



WORSHIP

Combined Service

August 30, 2026

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found.
~ "Where Charity and Love Prevail," trans. Omer Westendorf

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Love One Another

Robin Mann

Chapel Music Team – Adam Hendrickson, director

WELCOME

Rev. Brian Paulson

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP -

Deacon Liz Tanner

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let love be genuine; hold fast to what is good, and overcome evil with good.

People: Welcomed. Renewed. Sent to serve. Together we worship God.

❖ HYMN #14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

PRAYER OF CONFESSION - adapted from © Thom M. Shuman, *Lectionary Liturgies*. Used by permission.

Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley

Merciful God, we could live at peace with others, but we choose to do wrong to them; we could welcome those we do not know, but choose to close our hearts; we could make outsiders our best friends, but choose the safety of our cliques.

Forgive us, God of genuine love, for our foolish choices. Hold on to our shaky lives, until we learn to clasp your goodness to our hearts, so we can give it away to those around us. Whisper your grace and hopes to us, until we can stop cursing our enemies, and bless them as our friends.

(Silence for personal confession.)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

❖ GLORIA PATRI (*Glory to God*)

Hymn #581

❖ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Children remain in worship today.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

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

Elder Betsy Davison

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:9-21 (NRSVue)

ANTHEM

Inscription of Love

Stroop

Amy Dickinson, Nancy Harvey-Kodish, Carol Huntsinger, Leslie Koehler, Sharon Price, Lenore Wold;
Kitty Snyder, piano

THE RESPONSE

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The Presentation

Ruling Elder Gail Starr

The Constitutional Questions

The Questions of the Congregation

Leader: Do we, the members of the church, accept , , , and as deacons and ruling elder, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

People: We do.

Leader: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is the Head of the Church?

People: We do.

The Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Declaration and Welcome

TABLE TALK

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

OFFERTORY

One

Clayton, Evans, Hewson, Mullen, Jr.

Chapel Music Team

❖ **PRAISE GOD – HYMN #608 (*The Doxology*)**

PRAISE GOD

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, DEDICATION, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SENDING

❖ **HYMN #725**

O Jesus, I Have Promised

NYLAND

❖ **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

❖ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #399**

God Welcomes All

THEMBA AMEN

❖ *Please rise in body or spirit.*

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. Nicole Chapman-Farley

Transitional Minister for Pastoral Care

Alex Barnes, M.Div.

Music, Dept. Head

Gloria Song

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

Alex Barnes is away this week

Community Notes

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

The flowers are placed to the glory of God by Don Lennie to Joan, in honor of 60 years of marriage.

Sunday, August 30

- 10:00 AM — Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 AM — Social Hour (Social Hall & Courtyard)
- 11:15 AM — New Deacon Usher Training
- 11:30 AM — Summer Book Read Discussion (Conference Room)
- 2:00 PM — Fourth & Fifth Fellowship (Offsite)

Tuesday, September 1

- 7:00 PM — Summer Book Read Discussion via Zoom

Wednesday, September 2

- 4:00 PM — PADS Food Donation Drop-Off (Sanctuary Entrance)

Saturday, September 5

- 10:00 AM — Coffee Tour to Drip & Culture in Waukegan

Sunday, September 6

- 10:00 AM — Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 AM — Social Hour (Social Hall & Courtyard)

Looking Ahead

September 11 — "Eleven" A Concert of Remembrance and Reflection (Sanctuary)

September 13 — Fall Kick Off & Welcome to Rev. Nanette Sawyer

- Walking Taco Lunch
- Rally Day Program Fair
- Sunday School
- Confirmation
- Youth Group

September 19 — Mobile Food Pantry Volunteering

September 20 — Inquirers Class for Prospective New Members

September 29 — Feed My Starving Children Packing Event – Sign up online

October 3 — Women's Fall Retreat: "Hidden Gem's & Poison Pills" – Registration now open

October 4 — Vision Plan Celebration

Today & Tuesday: Summer Book Read

Join us today at 11:30 AM in the Conference Room to discuss "James" by Percival Everett and "Big Jim and the White Boy" by David F. Walker and Marcus Kwame Anderson. RSVP online for Tuesday's 7:00 PM Zoom discussion or call the church office at 847-362-2174.

Coffee & Community next Saturday in Waukegan

On the first Saturday of each month, September–December, we're having coffee out and about in Lake County. We'll be visiting Black- and Brown-owned businesses to get to know more of the people and places that make our community vibrant. No program, no agenda, just a chance to grab a drink and hang out with First Pres folks for as much or as little of the hour as you'd like. Our first stop is **Drip and Culture - Socially Minded Coffee, Saturday, September 5, 10:00–11:00 AM** (2015 Grand Avenue, Waukegan, inside Supermercado Gonzalez).

"Eleven" A Concert of Remembrance and Reflection – Friday, September 11

Join David Edelfelt and his talented friends in the sanctuary on Friday, September 11 at 7:00 PM for an evening of music, remembrance and reflection on the events of September 11, 2001. Open to all; \$20 donation suggested.

Rally Day Fall Kick-Off – Sunday, September 13

Celebrate the start of fall at First Pres! Join us for worship in the sanctuary and chapel, the kickoff of Sunday School, the Rally Day Program Fair to explore our ministries and groups, and lunch featuring walking tacos and other treats. Come for fun, fellowship, and a fresh start to the fall program year!

An Update from San Nicolás de Bari, Cuba

The solar panels are now up and running at our sister church in San Nicolás de Bar, Cuba!. Check out the photos in the display case in the narthex. Thank you to everyone whose prayers and support helped make the solar project possible!

There's still time to sign up to help!

We're excited to kick off the new Sunday School year and we'd love to have you on our Volunteer Team! We need at least **6 more adult volunteers** to make sure our classes are fully staffed each week! To learn more or sign up, visit our website or click the links in *Parish Life*. Questions? Contact Megan at 847-362-2174 or email office@boxp.net.

Inquirers Class – Sunday, September 20

Considering First Presbyterian as your spiritual home? Join us for our Inquirers Class. Sign up by September 14 at www.firstpreslibertyville.org. Questions? Contact Michelle at 847-362-2174 or office@boxp.net.

Early Bird Registration: Women's Fall Retreat

Hidden Gems & Poison Pills: Searching the Bible for God's Love

Join Rev. Nanette Sawyer on **Saturday, October 3 from 8:45 AM - Noon** at Brushwood Center in Ryerson Woods for a thoughtful exploration of women's stories in the Bible, including the passages that are hard, confronting, or confusing. Some verses and stories could be called poison pills, especially when they reflect the social harms of their time or have been used to limit and control women. Together, we'll put these stories into context and look more deeply for the hidden gems: the poetry, wisdom, courage, and glimpses of God's love that can be found beneath a superficial reading of the text. *Where is the God of love present, even in the difficult stories?* **Sign up at www.firstpreslibertyville.org.**

August Financial Update

Business Affairs reports a favorable net financial position of \$6,894 through July 31. Giving is \$46,164 above budget year to date, while expenses remain below budget through careful expense management, including reduced costs related to temporary staffing changes. We are grateful for the continued generosity of our congregation and for the careful stewardship of the church's resources. We will continue to monitor our finances closely as we move through the second half of the year.

Giving through July 31

Budgeted: \$727,385

Actual: \$773,549