



Image of John 14:23-29
Misioneros Del Sagrado Corazón en el Perú.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 9, 2021

10:00 am Worship Service

Experience God. Grow Disciples. Transform Lives.

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette! We're so glad you're here. Whether you're a long-time member or first-time visitor, we are blessed to have you with us. We hope joining us for worship today will nurture your heart and transform your mind. You are loved and never alone!

Our mission statement here is "Experience God. Grow Disciples. Transform Lives." As a church, we strive to be about that simple and challenging work day after day, in season and out of season. The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically altered our lives, but it has also revealed what is most important. As we lean into what the weeks and months ahead will be like, we will continue to pray for one another. We will keep growing as followers of Christ. We will keep loving and listening to our neighbors. We will keep the hand to plow, working to embody God's dream for the world. We will keep reminding ourselves that we are a work in progress.

As we resume in-person and livestreamed services in the Sanctuary, we are committed to keeping everyone safe and finding fresh and creative ways to worship together. We value your feedback – let us know what is going well and what could be better!

- Masks are required to be worn during in-person worship
- Please maintain physical distancing from people outside your household or pod
- A worship bulletin will be available (hardcopy in person or pdf online)
- Please join in the liturgy and prayers and passing of the peace, as directed
- You may pick up a pew Bible or hymnal if you wish, but the lyrics and scripture is also printed in the bulletin for your convenience
- Our air exchange system will be running during the service, pulling air in from outside – please keep your coat with you to stay warm
- We will not be singing as a congregation indoors quite yet - a soloist will lead us and you are invited to hum along! If you are worshipping at home, you may belt out the hymns for the rest of us!
- Worship leaders will wear masks, even while they are leading, until 14 days after their second vaccination dose – once they are fully vaccinated, they will remove masks only while leading portions of the service
- You are strongly encouraged to send God Sightings to godsightings@fpcw.org by 9am on Sunday morning to be included in the worship service
- Same thing for prayer requests: please send in prayer joys and concerns to prayersofthepeople@fpcw.org by 9am on Sunday to be included in the worship service (only first names will be spoken and limited details offered)
- After the worship service ends, please remain at your seat until the ushers release you
- Please linger and fellowship with one another after worship by heading out to the parking lot or church yard – we would be delighted to catch up with you!
- Restrooms are available for use with appropriate precautions
- The offering plate will be available to place a cash or check gift in before or after the service in the narthex
- We're so glad to be worshipping with you in person and online! You are loved and never alone, friends.

With gratitude in Christ,
Pastor Jeff

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing a new song,
a song of love for all.
Sing of the Spirit of love,
the Spirit who loves us all.
Sing of God's abiding love,
**that we might love one another
and all of the world.**
Sing a new song,
a song of love for all.

OPENING HYMN NO. 408 - *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

SWEET, SWEET, SPIRIT

(You are invited to hum while the soloist sings the words)

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

*Refrain: Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.*

**There are blessings you cannot receive
till you know him in his fullness and believe;
You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." Refrain**

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other, first in silent prayer. (silence is kept) Now, let us pray in unison:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:
The fear that stifles us,
The prejudice that blinds us,
The ignorance that hobbles us,
The doubt that plagues us.
Help us, we pray, that we will
Find courage in unlikely place,
See the world with new and gracious eyes,
Move to those places where love is needed,
Have faith that you are with us.
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!
Alleluia! Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE - *Celtic Alleluia*

PEACE OF CHRIST

Friends, may the Peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.

COMMON LIFE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 67 - Responsive Reading - Based on *The New Jerusalem Bible*

One: May God show kindness and bless us,
and make his face shine on us.

**All: Then the earth will acknowledge your ways,
and all nations your power to save.**

One: Let the nations praise you, God,
let all the nations praise you.

**All: Let the nations rejoice and sing for joy,
for you judge the world with justice,
you judge the peoples with fairness,
you guide the nations on earth.**

One: Let the nations praise you, God,
let all the nations praise you.

