



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
of Wheaton

**February 2, 2025**

9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Worship



INVITING ALL GENERATIONS INTO A GROWING LIFE WITH JESUS CHRIST

# The Gathering

## PRELUDE “Variations on Kum Ba Yah”

1. Someone’s Praying Lord
2. Someone’s Crying Lord
3. Someone’s Singing Lord

Arr. by John A. Behnke  
Doug Zimmer, Organ

## WELCOME

Pastor Kellen Smith

## CALL TO WORSHIP *1 Corinthians 13:1-8*

Pastor: If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don’t have love, I’m a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don’t have love, I’m nothing. If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I’ve done but I don’t have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever.

**People: Love is patient, love is kind, it isn’t jealous, it doesn’t brag, it isn’t arrogant, it isn’t rude, it doesn’t seek its own advantage, it isn’t irritable, it doesn’t keep a record of complaints, it isn’t happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things. Love never fails.**

## GREETING ONE ANOTHER

## HYMN #316 “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Scout Troop 23  
9:00 – William Gochee  
10:30 – Parker Smith

## The Confession

CALL TO CONFESSION

9:00 – Pastor Kat Hatting  
10:30 – Pastor Donté Ford

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you are all-loving. In your great love, forgive us today. Pardon us when we don't welcome you into our lives and homes. Help us to recognize the presence of Christ, even in familiar places. Show us the ways that lead to abundant life. Help us to love others, as you love us; to forgive others, as we have been forgiven; to serve others, as Jesus served them. In his holy name we pray.

*Please continue in silent prayer for confession of personal matters.*

DECLARATION OF GOD'S PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

## CONFESSION RESPONSE

### Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Words and Music by Dawn Rodger and Eric Wyse

12  
Won-der-ful, mer-ci-ful Sa - vior, pre-cious Re-deem-er and Friend;— Who would have thought that a Lamb  
could re-scue the souls of men? Oh,— You re-scue the souls of men. You are the one that we praise,  
24  
— You are the one we a - dore.—— You give the heal - ing and grace  
32  
our hearts al - ways hun - ger for, oh,— our hearts al - ways hun - ger for.

CCLI Song # 106879

Dawn Rodgers | Eric Wyse

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## The Offering

GOOD NEWS

9:00 – Pastor Kat Hatting  
10:30 – Pastor Donté Ford

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Micah 6:8 – Colleen Powell

## CALL FOR THE OFFERING

*Thank you for giving in-person, by text, online, or mailing your gifts into the church office.*

## MUSICAL OFFERING “Lift Up Your Heads”

by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor  
Westminister Choir

## DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Donté Ford

# The Word

## MESSAGE

Pastor Kellen Smith

## **THE WAY: Becoming on a Journey**

### **“I Assure You”**

*Luke 4:22-30*

# The Sacrament

HYMN OF PREPARATION #525 **“Let Us Break Bread Together”**

Stanzas 1 & 3

COMMUNION

Pastor Kellen Smith

The Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord’s Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Meal

Communion Song **“Your Only Son (Lamb of God)”**

by Twila Paris

Prayer After Communion

# The Sending

HYMN #542 **“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”**

BLESSING

Pastor Kellen Smith

POSTLUDE **“Trumpet Tune in F”**

by Anna Laura Page  
Doug Zimmer, Organ

# Sermon Notes

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Missed a week? Watch past services at [firstpreswheaton.org/livestream](http://firstpreswheaton.org/livestream).

**Welcome**  
*Guests!*

Please fill out a Connect Card

- Visit the Welcome Desk
- [firstpreswheaton.org/Guest](http://firstpreswheaton.org/Guest)



A Care Card for:

Make someone's day. Send a Care Card.

We are praying for you

**Care Cards**

Show Someone You Care

Fill out a Care Card in person or online at [firstpreswheaton.org/carecard](http://firstpreswheaton.org/carecard)

**Join the Family!**



You're invited to be part of the First Pres family!  
Contact the church office to learn about membership.

**WAYS TO GIVE**

-  Text  
GIVEFIRSTPRES to 73256
-  Online  
[firstpreswheaton.org/giving](http://firstpreswheaton.org/giving)
-  Mail  
715 N. Carlton Avenue  
Wheaton, IL 60187
-  Offering Plate  
Give during worship



# CHURCH LIFE

February 2, 2025

## The Way Becoming on a Journey

### “I Assure You”

*Luke 4:22-30*

9:00 and 10:30 a.m.



