

**WELCOME, GUESTS!**

**Thank you for worshipping with us tonight.**

Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it along the pew, and introduce yourself to those around you after the service. Then stop by the Welcome Center in the Narthex (lobby) to pick up information that will acquaint you with our church services and programs. If you have questions, members of the Welcomers Corps will be there to answer them. You are also invited to join the conversation on Facebook, at [facebook.com/firstpresah](https://facebook.com/firstpresah), and Twitter, at [@FirstPresAH](https://twitter.com/FirstPresAH). We look forward to connecting with you again.

**CHILD CARE**

Children of all ages are warmly welcomed and encouraged to participate in worship tonight and always. On Sundays, child care is available (infants through age four) in the Christian Education Wing (8:45 am – 11:45 am). We encourage 3- and 4-year-olds to participate in Preschool Sunday School, offered from 10:30 to 11:30 am.

**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. Children's and youth education, as well as adult classes, take place from 10:30 to 11:30 am. To learn more, visit [firstpresah.org](https://firstpresah.org) or call the church office at 847-255-5900.

**SPECIAL ASSISTANCE**

Large print bulletins, large print hymnals, and hearing amplifiers are available from the ushers.

**IMPORTANT WORSHIP REMINDERS**

Please silence cell phones and refrain from taking photos or recording the worship service. Visit the Webcast Archives page at [firstpresah.org](https://firstpresah.org) to experience this service again. To download or listen to a podcast of tonight's sermon (available soon), visit [firstpresah.org/media/podcast](https://firstpresah.org/media/podcast). Past sermons and other educational broadcasts are available through the Media section of our website.

**First Presbyterian Church  
of Arlington Heights**

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



“Let yourselves be taken over by the light of Christ, and spread that light wherever you are.”  
~ Pope John Paul II

---

---

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**

**DECEMBER 24, 2018  
8:00 PM**

---

---

**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](https://firstpresah.org) • [mail@firstpresah.org](mailto:mail@firstpresah.org)



*Order of Worship*  
*December 24, 2018 ~ Christmas Eve 8:00 pm*

---

---

## FESTIVAL OF PREPARATION

---

CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN	Traditional	
SOLO	“The Work of Christmas” Kathy Sobeski, soprano	<i>Dan Forrest</i>
CAROL 123 (vv. 1, 3, 5) “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”	Carol	
DUET	“Christmas Wonder” JoAnn Thompson, soprano; Carol Stolley, violin	<i>Walter Pelz</i>
DUET	“I Wonder as I Wander” Kristen Walter, alto; Steve Walter, guitar	<i>Traditional</i>
CAROL 134 (vv. 1, 2, 4) “Joy to the World”	Antioch	
SOLO	“O Holy Night” Nick Pulikowski, tenor	<i>Adolphe Adam</i>

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

---

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP      Alex Lang

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Light shines on those who live in darkness,  
**All: for a child is born to us this night.**

### OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES      The Orzechowski Family

♠ CAROL 133 (vv. 1, 3, 4) “O Come, All Ye Faithful”      Adeste Fideles

## THE PROPHECY

---

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING      Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
(Pew Bible, p. 555) TC Anderson  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM      “For Unto Us A Child Is Born”      *John Carter*  
Chancel Choir

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## THE BIRTH

---

♠ CAROL 121      “O Little Town of Bethlehem”      St. Louis

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING      Luke 2:1-7  
(Pew Bible, p. 832) Judy Hockenberry  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM      “What Strangers Are These?”      *arr. Dan Forrest*  
Chancel Choir; Steve Walter, guitar

### PRAYER FOR NEIGHBORS

## THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS

---

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING      Luke 2:8-20  
(Pew Bible, p. 833) TC Anderson  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

♠ CAROL 113      “Angels We Have Heard on High”      Gloria

### PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

## THE LIGHT OF THE STAR

---

ANTHEM      “Star Carol”      *John Rutter*  
Chancel Choir

FOURTH SCRIPTURE READING      Matthew 2:1-3, 7-11  
(Pew Bible, p. 783) Judy Hockenberry  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

♠ CAROL 147 (vv. 1, 2, 4) “The First Nowell”      The First Nowell

## THE MEANING

---

FIFTH SCRIPTURE READING      John 1:1-5  
(Pew Bible, p. 862) Alex Lang  
Treasure these words and ponder them in your heart. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON      “The Light of Jesus”      Alex Lang

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND CHRISTMAS OFFERING

OFFERTORY      “This Christmastide”      *Donald Fraser*  
Chancel Choir

### PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE      Alex Lang

One: The prophet declared, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light:

**All: those who dwelled in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.”**

One: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world;

**All: whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**

One: Jesus said, “You are the light of the world;

**All: let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to God who is in heaven.”**

### SHARING THE LIGHT

*An usher will light the candle of the person at the end of each pew. As your neighbor lights his/her candle from yours, give the greeting, “The peace of Christ be with you.” The congregation will join in singing “Silent Night.” During the last verse, carefully raise your candle. Please extinguish candles following the Benediction and place them in the receptacles in the Narthex as you leave.*

♠ CAROL 122      “Silent Night, Holy Night!”      Stille Nacht

BENEDICTION      Judy Hockenberry

CHORAL RESPONSE      “Still, Still, Still”      *Norman Laboff*  
Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE      “Toccata on ‘Adeste Fideles’ ”      *Richard Purvis*

---

---

♠ Please stand as you are able.

**Preaching:** Alex Lang

**Ushers:** Mark Bishop (head usher), Peter Bukowski, David Crim, Buzz Detrick, Frank Morrone, Kirsten Olson

**Pastors:** Alex Lang, Judy Hockenberry, TC Anderson

**Director of Music and Worship:** Adam Hendrickson

**Associate Director of Music and Organist:** Christopher Urban

### DECEMBER 30, 2018 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**10:00 am** — Traditional worship in the Sanctuary

### REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

**9:00 am** — *finding grace* worship in the Chapel

**10:30 am** — Traditional worship in the Sanctuary

### LEARN MORE

If you are thinking about joining the congregation of First Presbyterian and would like to learn more about the church, contact Pastor TC Anderson at 847-255-5900 or tcanderson@firstpresah.org.