title: "Awakening"

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	\$175.00
300kmarks	\$175.00

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.



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. Thank you for your past and continued support!