In the Gospels, Jesus says, “follow me” some 21 times. How exactly do we follow him? Living as a disciple of Jesus can be a difficult endeavor. Pitfalls and problems abound. Rather than a list of tasks to complete or actions to take, discipleship involves becoming who God is calling us to be. “The Way” sermon series will explore moments from Jesus’ ministry that express how we can more faithfully follow him to live lives overflowing with grace, humility, and love.

10:30 Livestream at: [firstpreswheaton.org/livestream](https://firstpreswheaton.org/livestream)



– Today is Communion Sunday –  
Communion will be served at today’s services.

## Scout Sunday is Today!

Scouts from Troop 23 will be serving homemade donuts between services in the Rotunda on Scout Sunday, with trays set out after the second service.

The Scouts will also be serving as greeters and presenting the Minute for Mission at both services.







## 2024 Annual Report

The 2024 Annual Report is available online and will be available in printed form soon.

### Highlights:

- 20 new members joined the church family
- 10 baptisms were celebrated
- VBS enrolled 180 kids
- Total mission giving was \$164,000
- Pledged giving for 2025 surpassed \$1 million for the first time in over a decade

We thank God for all that was accomplished in 2024! You can access the report at [firstpreswheaton.org/AnnualReport2024](http://firstpreswheaton.org/AnnualReport2024).

## Micah 6:8 Event: Practicing Presence: What Does It Look Like To Do Justice?

Wednesday, February 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Stewart Hall  
(immediately following The Table)



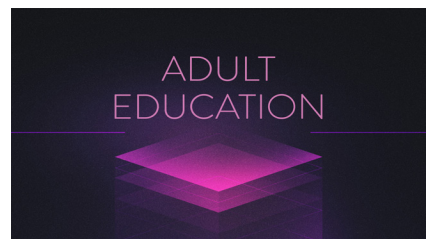
Please join us to hear Pastor Jonathan Brooks (Pastah J) talk about what justice looks like in practice. God's call in Micah 6:8 is to "love mercy, do justice and walk humbly with God." What does that "do justice" piece look like, practically speaking and in action?

Jonathan Brooks is the Lead Pastor of Lawndale Community Church in the Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago. Pastah J, as he is affectionately called, is a sought-after speaker, writer and artist. Along with speaking, training and consulting, he has written numerous blogs and contributed to various books. He is the author of the book *Church Forsaken: Practicing Presence in Neglected Neighborhoods*, published by InterVarsity Press. During his tenure at Canaan (where he previously pastored), the church released a gospel album titled *Recommend Jesus* to be used as an avenue to share faith as an integral component in community transformation. Lastly, Pastah J has also recorded four hip-hop albums with the group Out-World and a mixtape to accompany the book *Church Forsaken*.

All are welcome! This event is sponsored by the Micah 6:8 group of First Pres.

## Adult Education

**"Mere Christianity"**  
Sundays through February 23  
10:30 a.m. in Stewart Hall  
Led by Pastor Greg Anderson and Guest Scholars



*Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis is a Christian classic that is often quoted but rarely read cover to cover. Greg Anderson, with help from several C. S. Lewis scholars, will lead a four week lecture/discussion course through February. They will help us take a fresh look at our Christian faith through the eyes of Lewis.

## Valentine's Dinner Wednesday, February 12 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Stewart Hall

Join your church family for a themed Valentine's Dinner. We will enjoy uplifting fellowship, a delicious meal,

and a blessed atmosphere. Invite your friends and family to join us for this special meal. RSVP at [firstpreswheaton.org/ValentinesDinner](http://firstpreswheaton.org/ValentinesDinner) by Sunday, February 9, or by scanning the QR code.



### The Table – Feb. 5

We look forward to seeing you this Wednesday for a catered, buffet-style meal starting at 5:30 p.m. We celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, are led in song, and have a brief

teaching. There are also activities for children and a Toddler Corner for kids two and under.

RSVP at [firstpreswheaton.org/TableFeb5](http://firstpreswheaton.org/TableFeb5) by today, February 2.

**February 5 menu:** Rigatoni in Vodka Sauce, Chicken Tenders w/BBQ Sauce, Broccoli, Tossed Salad, Rolls, and Gourmet Dream Cookies.