**All: The earth has yielded its produce;
God, our God has blessed us.
May God continue to bless us,
and be revered by the whole wide world.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 14:23-29

Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

SERMON

Home Cookin'

Rev. Laura Sherwood

Music for Reflection - *Near to the Heart of God*

Cleland B. McAfee, arr. M. Mier

Prayers of the People and The 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 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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - The Doxology - LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING HYMN NO. 402 - *How Lovely, Lord*

MERLE'S TUNE

(You are invited to hum while the soloist sings the words)

How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place;
My soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest;
And so your temple calls us within its walls to rest.

In your blest courts to worship, O God, a single day
Is better than a thousand if I from you should stray.
I'd rather keep the entrance and claim you as my Lord
Than revel in the riches the ways of sin afford.

A sun and shield forever are you, O Lord Most High;
You shower us with blessings; no good will you deny.
The saints, your grace receiving, from strength to strength shall go,
And from their life shall rivers of blessing overflow.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - *Toccata in Seven*

John Rutter

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Laura Sherwood, preaching
Jenn Mullman, liturgist
Claire DiVizio, soloist
Peggy Massello, music director

SOURCES:

Call to Worship written by Mary J. Scifres at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/10636/may-9-2021-sixth-sunday-of-easter>

Confession - Call, Prayer and Assurance - written by Beth Merrill Neel at <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/>

Roses on Mother's Day – for all Women and Girls

You are invited to take a rose today from the vases in the narthex as a gift from the Church for all women and girls in honor of motherhood and in memory of mom's who are now living in the fullness of Christ.

Anyone is also free to take a flower (one or more) to someone you know.



Our Common Life

Week of May 9th, 2021

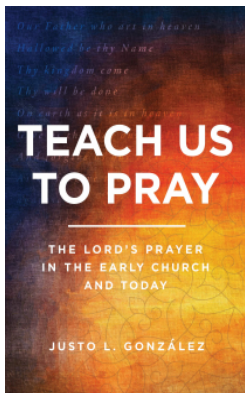
Join us Sundays for in-person worship or via Livestream. The service will begin at 10 am. If you're joining us in person, check out the email from Pastor Jeff, which includes protocols and guidelines to make your worship experience meaningful and safe. We're excited to see you!

If you're joining us via Livestream, a video link will be included in the Saturday evening email. Peggy will begin prelude music at 9:50 am and we'll get underway after that, so please join us as you're able.

Two ways you can participate in worship are by (1) sending an email with a “God sighting” you've experienced this week to godsightings@fpcw.org (2) sending an email to prayersofthepeople@fpcw.org with any prayer, joy, or concern you have this week. Please send them in by 9 am on Sunday for inclusion in the worship service that morning.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

(age 3 - 4th grade) Lindley Traynor, Director of Children and Family Ministries, along with Peggy Massello and Scott McElhenie have developed a creative and interactive video for our children. This video is available for families on Sundays in the worship email sent to you each week.



Adult Faith Formation Class:

“Teach Us to Pray: The Lord’s Prayer in the Early Church and Today”

(Through – May 30, 8:30 am over Zoom)

Have you ever wondered why we recite the Lord’s Prayer every Sunday? What did it mean for the early church? Why are we still reciting it today? What do all of its phrases mean? Why are Luke’s and Matthew’s version of it a bit different? Join us for this seven-week class as we explore this famous and formative prayer together. The recent book by Justo Gonzalez, *Teach Us to Pray: The Lord’s Prayer in the Early Church* will be our guide. Led by Pastor Jeff, we’ll gather over Zoom each Sunday for an hour beginning at 8:30 am. We’ll begin our study by diving into the uses of the Lord’s Prayer in the early church. Then, we’ll spend the remaining six weeks walking through the prayer phrase by phrase. Scanned chapters from Gonzalez are available for your edification, but reading them in advance is not required to attend the class. We are all students here – come and deepen your prayer life with us! (Zoom Link; Meeting ID: 832 3379 4440; Passcode: 389051; Call-In: 312-626-6799)



Flowers for the Sanctuary

As we move to in-person worship, and live-streaming our worship services we will again have flowers on our communion table. If you would like to sign up to offer flowers in memory of or in celebration of a loved one a flower chart will be posted in the narthex for you to sign up. Questions? Please reach out to Linda Malstrom lindamalstrom@gmail.com if you are interested in giving flowers for worship.



