First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville

WORSHIP

Chapel

November 15, 2026

… only kindness that raises its head / from the crowd of the world to say /
It is I you have been looking for / and then goes with you everywhere / like a shadow or a friend.
~ Naomi Shihab Nye, from *"Kindness."*

GATHERING SONG *With My Own Two Hands* Ben Harper
Chapel Music Team – Adam Hendrickson, director

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME Rev. Brian Paulson

SONGS OF PRAISE *Open the Eyes of My Heart* Paul Baloche
#314 *Christ, Be Our Light* CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

CONFESSION OF SIN - *Prayer of confession* by Moira Laidlaw Rev. Nanette Sawyer

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF RESPONSE #465 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* (v. 1) CONVERSE

SUMMARY OF GOD'S COMMANDS Dana Sullivan

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
Children are welcomed by our Sunday School teachers and depart for Sunday School.

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

ENCOUNTER WITH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (NRSVue)*

MUSICAL INTERLUDE HOUSTON

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

SONG OF REFLECTION #377 *I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light* HOUSTON

SERMON ***True Talent*** Dr. Paulson

THE RESPONSE

SONG OF AFFIRMATION *We Are the Body of Christ* Brown & Hampton

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND RESOURCES

OFFERTORY SONG *All Things Rise* Samuel Yoder

DEDICATION PRAYER

TABLE TALK

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

THE SENDING

SONG OF SENDING *God of Justice* Tim Hughes

CHARGE AND BLESSING

CLOSING MUSIC *God of Justice* (reprise) Tim Hughes

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)

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!

First Light Service: *Love Finds Us Here* - Sunday, November 22 at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary

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.

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.

"Advent Can Still Change the World: Bringing Christmas Past *into* Christmas Present"

Led by Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley, this 4-week book study is offered in-person at 2 PM and online at 6 PM, starting Monday, November 23. Sign up online!