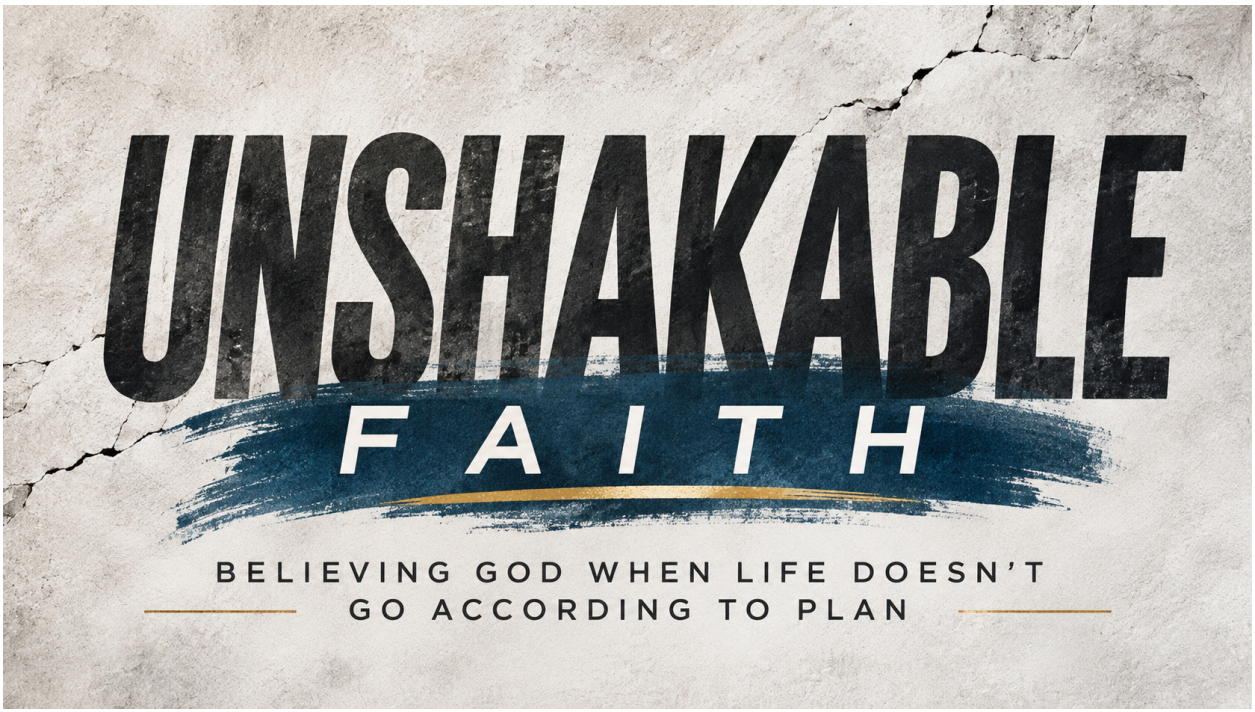
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of Wheaton

November 8, 2026

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



INVITING ALL GENERATIONS INTO A GROWING LIFE WITH JESUS CHRIST

The Gathering

PRELUDE **"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"** M. Hayes
Hailie Kim, Piano

WELCOME Pastor Kellen Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 121:1-8*

Pastor: I raise my eyes toward the mountains. Where will my help come from?
People: My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.
Pastor: The LORD will protect you from all evil; God will protect your very life.
People: The LORD will protect us on our journeys, whether going or coming, from now until forever.
Pastor: Let us worship the Lord, our help and our keeper!
People: We worship the Lord, who watches over us and never slumbers. Amen.

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

HYMN #12 **"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

The Sacrament

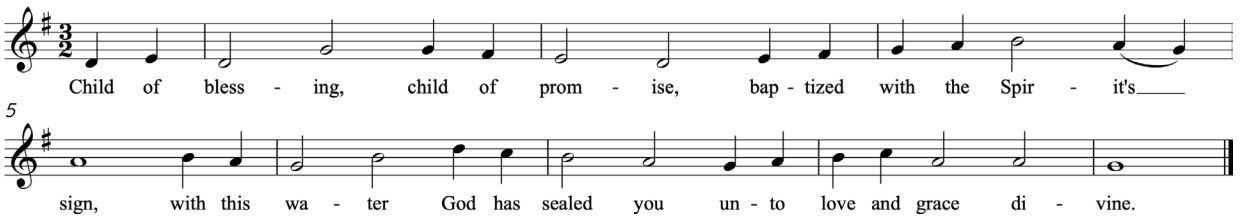
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (10:30)

Baptism of Everett Michael Wojciak
Child of Ryan and Michael Wojciak

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980 V. Earle Copes, 1959



The Confession

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor Greg Anderson (9:00)
Pastor Kat Hatting (10:30)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of abundance, we confess that we have often kept your blessings for ourselves. We have overlooked the impact of your mission and forgotten that what we have is meant to be shared. Forgive our closed hands and closed hearts. Make us generous in spirit and attentive to others, that what you have placed in our hands might become a blessing in the lives of others. Through Christ 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.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC **"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"** Arr. Harold Best
Westminster Choir

The Offering

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Pastor Greg Anderson (9:00)
Pastor Kat Hatting (10:30)

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.

