



Paul Cezanne, "Mont Sainte-Victor," 1895

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 20th, 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 now optional for those who are vaccinated against COVID-19.
- 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
- 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.
- 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 9 am on Sunday to be included in the worship service (only first names will be spoken and limited details offered)
- Please linger and fellowship with one another after worship by heading out to Lemonade on the Lawn - we would be delighted to catch up with you!
- Restrooms are available for use
- 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

When tears are our food, God comes with a feast.

When fear is our path, God brings us courage.

When sorrow is our friend, God comforts and loves us.

When all hope seems lost, God is our rock and our redeemer.

So bring your longing, bring your hope. God is with us here.

Lay down your fears, lay aside your doubts, faith has called us here.

Pour out your soul with prayer and worship.

We come to worship God, who gathers us in!

OPENING HYMN NO. 401– *Gather Us In* (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

GATHER US IN

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

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;

See in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.

We have been sung, throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:

Here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own.

Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO CONFESSION

With hope for God's mercy, and trust in God's love, let us admit the truth of our lives, first in silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty and merciful God, we are paradoxes. Sometimes we easily trust you, blessing ourselves and others with kindness and love. Yet at other times we are afraid of you, harming ourselves and judging others and shirking our responsibilities. This past week has been no different. We have done both good and evil, we have experienced both death and life. At various moments, we have lost our way. God, bring us back this morning and forgive us by your grace. Show us the life that is truly life. Cut through any stubbornness. Wash away any pettiness. Drive out any fecklessness. We are yours, God, ready to do your will. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE - *The Steadfast Love of the Lord* (SOLO)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

God's mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning;

Great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.

PEACE OF CHRIST

COMMON LIFE

SCRIPTURE READING - Acts 3:1-10

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. ⁴ Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. All the people saw him walking and praising God, and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

SERMON

Rev. Jeff Lehn

INSTRUMENTAL HYMN OF RESPONSE - *Great Is thy Faithfulness*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

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* - (OLD HUNDREDT)

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING HYMN NO. 80 - *The Trees of the Field*

THE TREES OF THE FIELD

(You are invited to hum while the soloist sings the words) Please clap when you see the "Xs"
You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands; XX
The trees of the field will clap their hands; XX
The trees of the field will clap their hands XX while you go out with joy.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - *Sarabnde*

J.S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Jeff Lehn, preaching

Bill Sharp, liturgist

Andrew Singer Sords, violin

Danny Singer Sords, vocalist

Peggy Massello, music director



Our Common Life

Week of June 20th, 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, 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 9:55 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.

Gillson Park Beach Service

Our first Gillson Park worship service was today at 8:00 am in picnic area one. This service runs throughout the summer until September 5th. Bring a lawn chair, or a blanket, a cup of coffee, and join us for worship.

Sunday School

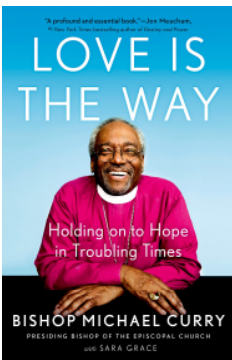
(age 3 - 4th grade) Lindley Traynor, Director of Children and Family Ministries, along with Peggy Massello and Scott McElhenie have developed a creative and interactive video for our children. This video is available for families on Sundays in the worship email sent to you each week.

Sukkat Shalom to Worship Outside at FPCW

This summer, Sukkat Shalom will be gathering in person to worship for the first time in 15 months. They are working to install Livestream capacity in their worship space, but are not quite ready yet. As an expression of our interfaith partnership, we are delighted to share that the Session has approved them holding Shabbat services on Friday evenings in our Fellowship Garden outdoors here at FPCW. The services begin at 6 pm and they will be meeting from June 4 through August 27, weather pending. We are grateful for the opportunity to offer hospitality to our friends at Sukkat Shalom

Lemonade on the Lawn

Join us after worship in the Fellowship garden for a glass of refreshing lemonade and an opportunity to gather and reconnect with friends and greet visitors. We would like to have hosts for Lemonade on the Lawn and a SignUpGenius link is available on our website on the News and Publications page.



This summer, you're invited to join in reading and reflecting on the recent book from Michael Curry, "The Way of Love: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times." Curry is the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church and has been promoting the "way of love" as taught by Jesus since his ministry begun. He is well-known for his powerful homily at the royal wedding between Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on the redemptive power of love a couple of years ago. You may buy a copy from the church for \$15 or purchase one from your favorite bookstore. We'll read one chapter each week together for the next twelve weeks (through August 24). Each Tuesday, you'll receive a brief video in the Daily Bread email summarizing that week's chapter, along with questions for reflection. We hope you'll join us as we strive to live this "way of love" together! Take a listen to the video below as I describe it a bit more.

Housewares Needed

New Deacon Mercy Ndungu has a niece and family who have just moved here from Kenya. They have acquired an apartment but could use help to furnish it as they get on their feet. Needed gently used: any kitchen items, microwave, small table and chairs, any living room furniture or rug. They have a child around one, so a small dresser as well. Email Mercy at macygathoni@yahoo.com.

Sponsor-A-Student

This summer during the last week of July our high school youth group, Tower, will be travelling to Hazard, KY to build a house for those in need. Please show your support for Tower by sponsoring a student. Sponsorships are \$50 and a Tower student will send you a personalized postcard while on the trip!



Work Trip Informational Barbecue

If you have a child going on the Tower Work Trip this summer, please mark your calendars for the Work Trip Barbecue on Saturday, June 26 at 5:00 pm. There will be handouts and FAQ sheets and a time for Q&A, in addition to a nice summer BBQ! Parents and students are invited.

