



WORSHIP

Sanctuary

May 3, 2026

I wake expectant, hoping to see a new thing. ~ Annie Dillard

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Sweet Sweet Spirit
Bel Canto Ringers - Judy Brame, director

arr. Lamb

WELCOME

Rev. Brian Paulson

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP - *Psalm 96:1-2*

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song;
All: sing to the Lord, all the earth.

❖ HYMN #361

O Christ, the Great Foundation (vv. 1, 2, 4)

AURELIA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,
you love us, but we have not loved you.
You call, but we have not listened.
We walk away from neighbors in need,
wrapped in our own concerns.
We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

God of grace,
help us to admit our sin,
so that as you come to us in mercy,
we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our redeemer.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

❖ GLORIA PATRI (*Glory to God*) Hymn #581

❖ SUMMARY OF GOD'S COMMANDS

Our Lord Jesus said:

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment.**

**And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all
the law and the prophets.**

Elder Susan Henning

❖ RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Amy Heinrich

❖ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST & BLESSING THE CHILDREN

As the congregation greets one another, children are welcomed by our Sunday School teachers and depart for Sunday School.

THE WORD

An NRSV pew Bible is available for your convenience. You may access other versions using your mobile device at biblegateway.com.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE *1 Peter 2:2-10 (NRSVue)*

ANTHEM

Ah, Jesus Lord, Thy Love to Me arr. David N. Johnson
Motet Choir - David H. Edelfelt, director; Gloria Song, organ

SERMON

Into Marvelous Light

Dr. Paulson

THE RESPONSE

❖ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** - *1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Mark 16:1-9; Matthew 16:16; Revelation. 22:13; John 20:28*

**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved,
if we hold it fast that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve
and then to many faithful witnesses.
We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end;
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.**

TABLE TALK

MOMENT FOR MISSION - Mosaic Hub Garden

Camila Aponte Freeman

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Let Us Break Bread Together
Motet Choir; Lois Blazsanyik, soloist; Gloria Song, organ

arr. Robert A. Harris

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus (*sung in unison*) Hymnal #552 (v. 1)
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

The Great Mystery of Faith (*sung in unison*) Hymnal #553
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

BREAKING THE BREAD

(Please note that communion is gluten free bread and grape juice so that there may be no barriers to the table.)

*Hold the bread so we may share it together as a sign of our unity in Christ.
Drink the cup as it arrives as a sign of your individual communion with your Savior.*

Communion Hymn #501

Feed Us, Lord

FEED US

*As the bread is shared, sing and meditate on the communion hymn.
As the cup is shared, use this moment of sharing for your personal meditation.*

THE SENDING

❖ **PRAYER OF RESPONSE**

Leader: You have given yourself to us, Lord;
People: Now we give ourselves for others,
Leader: Your love has made us a new people;
People: As a people of love we will serve you with joy.
Leader: Your glory has filled our hearts;
All: Help us to glorify you in all things.
Gracious God, we give you thanks that by the witness of your word and the sharing of this meal you have opened our hearts and eyes to the presence of Christ among us. Now send us forth from this place by the power of your Spirit to share this Easter hope: Jesus Christ has risen indeed! Amen.

❖ **HYMN #463**

How Firm a Foundation (vv. 1, 3, 5)

FOUNDATION

❖ **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Celebration on "Praise to the Lord"

arr. Morris

Bel Canto Ringers

❖ *Please stand in body or in spirit, as you are comfortable.*

Bel Canto Ringers: Amy Dickinson, Kendra Gohr, Kristie Holland, Scott Holland, Suzanne Jozwiak, LeAnn Malecha, Becky Nelson, Joan Parker, Betsy Rehm, Bonnie Rhodes, Ted Rock, Kitty Snyder, Lori Sundberg, Carol Turnbull Subs: Emily Malecha, Rebecca Groebe, Judy Brame, director

IN MINISTRY TOGETHER

Ministers	The Congregation
Officers	The Session and the Board of Deacons
Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Paulson
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Amy Heinrich
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley (<i>in Chapel</i>)
Pastoral Resident	Alex Barnes, M.Div. (<i>in Chapel</i>)
Music, Department Head	Gloria Song, M.Mus.

