



WORSHIP

Combined Service

October 4, 2026 – World Communion Sunday

We do not know all that the future holds. But we trust the One who calls us forward.

The Vision Plan, First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Chapel Music Team – Adam Hendrickson, director

WELCOME

Rev. Brian Paulson

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP – *Psalm 133:1* (NIV); *Revelation 7:9; 21:3* (CEB, adapted)

Martin Frey and Susie Lawson

Leader: How good and pleasant it is

People: when God's people live together in unity!

Leader: I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number.
They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language.

**People: Look! God's dwelling is here with humankind. God will dwell with them,
and they will be God's peoples. God himself will be with them as their God.**

❖ HYMN #409

God Is Here! (vv. 1, 2, 4)

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley

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.

(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

❖ SUMMARY OF GOD'S COMMANDS

Cole Kowal

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.**

❖ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY

Rev. Ellen Baxter - Introduction by Session Elder Hannah Rumble

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

Alex Barnes, M.Div.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:1-21 (NRSVue)

ANTHEM

Shine on Me

W. J. Abbingdon, Jr.

Faith Choir – Gloria Song, director; Kitty Snyder, piano; Michael Riggs, bass

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 3:14-21 (NRSVue)

❖ **HYMN #698**

Take, O Take Me as I Am (sing 2x)

TAKE ME AS I AM

SERMON

Abundantly More

Dr. Paulson

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

THE RESPONSE

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

Session Elder Hannah Rumble

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 MINISTRY

Elders Martin Frey and Susie Lawson

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE AND THE OFFERING

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Nanette Sawyer

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 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 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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

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

Ushers will guide each row toward the nearest side of the Sanctuary and then to the rear. Choose your aisle, walk toward the Table, place your heart on the board, and return to your pew. Those remaining seated will be served there.

Communion Hymn #507

Come to the Table of Grace
Chapel Music Team

TABLE OF GRACE

THE SENDING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE VISION PLAN

Stated Clerk Gail Starr

OFFERTORY

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
Chancel Choir – David H. Edelfelt, director; Gloria Song, organ

Harold W. Friedell

❖ **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: As we have been fed at this table, send us to feed a hungry world. As you have gathered us with your people in every land, make us one in ministry in every place. As we have promised our hearts to you, give us grace to follow wherever you lead. Amen.

❖ **HYMN #611**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

❖ **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

❖ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #295**

Go to the World! (v. 3)

SINE NOMINE

**Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.**

As servant church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia. Alleluia.

❖ *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

Interim Associate Pastor

The Rev. Nanette Sawyer

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

Community Notes

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

The pink rose on the organ is placed in joyful celebration of the birth of Zoe Rose DeArmey on September 14. Parents are Elisa Carter and Luke DeArmey. Grandparents are Preston and Roberta Carter.

Sunday, October 4

- 10:00 AM — Communion Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM — Sunday School
- 11:00 AM — Vision Plan Celebration (Fellowship Hall)
- 2:00 PM — Confirmation
- 4:00 PM — Youth Group

This Week: Deacon Board Winter Clothing Drive

Please bring gently used or new winter items — coats, snow pants, mittens, and hats — to the collection bins in the Sanctuary Narthex or Chapel entryway. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, October 11 and distributed at our Mobile Food Pantry on Saturday, October 17.

Starts Tuesday: “Following Christ While Confronting Injustice: Christianity and Resistance”

October 6, 13, 20, 27 at 7 PM in the Conference Room

This four-part class led by Brian Smith will explore ways followers of Christ have resisted and addressed injustice for centuries. Through Scripture, political theory, and theology, we will consider the options available to us as we seek faithful answers to the question: “What can I do?”

Sign up at www.firstpreslibertyville.org.

CEEQ: Voting Rights on Sunday, October 18

11:10 AM - 12:00 PM in the Conference Room

Join CARE and Christian Education as we “seek” to connect our faith with what’s happening in the world around us. Our October conversation will explore **Voting Rights**. No homework, no expertise, and no right answers required—just come ready for a flexible, discussion-based conversation.