INVITATION TO KIDS CHURCH (9:00)

GOOD NEWS

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION (10:30)

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

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

MUSICAL OFFERING **"Do It Again"** Recorded by Elevation Worship
First Pres Choral Scholars

DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Pastor Donté Ford

The Word

MESSAGE — Pastor Kellen Smith

Unshakable Faith

"Faith When the Future Is Unclear"

Genesis 12:1-9; Hebrews 11:8-10

HYMN #829 **"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"**

BLESSING — Pastor Kellen Smith

POSTLUDE **"Lead On, O King Eternal"** — M. Hayes

Hailie Kim, Piano

Sermon Notes

Missed a week? Watch past services at firstpreswheaton.org/livestream.









CHURCH LIFE

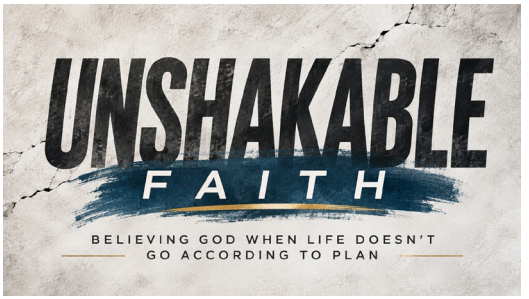
November 8, 2026

Services at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

“Unshakable Faith”

Genesis 12:1-9; Hebrews 11:8-10

Believing God When Life Doesn’t Go According to Plan



Livestream at 10:30 a.m.
firstpreswheaton.org/livestream

What do you believe about God? When the future is uncertain, the circumstances seem impossible, or your past makes you feel unworthy, we can struggle having faith in Jesus. Faith is tested in these moments, but it’s also when faith is strengthened. Hebrews 12:28 says, “we are receiving a kingdom that can’t be shaken.” In Unshakable Faith, we’ll explore the stories of Abraham, Moses, and Rahab from Hebrews 11, the Hall of Faith. Their stories remind us that faith isn’t about having all the answers, overcoming every obstacle, or earning our place in God’s story. We’ll discover three dimensions of an unshakable faith: believing God for what we cannot see, believing God can do what seems impossible, and believing God’s grace is greater than our past. Together, we’ll be invited to hold onto grace.

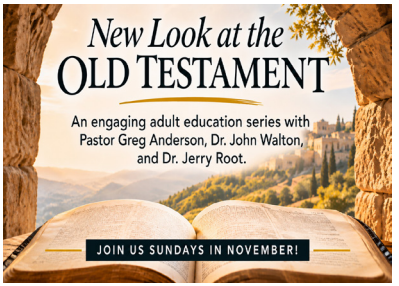
Today: God calls Abraham to leave everything familiar and journey toward a destination he hasn't yet seen. Abraham’s faith didn’t require him to understand what God was doing, it invited him to believe in who God is. In our own lives, can we believe God for what we cannot see? Faith means taking the next step, even when we cannot see the whole journey.

Adult Education: New Look at the Old Testament

Sundays, November 8-29 at 10:30 a.m. in Stewart Hall

Greg Anderson and John Walton, with several guests, will explore the half of the Bible that most of us neglect.

November 8 – Reflections on the Psalms
November 15 – John Walton on the 10 Commandments
November 22 – Jerry Root on Job
November 29 – Jerry Root on Genesis





You are invited to pray with a member of our Prayer Team after each service at the front of the church (Chancel).

We would be honored to lift up a concern or celebration in prayer with you.

Generosity 2027 Thank You!

We are deeply grateful for the gift of generosity that fills our congregation. Your faithful giving of time, talent, and resources makes our shared ministry possible and dynamic.

If you've already made your 2027 pledge, thank you! Your intentional giving helps us plan with confidence for the year ahead. If you haven't yet had the opportunity, there's still time to participate. You can return your Pledge Card by mail, in person, or complete your pledge easily online.

Thank you for your continued prayerful and financial support of First Pres Wheaton. Because of you, God's work continues to grow and bless lives for a growing life with Jesus Christ.

To make a pledge, please fill out a pledge card at firstpreswheaton.org/Generosity2027.

Thanksgiving Feast



Wednesday, November 18
5:30-6:30 p.m.
in Stewart Hall

Join your church family for a celebratory Thanksgiving Feast. The week before the holiday, all generations are invited to enjoy this time of giving thanks while sharing a delicious meal.

Menu: Sliced Turkey and Gravy, California Blend Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Tossed Salad, Dinner Rolls, Apple Pie, and Pumpkin Pie (*Catered by Lee n' Eddies)*

Register by Monday, November 16 (9:00 a.m.)

Note: Rooted Kids participants eat free! (Registration required)

firstpreswheaton.org/Thanksgiving

Join us at The Table!

Wednesday, November 11
5:30-6:30 p.m. in Stewart Hall

You're invited to The Tableto share a catered, buffet-style meal. We'll celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, be led in song, and have a brief teaching. There will be activities for children and a Toddler Corner for kids two and under.