A complete list of our staff team is found at FirstPresLibertyville.org

Community Notes

Church Calendar & Parish Life Newsletter: www.firstpreslibertyville.org

Flower dedication: Flower dedication: The flowers in the Chapel are placed to the glory of God by Rev. Barb Peter in loving memory of Ron and Doug Peter singing together in the Chapel.

Sunday, May 3

- 10:00 AM — Worship (Sanctuary & Chapel)
- 10:15 AM — Sunday School (Ages 3–5th Grade)
- 11:00 AM — New Member Cake Reception (Social Hall)
- 11:30 AM — Confirmation Luncheon (Fellowship Hall)
- 4:00 PM — Youth Group (Grades 6–12)

Tuesday, May 5

- 7:00 PM — Adult Ed: Biblical Hospitality (Conference Room)

Wednesday, May 6

- 4:00 PM — PADS Food Donation Drop-Off (Sanctuary Entrance)
- 7:00 PM — Adult Ed: Have You Ever Wondered? (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, May 9

- 2:00 PM — “This I Believe” Service & Celebration (Chapel & Portico)

Sunday, May 10 - Mother's Day

- 10:00 AM — Worship (Sanctuary & Chapel)
- 10:15 AM — Sunday School (Ages 3–8th Grade)
- 11:00 AM — Social Hour

Looking Ahead

- May 16 — Mobile Food Pantry Volunteering
- May 17 — Chancel Choir Major Work
- May 17 — Vision Plan Gathering & Lunch
- May 31 — Confirmation & Baccalaureate
- June 7 — Retirement Celebration for Rev. Amy M. Heinrich
- June 21 — Ordination & Installation of Church Officers
- June 28 — Pride Sunday
- July 19 — Bluegrass Sunday

You're Invited: This I Believe Celebration!

Celebrate our Confirmation youth and their faith journeys at the “This I Believe” Service and Celebration next Saturday, May 9 at 2:00 PM in the chapel. Hear our confirmation students share the understanding of faith they've developed through their many weeks of study, field trips, and service. Whether a student chooses to be confirmed or not, every participant will be honored for their dedication and the gifts they bring to our church. Everyone is welcome! After the service, you're invited to a party hosted by the parents. Come be inspired, uplifted, and celebrate our youth.

Have You Ever Wondered? | Wednesday, May 6 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall

As Pride Sunday approaches, the First Pres LGBTQ+ Workgroup is offering a variety of classes and activities to help our community learn together, grow in understanding, and celebrate the diversity of God's beloved people - especially our LGBTQ+ siblings. Our next class is this coming Wednesday at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall. Sign up online.

Vision Plan Gathering

Join us Sunday, May 17 (11:15 AM–1:15 PM) for our third Vision Plan Gathering as we look ahead to God's call for our future. Lunch and childcare provided. RSVPs appreciated for food and childcare planning.

Chancel Choir Major Work – May 17

On May 17, the Chancel Choir will present *Messe Solennelle in C-sharp minor* by Louis Vierne. Composed in 1899, this "Solemn Mass" is a powerful and expressive setting of the Latin text for choir and organ. For this special presentation, our sanctuary organ will lead the accompaniment, joined by our continuo organ to enhance the depth and texture of the music. Come experience this powerful and prayerful work as part of worship and be uplifted by the beauty and grandeur of this beloved choral masterpiece.

Graduate Info Needed

We'd love to celebrate your graduate! Please submit your student's high school or college graduation information to the church office by May 24. High school graduates will be recognized during worship, and all graduates will be included in the May 31 bulletin. Join us afterward for a cake reception to celebrate together! You can call the church office or fill out the form on our website.

Apply for the Savidis Fine Arts Scholarship

The family of Janice and Chuck Savidis, longtime members of this church, dedicated participants in the Chancel Choir, and enthusiastic supporters of the arts, established this Fine Arts Scholarship to provide financial support for students in our congregation pursuing a college major or minor in music, theater, dance or visual arts. Applicants must be active members of the First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville to be eligible. The application is available on our website.

Flower Dedications

Honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion with a beautiful floral arrangement in our worship spaces on Sunday mornings. The cost is \$45. Fill out the form on our website or call the church office.

Podcasts

Check out our podcasts! You can find [Sunday Sermons](#) and [Anywhere Anytime Bible](#) on the listening platform of your choice, including Spotify and Apple.