The church recently opened a Zoom account with three licenses. We’d like to offer to members the use of our Zoom account. Contact Madeline Weston in the church office if you would like to schedule a meeting. Madeline will set up your meeting and send you the Zoom link and passcode.



Connections for the Homeless have several opportunities for volunteers to help support their mission. One option is to make breakfast sandwiches for their guests. To check out their website google Connections for the Homeless, Evanston. You'll find a full array of opportunities to help support this important organization.



Interfaith Action of Evanston Is launching SNAPGap for 2021! We know the federal SNAP program is a great way to help people below the poverty line with grocery items, but it doesn't cover toiletries, soap, shampoo, etc. Please help us fill in the gaps. This month we're collecting shampoo, body wash and disinfecting wipes. Contribute any or all 3 and whatever quantity works for you. We appreciate all donations. Items will be distributed to more than 250 households through the monthly ProduceMobile in James Park.

Items needed: Shampoo (such as Pantene Pro-V Daily Moisturizing), Body Wash (Dove Body Wash), Disinfectant Wipes (such as Lysol Wipes). Order online or buy at your favorite store, either our brand or your favorite one. Please drop off your contribution at the outside bins in the FPCW parking lot or you can make a donation through Amazon. Click here to access their Amazon wish list.



Our mission partner and friends at **C24/7** have set up a free store to serve those in their neighborhood who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. Let's help stock their store! Here's what they need:

Hand and dish soap, deodorant, toothpaste, paper towels, toilet paper, spaghetti, pasta sauce, cereal, cooking oil, diapers, wipes, laundry detergent. Please put donations in the black box, labeled C247, outside the parking lot door at *fpcw*.



The Family Matters community house in Rogers Park is looking for tutors. The school year has begun and there is a waiting list of students who need support. With remote learning it is more important than ever to help students keep up with their studies. A tutor's commitment is 1 1/2 hrs per week, in one-on-one evening tutoring sessions. Interested in making a difference in a young student's life? Please contact Greg Korak (847-256-7251) and learn more about this opportunity.

JOIN US TO SUPPORT TOWER AS THEY HIT THE TRACKS AND RACE OFF TO KENTUCKY TO BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST!
FIRST PREBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE INVITES YOU TO:

Tower Benefit Dinner
SUNDAY, MAY 23 @ 4PM
FPCW, 600 9TH STREET, WILMETTE
FREE ADMISSION

SILENT AUCTION, GAMES, PRIZES, REFRESHMENTS
ACTIVITIES & TONS OF FAMILY FUN!

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT FPCW TOWER WORK TRIP TO HAZARD, KY
PLEASE EMAIL SCOTT McELHENIE AT youth@fpcw.org WITH DONATIONS OR QUESTIONS



Slowing Time

1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7 pm via Zoom. Questions? Contact Sue Sklansky. (suesklansky@gmail.com)

Moms and Psalms

This group is on hiatus until the group can meet in person. Questions? Contact Sue Sklansky. suesklansky@gmail.com

Lunch Group

(without lunch during this time): 2nd Wed of the month at noon. Currently meeting via Zoom (Mary Watt), each month a member takes the responsibility to lead the discussion. Mhw1117@gmail.com Nancy Freeman coordinates njwfreeman@gmail.com

Book and Dinner

(without dinner during this time): 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, Carol Korak provides the Zoom link. carolkorak@gmail.com.

Senior Suppers

(discussion without supper): 3rd Tuesday Greg Michel provides the Zoom link. michelga@me.com

Men's Hour

Every Thursday at 7 pm via Zoom (Paul Traynor) The group will discuss The Prodigal Son Returns by H. Nouwen. No homework required! paultraynor@haymoon.com

Men's Council

Meets every Saturday morning (8-9:30 am) via Zoom. Frank Panzica Frank.d.panzica@gmail.com

Bible Study

Thursdays at 10 am via Zoom, Jeff provides the link. jlehn@fpcw.org

Adult Faith formation

Sunday, 8:30 – 9:30 am, (January 10 - January 31) In-depth discussions on the impact of the Pandemic.