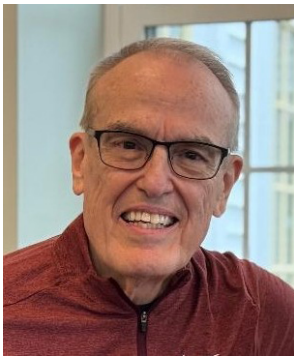
Menu: Fried Chicken, Green Beans, Roasted Parmesan Potato Wedges, Tossed Salad, Assorted Dinner Rolls, and Gourmet Dream Cookies (*Catered by Lee n' Eddies)*

Register by Monday, November 9 (9:00 a.m.)

Note: Rooted Kids participants eat free! (Registration required)

firstpreswheaton.org/TableNov11

Welcome New Members



Don Gibb

Don is a retired educator who lived in central Illinois most of his life. He is now a widower, but he and his wife moved to the Chicago area about eight years ago to be closer to family members. Don was raised in the Presbyterian Church, but was an active member of another Protestant denomination for many years. His interests include family genealogy, reading historical fiction, following University of Illinois sports teams, and landscaping work.

Arlene and Eddie Kasper



Arlene and Eddie have been traveling from their home in Lockport, Illinois to attend services at First Pres, where Arlene's cousin, Charmaine Jones, is a member. Arlene is a lifelong Presbyterian. Arlene and Eddie previously attended Hickory Hills Presbyterian, where Eddie was an Elder. Arlene and Eddie enjoyed being very involved with their Hickory Hills church. They find First Presbyterian in Wheaton a wonderful church for them to make their church home at this time of their lives.



Kayla Konen and Brad York

Kayla and Brad are longtime residents of the Chicago area and now live in Glen Ellyn. They have attended wonderful churches in the area, but find First Pres meets their expectations, in part, due to the hospitality and community of its members, bible studies and worship. They are expecting their first child in January. Kayla and Brad's story is still being written, and they feel blessed as they continue their journey together.

Julie Leeseberg



Julie has lived in Illinois nearly her entire life and now lives in Warrenville. She's a new Presbyterian, but her church background includes other Christian traditions. This past summer she began attending First Pres and immediately loved the warmth and kindness of everyone.

Julie has three adult children and a sweet 14-month-old granddaughter. She's the Office Manager at a local medical practice. In her free time, she enjoys walking or running, reading, watching football and FaceTiming with her silly granddaughter!

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL
"A Love Worth Giving To You at Christmas"
Author: Max Lucado

Available starting Friday, November 20

An Advent Gift for You – As we prepare for the season of Advent, we have a special gift for every household in our church: a copy of *A Love Worth Giving to You at Christmas* by bestselling author, Max Lucado. This book offers a meaningful way to slow down, reflect on the depth of God's love, and prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's birth. We hope you will take a copy home and make it part of your Advent journey this year!

Christmas Sharing

You can help Christmas Sharing at the Portillo's fundraiser!

Tues., November 17
5:00-8:00 p.m.
235 North Avenue
Glendale Heights

Enter promo code **PORTILLOS2** for online/app orders or present this copy in-restaurant.



20% of sales benefit Christmas Sharing Wheaton/Warrenville.

Kids Church and Sunday School!

First Pres Kids Ministry

Kids Church at 9:00 – We are offering Kids Church during the 9:00 service for children 4 years old through 5th grade! Children will start in the Sanctuary with their families and then be invited down to LL105 during the service for a Bible lesson and activity.

Sunday School at 10:30 – Sunday School is for ages 3 years old (by Sept. 1) through 5th grade. Please be sure to check in at our kiosks in the Kids Ministry hallway on the lower level before dropping your child off in their classroom.

Childcare: Children 3 years old and younger are welcome in the Childcare Room in LL103.

Questions? Contact Stacey Chvatal at schvatal@firstpreswheaton.org

Student Ministry

Wheaton FP Genesis

WF High School Ministry

Confirmation Class meets today at 9:00 a.m.

Genesis Middle School Ministry meets on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

WF High School Ministry meets this Sunday at 6:30 p.m.

Contact Hannah Curry at hcurry@firstpreswheaton.org with any questions.



The chancel flowers are given by Gwen and Chet Henry, with thanks to the men and women of the U.S. military who have served or are serving at home and abroad.



We are pleased to announce the baptism of Everett Michael Wojciak, child of Ryan and Michael Wojciak, at this morning's 10:30 service.

Congratulations to the Wojciak family!

Welcome to this week's opportunity to pray in community

Prayers for our Church Family

- Recovery for Laurie Harrington's sister, Carol Gibson, who recently suffered a stroke
- Mercies for Dave Geddes, who is in hospice care
- Thanksgiving for our new members, who will be introduced today
- Celebration for the baptism of Everett Michael Wojciak, son of Ryan and Michael Wojciak
- Blessings upon the WF high school students and leaders on their fall retreat at Stronghold next weekend

Prayer Requests may be made by filling out the online request form at 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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of Wheaton

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