

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, Twitter, at [@FirstPresAh](https://twitter.com/FirstPresAh), and Instagram, at [@firstpresah](https://instagram.com/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

Liturgies from *Call to Worship Year C* – PC(USA). 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. Thank you for your generous support!

Storms

The Cast

Max Ballinger
Gloria Bogoeva
Kevin Bogoev
Maverick Bogoev
Oliver Bogoev
Mallory Grochocki
Myles Grochocki
Everett Landwehr
Brynn Lewis
Calder Lewis
Jayne Martinka
Mary Martinka
Sarah Martinka
Eric Marzec
Cole McDonough
Keira McDonough
Brynn Miller
Kiefer Miller
Eliana Pulikowski
Louie Pulikowski
Isabella Weck
Julianna Weck
James White
Jonathan White

Adult Helpers

Liz Ballinger
Maria Bogoeva
Laura Grochocki
Patti Janda
Kurt Landwehr
Courtney Lewis
Phil Lewis
Carrie Martinka
Nichole McDonough
Steve Miller
Sarah White

Piano

Chris Urban

Percussion

Todd Smith

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights

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



“No matter what kinds of storms we face,
knowing God’s love is always there can help us get through.
You are always loved and you are never alone.”
—Mark Burrows

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER CHILDREN’S MUSICAL

APRIL 27, 2025
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	“My Lord What a Morning”	Raymond Haan
<i>The prelude is your invitation to quiet preparation for the worship of Almighty God.</i>		
WELCOME	Rev. Rebekah Anderson	
✠CALL TO WORSHIP	Youth	
One: In the midst of life’s storms, God is there.		
All: What have we to fear?		
One: In the darkness and terror, God is with us.		
All: Of whom shall we be afraid?		
One: Rise up, people of God, for you are loved and saved.		
All: Thanks be to God who cares deeply for us.		
One: Let us worship God!		
✠HYMN 611	“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”	HYMN TO JOY
CALL TO CONFESSION	Youth	
PRAYER OF CONFESSION	Youth	
Compassionate God, we have been afraid to enter troubled waters to help the poor and downtrodden. We have been afraid to walk with those burned by sin and oppression. We have sought ease and comfort and ignored the hungry and sick. Forgive us when we have seen our faith in narrow ways. Forgive us when we do not live for others. Call us into new life, a life that is lived in the promise of love for the whole world...		
SILENT CONFESSION	(please pray a silent and personal prayer of confession during this time)	
...in Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.		
WORDS OF FORGIVENESS	Youth	
One: Hear this good news: Even in storms and darkness, light shines. In troubled waters, a hand reaches out. We are not alone on this journey of faith. When we seek God, we find the God who forgives, renews and restores—in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!		
All: 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	
RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS	Revs. Laura Sherwood & Barbara Gorsky	

RESPONSE (Hymn 306, vs, 1)
Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship our spirit finds Is like to that above.

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	Isaiah 43:1-2, 5-7 (Pew Bible, p. 585)	Youth
The Word of the Lord/Thanks be to God!		
✠HYMN 815	“Give to the Winds Thy Fears”	FESTAL SONG
SECOND SCRIPTURE READING	Mark 4:35-41 (Pew Bible, p. 816)	Youth
The Word of the Lord/Thanks be to God!		
A MUSICAL MESSAGE	Mark Burrows	

Storms

- Storms
- A “Pleasant” Little Cruise
- You Are Mine
- An Answer to a Prayer
- You Are Mine (Instrumental)
- Refuge
- Singing Through Our Storms

Please join in singing:
When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well with my soul.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the Living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing, standing on the promise of God my Savior,
Standing, Standing, I’m standing on the promises of God.

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I hear the sweet though far off hymn, that hails a new creation:
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to the Rock I’m clinging.
Since Love is Lord of heav’n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

- Inside-Out

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Rev. Barbara Gorsky
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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
Rev. Barbara Gorsky
(Use the QR code on the back page to give now.)

OFFERTORY
“Ruby”
Rilla Puckett, trombone
H. A. Vandercook

✠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
Youth
One: Eternal God, take and use these gifts for your purpose in the world— giving food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, and new life to the dead. Teach us to live each day for you, so that future generations will know your goodness and praise your glory; in the name of Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

GOING FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

✠HYMN 463	“How Firm a Foundation”	FOUNDATION
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✠CHARGE & BENEDICTION
Rev. Rebekah Anderson

POSTLUDE	“How Firm a Foundation”	Carolyn Hamlin
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✠Please stand as you are able.