Pres Homes Spoke

1st Thursday of the month at 10 am via UberConference. Jeff provides the link and discussion includes a Bible Study guide. Coordinator: Joyce Dunn. redun1@juno.com jlehn@fpcw.org

Abigail Group

This group has not been active for the past year, but there is likely a need to restart it, with new members. If they are women in the church or outside of the church that are in the process of separation and/or divorce, join this group for support, caring and strength through your faith journey. We will meet over zoom, date and time TBD Interested, email Sue Sklansky at suesklansky@gmail.com

Loop Group

We are rebooting the “Loop Group” that meets monthly for fellowship, connection and prayer. We know many of us are stressed at work and could use a small group to be supported and encouraged by. Led by Pastor Jeff, our first gathering will be held on Wednesday, March 3, from 12 - 1pm, over Zoom. Our plan is to gather on the first Wednesday of the month going forward (April 7, May 5, etc). There is nothing to prepare. We hope to “see” you there! The Zoom Link is available in the Daily Bread. (Meeting ID: 834 2370 6195; Passcode: 680391; Call In: 312-626-6799)



Church Calendar

Calendar for the week of May 9th, 2021

Sunday, May 9th

8:30 am	Adult Faith Formation	via Zoom
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Live-streaming Worship	YouTube

Monday, May 10th

7:00 pm	Session Meeting	via Zoom
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Tuesday, May 11th

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	via Zoom
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Wednesday, May 12th

12:00 pm	Lunch Group	via Zoom
7:30 pm	Abigail Group	via Zoom

Thursday, May 13th

10:00 am	Bible Study	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Men's Group	via Zoom

Friday, May 14th

No meetings scheduled

Saturday, May 15th

8:00 am	Men's Council	via Zoom
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Sunday, May 16th

8:30 am	Adult Study	via Zoom
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Livestream Worship	YouTube
4:00 pm	Confirmation Class	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	Tower Youth	Sanctuary

OFFICE HOURS

Now that the staff is almost completely vaccinated we will begin to have regular office hours, 10 am - 2 pm Monday - Friday. If you need to swing by the church outside of these times let us know and we can accommodate you.



Today's Flowers are given to the glory of God by Judy and Vernon in memory of Judy's Daughter, Karen Mericle Buchanan.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- For the joy of a return to in person worship, and for cameras that connect us all,
- For the gift of vaccines,
- For those with health concerns: Kim Russell, Jenny Gemmell's mom, Nancy Kaatz and David Leasure,
- For those who grieve: our members who have lost a loved one this past year,
- For those who have lost employment,
- For our homebound members, especially our elder members who remain in isolation due to the virus,
- For parents who have juggled work, schooling and family life during the pandemic,
- For young people in our congregation who struggling with mental health, and their families who love and support them,
- For those with mental illness or addictions, and those who walk beside them

STAY CONNECTED

If you are unable to attend worship

Please note: Sunday worship services are recorded each week along with the worship bulletins are posted on our website at www.fpcw.org. Click on Worship Services under the Worship & Music tab.

Stay connected to *fpcw*

Make sure you download the *fpcw* phone app and stay up to date and connect to all the church activities.

Questions? Contact Sue Sklansky at ssklansky@fpcw.org.

To make a one-time donation to *fpcw*, from any smart phone you can type "wilmette" to the number 77977. Feel free to do this during the offertory or after the service.

CHURCH STAFF

Jeff Lehn

Senior Pastor

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Interim Assoc. Pastor

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Peggy Massello

Director of Worship and Music

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Lindley Traynor

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Sue Sklansky

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TWITTER

[@1stPresWilmette](https://twitter.com/1stPresWilmette)

SERMONS

www.fpcw.org/worship-and-music/sermons

CALENDAR

www.fpcw.org/events-calendar

Reflections

A stylized graphic element consisting of a blue and green wave-like shape that appears to be a reflection or a ripple, positioned below the word 'Reflections'.

Please use this space to write down any reflections you may have during today's worship service.



INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

Gathered by the grace of Jesus Christ, we are a vibrant and supportive Christian family whose welcoming spirit reflects God's love for all people. We invite participation in all aspects of our church life by persons of every race, language, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, physical or mental ability, economic or marital status, or faith background. FPCW is a member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, a broad-based, national group of clergy and lay leaders working for a church that is simultaneously faithful, just, and whole.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

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