## Serving Opportunity at The Bridge



On Tuesday, February 18, we will be the host team at The Bridge, a 20-year mission project in Chicago now supported by First Pres. For details on this service opportunity or to let us know you'll be attending, contact the church office at [office@firstpreswheaton.org](mailto:office@firstpreswheaton.org).

## Women's Ministry Annual Bake Sale – Bakers Invited!

**Sunday, February 9  
Between services in the Rotunda**

Women's Ministry will be hosting their annual bake sale on Super Bowl Sunday. Please stop by to stock up on treats for the game, sweets for Valentine's Day, and to support Women's Ministry!

If you have baked goods to contribute to the sale, please drop them off in the kitchen before 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 8, marked "WM bake sale."



## First Pres Food Pantry

Join us in showing support for the People's Resource Center and the Interfaith Food Pantry. A collection basket is located in the Rotunda, along with a sign listing suggested items. Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need.

**The greatest needs this month are:**

### Baby Items

(Disposable Diapers, Baby Wipes,  
Baby Food, Pull Ups)





# Kids Ministry Valentine's Party

**Tonight, February 2**

**5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Ministry Center**

Join us for a heart pumping time as we gather in the gym for a bounce house, games, dancing, snacks, photobooth, crafts and more!

This is a free event! Light refreshments will be provided.

We would LOVE to see you there!

[Click here to RSVP at firstpreswheaton.org/ValParty](http://firstpreswheaton.org/ValParty)

**Mark your calendar for VBS 2025! June 9-13**

**This year's theme to be revealed soon!**

## **Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.**

Sunday School is for children age 3 through 5th grade. Register at [firstpreswheaton.org/SundaySchool24-25](http://firstpreswheaton.org/SundaySchool24-25).

Childcare is available during both services in LL103 for children ages 3 years and younger. For more information, contact Stacey Chvatal at [schvatal@firstpreswheaton.org](mailto:schvatal@firstpreswheaton.org).

- Preschool 3's and 4's meet in LL102
- Kindergarten and 1st grade meet in LL105
- 2nd and 3rd grade meet in LL106
- 4th and 5th grade meet in LL107



**Genesis Middle School Ministry:** Genesis meets on Sunday from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Confirmation Class:** Confirmation class will meet this Sunday from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**WF:** WF meets on Sundays from 6:30-8:30 p.m.



## Chancel Flowers

The chancel flowers are given today in  
honor of Scout Sunday by Boy Scout Troop 23.

**Donating Chancel Flowers:** The date of March 2 is currently available for flower sponsors.



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of longtime church member, Jean Williams, who passed away on January 21.

There will be a memorial service for Jean on Sunday, February 16 at 2:00 p.m. at Belmont Village, 545 Belmont Lane, Carol Stream, in the Town Hall on the 2nd Floor. All are invited to attend.

We thank God for her life and entrust her to Jesus' eternal care.

## Presbyterians in Partnership – Per Capita

All churches are invited to support the mission of the PC(USA), our larger church family. You can help First Pres to fulfill this Per Capita commitment by making a contribution of \$38.00 for each church member in your family in addition to your regular giving. Last year's fully funded per capita commitment to the Chicago Presbytery was \$36,646. That amount will increase this year to \$38,228. You are welcome to make your check out to First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton and note "Per Capita" in the memo line, or contribute online and select the Per Capita fund from the drop down menu. Thank you for your support of the greater church.

## Welcome to this week's opportunity to pray in community

### Prayers for our Church Family

- Comfort for the family of longtime member, Jean Williams, who passed away on January 21
- Mercies for the family of Chuck Chase, whose memorial service was Saturday, February 1
- Strength for Beth Gustafson who is recovering from a broken arm
- Healing for Sue Massaro's godson, Eric, who suffered a brain injury in a car accident
- Recovery for Tim Burgess who had sinus surgery this week
- Thanksgiving for a meaningful and fun winter retreat for the WF high school group last weekend

**Prayer Requests** may be made by filling out the online request form at [firstpreswheaton.org/PrayerRequest](http://firstpreswheaton.org/PrayerRequest), or by emailing or calling the church office at 630-668-5147.

### Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday – 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday – 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon

The First Pres calendar of events is available online at: [firstpreswheaton.org/calendar](http://firstpreswheaton.org/calendar).



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