Fellowship Hosts: Chancel Choir
Preaching: Children’s Musical
Liturgists: Revs. Laura Sherwood & Barbara Gorsky, Children and 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	Connie Leach
Carole Anderson	Mollie Lumsden
Denise Beihoffer	Kathy Miles
Laura Carlson	Stu Olin
Mary Clarbour	Patty Richard
Nancy Conning	Bea Sonderegger
Bill Dillon	Terry Wade
Mary Hebden	Lin Willour
Nancy Johnson	

Friends & Family

John Hayes — friend of Mary Kiepora	Betty Sanders — friend of the congregation
Judy — family of Mark Bishop	Jerry Shields — husband of Dianne Shields
Monica Kotas — sister of Mario Alberico	James Vasiliades — brother-in-law of Carolyn Nunley
Lisa — daughter-in-law of Launa Ismail	Pamela Wilson — daughter-in-law of Al & Karen Wilson
Phil Perillo — brother of Kristie Cerniglia	

Sympathy to

Bob Blaseck, on the death of his wife, **Sally Blaseck**
Rev. Barbara Gorsky and family, on the death of her brother, Dave Weiss

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

Save the Date

Today	Children’s Musical (One worship service 10:30 am)
Today	New Members Received
May 4	Celebration Sunday
May 7	Wednesdays@Noon
May 7	Sounds Good Choir Concert—7:00 pm
May 11	PADS Thank You Sunday
May 14	Family Night Year-end Celebration
May 18	Baccalaureate Sunday
May 18	Concert Series: Organ Crawl
May 21	PW Salad Luncheon

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!



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Church Life

April 27, 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.

CHILDREN’S MUSICAL DURING WORSHIP — *Today / 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.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED — *Today / Sanctuary* — Please join us in welcoming our newest members of the First Pres family of faith!

NEXT WEEK: CELEBRATION SUNDAY — *Sunday, May 4 / During Worship Services* — Join us to celebrate important milestones in the lives of our youth. We will celebrate their hard work and dedication learning about their faith and celebrate the culmination of their discernment following their time in Confirmation by welcoming them as members of the church. This is a special Sunday. We hope you’ll join us!

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.**

BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY — *Sunday, May 18 / During Worship Services* — Join us in celebrating our graduating students during worship at 9:00 am and 10:30 am on Sunday, May 18! We’ll celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating students and wish them well as they embark on new journeys. ***Do you know someone graduating from high school, college, graduate studies or a technical program? We want to recognize them in worship on Baccalaureate Sunday and give them a special gift.*** Please send information for your graduate by email to Rev. Rebekah Anderson at rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org or call the church office. We look forward to celebrating with you in May!

April 27—Second Sunday of Easter

10:15 am – 11:45 am	– Child care (infants – 4 years) — Room 205/207 (Blue Room), Main Floor Christian Education (CE) Wing
10:30 am	Worship - Children’s Musical — Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship Time — Parlor, Narthex
11:45 am	Elder/Confirmand Conversations — Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Nominating Committee — Boardroom
5:00 pm	Youth Handbell Choir Rehearsal — Bell Choir Room
5:45 pm	Youth Handbell Choir/HSYG Dinner — Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	HSYG — HS Lounge, Gym

Upcoming Events



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

Weekly Schedule:

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

ENGAGE & ENCOUNTER CLASS: *Let’s Talk Gardening!* — *Wednesdays, April 23 & 30 / 7:00-8:00 pm / Room 102/104 / Instructor: Pete Landwehr, Master Gardener* — Join First Pres’ own master gardener, Pete Landwehr, for a discussion about successful gardening of vegetables (April 23) and shrubs and perennials (April 30).

FINAL WEEKS ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILY NIGHT

May 7 / 7:00 pm / Sanctuary / Sounds Good Choir Concert — Join us for dinner at 6:00 pm followed by the *Sounds Good Choir** concert in our Sanctuary. The concert is free and open to all ages (no tickets or pre-registration required). The choir will be singing a Broadway repertoire. **Sounds Good Choir* is Chicagoland’s largest “no audition” choral program for adults 55+.

May 14 / Year-end Celebration! — Regular schedule with special activities for all!

May 21 / Special Program Dinner for Children, Youth, and Families — Contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson at rebekahanderson@firstpresah.org.

