



WORSHIP

Sanctuary

January 11, 2026 - Baptism of the Lord Sunday

*If you exist, you exist in hope. To cease hoping is to cease existing.
To hope, and to exist, is to have roots in God. ~ Thomas Merton*

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit
Chapel Music Team - Adam Hendrickson, director

SWEET SWEET SPIRIT

CHORAL INTROIT

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
BIBLE
Cherub Choir - LeAnn Malecha, director; Lenore Wold, piano

African Spiritual
Anonymous

WELCOME

Rev. Brian Paulson

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP - *Mark 1:10-11; Isaiah 43:1*

Sadie Gibson

One: The heavens opened, the Spirit descended,
All: **and a voice sounded: This is my Beloved Son.**
One: Do not fear, for the Lord has spoken:
All: **I have called you by name; you are mine.**

❖ HYMN #377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Alex Barnes, M.Div.

Merciful God,
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves,
separated from one another.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,
and show reluctance to welcome one another.
We allow the past to hold us captive.

In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us,
and free us from sin.

Fulfill the promises of our baptism
so that we may rise to new life,
and live together in grace.

(Silence for personal confession.)

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

❖ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - HYMN #482 *Baptized in Water* (vv. 1, 2)

BUNESSAN

❖ SUMMARY OF GOD'S COMMANDS

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 & BLESSING THE CHILDREN** Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley
As the congregation greets one another, children are welcomed by our Sunday School teachers and depart for Sunday School.

TABLE TALK

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

David Bianco

FIRST READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 42:1-9 (NRSVue)*

ANTHEM

All Things New
Chapel Music Team

Fielding & Ussher

SECOND READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE *Matthew 3:13-17 (NRSVue)*

SERMON

New Things

Dr. Paulson

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

CONGREGATIONAL RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

STATEMENT ON THE GIFT OF BAPTISM

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND DEDICATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

A New Song
Motet Choir - David H. Edelfelt, director; Gloria Song, piano; Jerry Brann, cello

Dana Mengel

- ❖ **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.*

- ❖ **RENUNCIATION AND AFFIRMATION**

Leader: Do you renounce evil, and its power in the world, which defies God's righteousness and love?

People: I renounce them.

Leader: Do you renounce the ways of sin that separate you from the love of God?

People: I renounce them.

Leader: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior?

People: I do.

Leader: Do you intend to be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word, and showing his love,
to your life's end?

People: I do.

- ❖ **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

ACT OF RENEWAL

Leaders will greet worshippers at stations to offer a “sprig” of water from the baptismal font—you may receive the water on your forehead or hands according to your gesture to receive. Ushers will release congregants by row.

Music of Renewal

Take Me to the Water
Chapel Music Team

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

THE SENDING

- ❖ **HYMN #490** *Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters* BEACH SPRING
- ❖ **CHARGE AND BLESSING**
- POSTLUDE** *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* DEO GRACIAS

❖ *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. Amy Heinrich

Associate Pastor

The Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley

Pastoral Resident

Alex Barnes, M.Div.

Music, Department Head

Gloria Song

A complete list of our staff team is found at FirstPresLibertyville.org

Rev. Amy Heinrich is away this week visiting family.

Community Notes



Church Calendar: www.firstpreslibertyville.org/calendar

Today

- 10:00 AM Combined Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School PreK-8th grade
- 11:00 AM Social Hour (Social Hall)
- 4:00 PM Youth Group

Sunday, January 18

- 10:00 AM Combined Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:15 AM Sunday School Pre-K-8th grade
- 11:00 AM Social Hour (Social Hall)
- 11:15 AM MLK Learning Event with Rev. William Yoo (Fellowship Hall)
- 4:00 PM Youth Group



Parish Life Newsletter: www.firstpreslibertyville.org

UPCOMING

- Guest Preacher Rev. William Yoo (Jan. 18)
- MLK Event (Jan. 18)
- Youth Sunday (Jan. 25)
- All Church Lunch (Jan. 25)
- Annual Meeting (Feb. 8)
- Volunteer Appreciation Brunch (Feb. 15)

Flower Dedication: The flowers today are placed to the glory of God by Bud Howlett in remembrance of Olive E. Howlett.

Next Sunday's Guest Preacher: We're excited to welcome Rev. Dr. William Yoo, Associate Professor of American Religious and Cultural History at Columbia Theological Seminary, as our guest preacher on Sunday, January 18 in the sanctuary. He has published books on African American Christianity, Asian American Christianity, Presbyterian history, and the histories of Indigenous rights activism and abolitionism in the United States. His book, *What Kind of Christianity: A History of Slavery and Anti-Black Racism in the Presbyterian Church*, received the 2023 Award of Excellence from the Religion Communicators Council. His most recent book is *Reckoning with History: Settler Colonialism, Slavery, and the Making of American Christianity*. He is a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a member of Cherokee Presbytery.

MLK Day Learning Event with Dr. Yoo: Next Sunday, come to Social Hall after worship for cake and coffee, hosted by the Committee on Anti-Racism & Equity (CARE), then head downstairs to Fellowship Hall for an MLK Day learning event with our guest preacher. Highlighting the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Dr. Yoo will speak about how the history of faith and politics can inform how churches today may work toward making a real difference in ending poverty and racism. We hope you'll stay, listen, and join the Q&A as we learn together.

Blanket Collection for The Penny's Purpose: Troop 71 scout Andrew Schinler is collecting new and gently used blankets as part of his Eagle Scout project. He's working with Penny's Purpose, a local non-profit organization that provides blankets to organizations that help those in need, including veterans' groups, shelters for people experiencing homelessness, and pet rescue organizations. You'll find the collection box in the hallway just outside the church office through the end of the month.

Youth Sunday & Taco Lunch: Our Youth Sunday worship service is coming up! Join us for this special worship service in the sanctuary on Sunday, Jan. 25. After worship, the Deacons Hospitality Team will be serving a delicious beach-themed lunch in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!