Tower Youth Bonfire

Come join the fpcw Tower Youth bonfire nights this summer. We'll gather in the Manse backyard for s'mores, games, and some faith questions just to keep you thinking about God over the summer. If you will be in high school next fall or if you just graduated from high school this year come stop by on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Here's the complete list of dates for the summer: June 30, July 14th, July 21st, August 11th, and August 18th.

Fellowship Garden

When you get a chance, check out the Fellowship Garden because it is especially beautiful right now. Last Saturday, Dorothy Ballantyne and Joyce Knauff coordinated a flower planting project and Troop 5 jumped on board to help with the planting. A big thank you to Julie Moran a Troop 5 Scout Coordinator and the 4 Scouts who helped out on Saturday. They worked hard and managed to plant 6 flats of annuals before it rained. Thank you Troop 5!



From left to right: Olivia Jobs, Declan O'Meara, Liam Salama and Luke Moran.

Fpcw Mission Partners

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*.



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.



Stock the Shelves continues to thrive and continues to provide important assistance to the refugee community of Chicago. We welcome and encourage donations. Checks can be made out to Stock the Shelves and mailed to Rick Drake, 335 Greenleaf Ave, Wilmette or donations can be made through the website, stocktheshelves.org. If you wish to donate diapers of all sizes or other products, please leave them inside the back door at FPCW.



On June 23 from 7:30-8:30 pm, we're delighted to have John Jacoby as our second speaker. Jacoby is a two-term former Wilmette Village President and longtime resident. For many years, he wrote a weekly column for the Wilmette Beacon on local history and issues. In his time with us, Jacoby will discuss his work researching and writing about housing discrimination in Wilmette and help us think about how to be a more just and inclusive community today. The event will be held over Zoom.



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

Second Wednesday of the month at noon and each month a member takes the responsibility to lead the discussion. Nancy Freeman coordinates this group. Questions please email Nancy Freeman. njwfreeman@gmail.com. This group will not meet during the summer months but will resume in September.

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

Men's Hour consists of a brief group reading, a silent 5-minute meditation, and an opportunity for each attendee to share thoughts and experiences in turn. No homework or reservations required, and drop-ins are always welcome! Questions? Contact Paul Traynor at paultraynor@haymoon.com.

Men's Council

Meets every Saturday morning (8-9:30 am) via Zoom. Frank Panzica Frank.d.panzica@gmail.com. Men's Council is on hiatus during the summer and will resume gatherings in September.

Bible Study

Thursdays at 10 am, in-person at fpcw, and the Bible study is led by Pastor Jeff, jlehn@fpcw.org

Adult Faith formation

Will not meet during the Summer months but will begin again in September.

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 plan is to gather on the first Wednesday of the month going forward. 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 June 20th, 2021

Sunday, June 20th

8:00 am	Beach service	Gillson Park
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Livestreaming Worship	YouTube
11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn	Fellowship Garden

Monday, June 21st

No meetings scheduled

Tuesday, June 22nd

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Lounge
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Wednesday, June 23rd

7:30 pm	Racial Justice Guest Speaker	via Zoom
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Thursday, June 24th

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

Friday, June 25th

6:00 pm	Sukkat Shalom service	Fellowship garden
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Saturday, June 26th

5:00 pm	Work Trip BBQ	Fellowship Garden
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Sunday, June 27th

8:00 am	Beach Service	Gillson Park
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Livestream Worship	YouTube
11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn	Fellowship Garden

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Frank Neuhaus family in memory of Margaret "Peggy" Neuhaus.

The Livestream Team - Have you ever wanted to be "behind the scenes" running audio or visual equipment? Do you have an ear for sound and an eye for video? You are invited to join the Live Stream Team at FPCW! The requirements are a desire to learn (a commitment of initial training lasting 2-4 weeks, 1-2 hours each week) and commit to at least one Sunday a month to help run the audio or help with the visual aspect of our live stream worship services. You would be part of a team of people who know how to run both the audio and the visual equipment that broadcasts our service on YouTube. There is lots of support and camaraderie amongst the group already. Come join us! Email Peggy Massello, Director of Music and Worship pmassello@fpcw.org.

Update from Pastor Laura

An important theme that came out of the June 5th Session Retreat was a desire to hear what the congregation thinks about this past year's experiences and how each one of us is feeling about Church now. *What do we want it to be? What should it be?*

We are offering Conversation Groups to take place throughout the month of July and are, first, reaching out to existing groups in the Church. **If you would like to be in a Conversation Group together, we will schedule it for a day, time, and venue** (In-Person at the Church or on Zoom) **that works for you.** The ideal group size for this format is 6-8, so if we have more than that from your group, we will have more than 1 session to accommodate all who want to participate. Each Conversation Group will last 60 minutes and have a designated facilitator and notetaker. The Questions will be sent to everyone in advance and written responses are also welcome.

After we've heard from our various groups, we will announce open sign-ups for both in-person and Zoom sessions on weekdays/evenings July 5-31 and in-person-only on Sundays following worship July 12, 19, and 26. If you'd rather participate that way, please feel free to wait for the open sign-up's week of June 21.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- For the joy of in-person and livestreaming worship which brings us all together in one place,
- For the baptism today of Noah Lehn,
- In gratitude for fathers, those with us and those remembered fondly,
- For those with health concerns: Kim Russell
- For those who are grieving, the New Trier community at the loss of a fellow student,
- For our homebound members,
- For those who suffer from depression, anxiety or addictions, and for those who walk alongside them.

WEBSITE

www.fpcw.org

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/1stPresbyterianChurchofWilmette

SERMONS

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

CALENDAR

www.fpcw.org/events-calendar

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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.



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