GARDENERS WANTED — *Thursday, May 1 / 7:00 pm / Parlor* — The church's gardeners are looking for additional volunteers to help maintain our landscaping. This meeting is a chance to meet other gardeners and ask any questions you may have. Please contact Walt Meyer at 847-253-1701 or aw5171@eathlink.net for more information.

WEDNESDAYS@NOON — *Wednesday, May 7 / 12:10 pm / Sanctuary* — Join us for an afternoon recital featuring Christopher Urban, organ.

CONCERT SERIES: ORGAN CRAWL — *Sunday, May 18 / 4:00 pm* — Join us for four, 20-minute organ concerts at four different Arlington Heights churches. We will begin at St. Peter Lutheran, 111 W. Olive Street at 4:00 pm and conclude around 6:00 pm at First Pres with a light reception. The organ crawl will feature:
Matthew Doran at St. Peter Lutheran
Matt Haider at Our Saviour’s Lutheran
Eunice Son at Southminster Presbyterian
Christopher Urban at First Presbyterian

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S SALAD LUNCHEON — *Wednesday, May 21 / 12:00 pm / Fellowship Hall* — Please bring a dish to pass. Following the luncheon we will welcome Amanda Moller, owner of a new store in Arlington Heights called Greener Good. Amanda will explain her vision for this creative reuse shop which receives and shares second hand arts and craft supplies to support schools, non-profits, and workshops. All are welcome!!

Serving, Giving, and Growing

CELEBRATING OUR PADS SUPPORTERS — *Sunday, May 11* — We are closing out another successful PADS season this week and that calls for a celebration—of you! Join us on Sunday, May 11, for *PADS Thank You Sunday*. If you worked a shift, brought food, made linen bundles or donated money, we are grateful for your support. Volunteers will be recognized during each service, and everyone is invited to enjoy cake and community at Fellowship Time. This is a great opportunity to celebrate our church’s long-standing commitment to serving the homeless in our community.

WE NEED VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND MISSION FACTORY VOLUNTEERS — We need volunteers of all ages to make VBS and Mission Factory happen! VBS and Mission Factory 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 Mission Factory. Mark your calendar, VBS and Mission Factory *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!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL — *July 7-11 / 9:00 am - 12:00 pm* — Calling all 4-year-old preschool children through incoming 4th graders: This year we’ll embark on an exciting journey with Road Trip VBS, based on Joshua 1:9, “The LORD your God is with you wherever you go.” Join us in a fun-filled adventure on the open road, taking all “travelers” on thrilling journeys to exciting destinations. Led by the Navigator and an adventurous pup, Scout, kids will learn that God is always with them. Get ready for twists, turns and excitement as they face new challenges and find strength in God’s presence on this unforgettable trip! We’ll discover God’s presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends and experience God’s goodness together. Register online or contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson.

MISSION FACTORY — *July 7-11 / 9:00 am - 12:00 pm* — Calling all incoming 5th and 6th graders: Join us for Mission Factory where we’ll learn about sharing God’s love through mission. This summer, we’ll focus on living with peace and non-violence with friends from Novi and Young Peacebuilders. You won’t want to miss this opportunity to grow in God’s love and have fun together. Register online or contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson.

SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIPS — Mark your calendars! Summer will be here before we know it, which means we’ll have one of the most exciting experiences of our year: **Summer Mission Trips!** **Middle schoolers** will be going to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from June 22 through 27 with Youthworks. **High Schoolers** will go to North Carolina to help with natural disaster relief July 19 through 27. See the Youth Ministries Weekly News email for more information. If you’re interested in joining the Middle School or High School Mission Trip this summer, please contact Rev. Rebekah Anderson.

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.

Worship Next Sunday

May 4, 2025: Third Sunday of Easter / Celebration Sunday

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

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

Preacher: Rev. Rebekah Anderson
Scriptures: Psalm 30; Matthew 18:1-9
Sermon Title: “Clothed with Joy”

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	\$347.00
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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.

INSCRIBED BRICKS — Inscribed bricks in the Memorial Prayer Garden honor loved ones, living or deceased, in a beautiful setting. You can order an inscribed brick for a donation of \$50 for two lines (of 12 characters and spaces each) or \$65 for three lines. Forms are available in the church office or at firstpresah.org/contact/forms/. *For installation this fall, all orders are due in the church office by Monday, June 30. Questions?* Please contact the church office.

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.



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!