

**WELCOME, GUESTS!**

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

Please sign the Friendship Pad, pass it along the pew, and introduce yourself to those around you after the service. 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](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. Child care is available (infants through age four) in the Christian Education Wing (8:45 am – 11:45 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. 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 hymn packets, 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. Services are webcast live at [firstpresah.org/media/live-stream](https://firstpresah.org/media/live-stream). To download or listen to a podcast of today'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

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## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2018  
10:00 PM

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**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 10:00 pm*

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CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN Traditional

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## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

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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 College Youth

✠ CAROL 133 (vv. 1, 3, 4)  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Adeste Fidelis

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

✠ GLORY TO GOD (Hymn 583)  
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!**  
**Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

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## THE PROPHECY

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

CAROL 82 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Hyfrydol

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## THE BIRTH

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

CAROL 121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" St. Louis

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## THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS

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

CAROL 113 "Angels We Have Heard on High" Gloria

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## THE LIGHT OF THE STAR

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FOURTH SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-3, 7-11  
(Pew Bible, p. 783) TC Anderson  
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

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## THE MEANING

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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 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"  
Kathleen Thomerson  
*Text from Hymn 377*  
TC Anderson, guitar/voice; Adam Hendrickson, piano/voice;  
Chris Urban, organ

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; 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 come forward down the center aisle, take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup and partake of communion. Return to your pew by the side aisle. There is a station which offers wafers free of common food sensitivities: gluten, wheat, casein, dairy, nut, egg, corn, yeast, soy, low/no sodium. and a separate cup is offered as well.)*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

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 Alex Lang

✠ POSTLUDE "Toccata on 'Adeste Fideles'" Richard Purvis

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✠ Please stand as you are able.

**Preaching:** Alex Lang

**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](mailto:tcanderson@firstpresah.org).