First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville

WORSHIP

Sanctuary

November 15, 2026

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE *With Praise and Thanksgiving* ASH GROVE
Youth Bells - Adam & Kendra Gohr, directors

WELCOME Alex Barnes, M.Div.

❖ **HYMN #716** ***God, Whose Giving Knows No End*** BEACH SPRING

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Renewing the Call of God's Grace Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley

Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Water

❖ **The Apostles' Creed**

Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?
People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
People: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Presentation Session Elder Mike Kollasch

Commitment and Covenant

Leader: Do you, the members of this congregation, in the name of the whole church of Christ, undertake, with these parents, the Christian nurture of **Matthew**, by word and deed, with love and prayer, so that in due time he may profess faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior? Do you?
People: We do.

Baptism

Charge to the Congregation and Parents

Welcome and Blessing

BLESSING THE CHILDREN

❖ **HYMN #488** ***I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*** WATERLIFE

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 Amy Christian
FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 (NRSVue)*

ANTHEM *I Cannot Dance, O Lord* Mechtild of Magdeburg/Aaron Jay Kernis
Motet Choir - David H. Edelfelt, director; Gloria Song, piano

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Matthew 25:14-30 (CEB)*

SERMON ***Talent Show*** Alex Barnes, M.Div.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

THE RESPONSE

TABLE TALK

MOMENT FOR MISSION – CARE Bridge Partner Center for Immigrant Progress Jael Mejia

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 *Be Joyful in the Lord* Telemann/Lovelace/Snyder
Trinity Choir – Kitty Snyder, director

❖ **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 #774** ***There Is Now a New Creation*** (vv. 1-4) STUTTGART

❖ **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

❖ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #774** ***There Is Now a New Creation*** (v. 5) STUTTGART

❖ *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 *(In Chapel today)*
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley
Interim Associate Pastor	The Rev. Nanette Sawyer *(In Chapel today)*
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 flowers in the sanctuary are placed to the glory of God by Dee and Derek Rogers in memory of Mark, beloved son, on his birthday. The rose on the organ is in celebration of the birth of Renee Gembra's granddaughter, Willamina Cecilia Gembra, born on October 21 to Grant and Malin Gembra.

Sunday, November 15
10:00 AM — Worship (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM — Sunday School
11:00 AM — Social Hour
11:10 AM — CEEQ Discussion with Alex Barnes: El Niño (Conference Room)
4:00 PM — Youth Group
5:30 PM — Deep Listening Dinner Training (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, November 18
4:00 PM — PADS Food Donation Drop-Off (Sanctuary Entrance)

Saturday, November 21
7:30 AM— Mobile Food Pantry Volunteering (Sanctuary Entrance)

Sunday, November 22
10:00 AM — Combined Worship (Sanctuary)
10:15 AM — Sunday School
11:00 AM — Advent Wreath & Crèche All-Church Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
4:00 PM — Youth Group
6:00 PM — First Light Service: *Love Finds Us Here* (Chapel)

Looking Ahead
November
November 23 — Advent Book Study Begins
November 29 — Holiday Giving Tree Starts
December
December 6 — Advent Vespers
December 13 — Christmas Pageant
December 13 — Holiday Taizé
December 13 — Poinsettia Orders Due
December 19 — Mobile Food Pantry Volunteering
December 20 — Chancel Choir Major Work
December 24 — Christmas Eve Services at 4, 7 & 10 PM

TODAY: Current Events, Eternal Questions (CEEQ) at 11:10 AM in the Conference Room
Alex Barnes is leading today's CEEQ discussion about El Niño. All are welcome! No registration required.

NEXT SUNDAY: First Light Service: *Love Finds Us Here* - Sunday, November 22 at 6:00 PM in the Chapel
Sometimes life takes us down roads we never expected to travel. Whether we are grieving a loved one, facing an uncertain future, or carrying losses we can't easily name, the holiday season can make the journey feel especially lonely. At First Light, we gather to remember that we do not have to know the way forward to be accompanied by love. Through scripture, prayer, music, and reflection, we will make space for our sorrow and find comfort in the promise that God's love meets us wherever we are.

NEXT SUNDAY: Advent Wreath Workshop & All-Church Lunch
Join us in Fellowship Hall after worship on Sunday, November 22 for lunch and a hands-on Advent wreath-making activity using fresh-cut greenery. Also, if you've been creating handmade crèche pieces each year, your next piece will be waiting for you. If you're new to the tradition, come pick up your first piece and begin building your own nativity set. All are welcome! Please RSVP online so we have enough food and wreath materials for everyone!

Advent Book Study Begins Monday, November 23
"Advent Can Still Change the World: Bringing Christmas Past *into* Christmas Present,"
Led by Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley, this study is offered in-person at 2 PM and online at 6 PM. Sign up online!
This four-week Advent study invites you into the historical and cultural world of the nativity narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Explore how the birth of Jesus fulfills Old Testament hopes, revealing God entering human history as the Word made flesh. You'll discover how reading these texts in their original context opens fresh meaning for contemporary faith, illuminating the gifts and challenges of Christmas for our lives today.

Advent Candlelighters Needed!
We'd love to have you help light our Advent candles. Families, individuals, friends or any combination are invited! Sign up online by Sunday, Nov. 15.

Childcare | Birth–4
Free childcare is available in our Nursery (birth–2) and Pre-K room (ages 3–4).

Wiggly Worship Tables
Little hands are welcome here! Kids in 3rd grade and younger can join us at our Wiggly Worship tables, where hands-on activities help them participate, explore, and engage with worship. Sit nearby and worship together!

Sunday School | ages 3–7th grade
Come learn, play, create, and discover! Kids explore Bible stories through games, crafts, activities, and conversation. Families begin together in worship, then children head to their classrooms at 10:15 AM.

Youth Group
Grades 6–12: Come hang out! Youth Group meets on Sundays from 4:00–5:30 PM in the Youth Lounge. Expect games, laughs, good conversations, and time to be yourself.