



Jan Richardson, "Mapping the Mysteries"

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 18th, 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 are 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

The God of heaven has made a home on earth,
Christ dwells among us and is one with us.
The highest in all creation lives among the least,
Christ journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.
Come now all who thirst,
And drink the water of life.
Come now all who hunger,
And be filled with good things.
Come now all who seek,
And be warmed by the fire of love.

OPENING HYMN NO. 393 – *O Day of Rest and Gladness* (vs. 1 & 3)

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

(You are invited to hum while the soloist sings the words)
O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright,
On you, the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
Sing ‘Holy, holy, holy’ to the great God triune.

On you, God’s people, meeting, the Holy Scripture hear,
Christ’s living presence greeting, through bread and wind made near,
New graces ever gaining from this our day of rest,
We reach the rest remaining to spirits of the blest.

CALL TO CONFESSION

With hope for God’s mercy, and trust in God’s love, let us admit the truth of our lives, as we confess our sin and the sin of the world together, first in silent prayer...(silence is kept)...Let us now pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty and merciful God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives: the highs and lows, the joys and sorrows, the hopefulness and selfishness, the courage and indifference. Forgive us for when we have allowed fear and prejudice to set the agenda. Forgive us for when we have tried to love everyone else but neglected ourselves. Forgive us for when we have been weary and chose to numb out rather than truly rest in your presence. God, give us energy and vision for the living of these days, for eyes to see opportunities to love the world and its people you love so much. This we pray through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, who is Savior and Lord of all the earth. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. The only thing that can separate you is the thought that you are separate. Rejoice in forgiveness. Rejoice in empowerment. Rejoice in steadfast love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE - *The Steadfast Love of the Lord*

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

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 14:8-18

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And the man sprang up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, "Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good - giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy." Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

SERMON

Rev. Jeff Lehn

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 684 - *Faith Begins By Letting Go*

BEECHER

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

Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure,

Taking risks and pressing on, through the way feels less secure:

Pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.

Faith endures by holding on, keeping memory's roots alive

So that hope may bear its fruit; promise fed, our souls will thrive,

Not through merit we possess but by God's great faithfulness.

Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts,

Sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts;

Till we find the common place ripe with witness to God's grace.

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 HUNDREDTH)

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

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. Amen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING HYMN NO. 320 - *The Church of Christ in Every Age* (vs 1 & 5)

WAREHAM

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

The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but Spirit led,
Must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord:
To care for all, without reserve, and spread Christ's liberating word.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - *Pasticcio*

Jean Langlais

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Jeff Lehn, preaching

Rev. Laura Sherwood, pastoral liturgist

Sam Bennett, liturgist

Claire DiVizio, vocalist

Peggy Massello, music director



Week of July 18th, 2021

Sunday's at fpcw

Join us 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 Gillson Park worship service begins 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.

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. To be a hosts for Lemonade on the Lawn check out the Sign Up Genius link available on the News and Publications page and in the Daily Bread.

Breakfast at the Beach

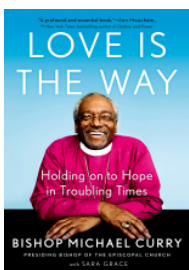
Join us Sunday, July 25th for a time of fellowship after the beach service at Gilson Park. We will provide beverages and breakfast treats. All you need to do is linger to visit and enjoy.

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.

Mini VBS

Kids ages 3 and up are invited for some fun! We'll explore Psalm 23, play games, make some art, and have plenty of time for free play to reconnect with church friends. We plan to meet outside on the church lawn, with Wallace Moore Fellowship Hall as our rainy day backup plan. Because kids can't yet access the vaccine, we'll keep masks on. **Next VBS is planned for Wednesday, July 21, from 4:30-5:30 pm**



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 began. 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!

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!

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: July 21st, August 11th, and August 18th.



All-Church BBQ

Mark your calendar for the all-church BBQ on Wednesday, July 21st at 5:30 pm! We'll gather in the Fellowship Garden for burgers, dogs, all the fixings and we'd love it if you could bring a dish to share. Join us for this fun evening of food, and fellowship.

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION GROUPS IN JULY – *Underway!*

Sign-up and participate today!

11:15am-12:15pm in the Church Lounge

You can sign-up for any of the Open Sign-up groups (Sundays following worship July 18 & 25; Weeknights July 22 and 29) using Sign-up Genius or ***sign-up in-person today** (Sign-up sheet on table in the Narthex).

The Session hopes everyone will consider joining an open sign-up group, participating with your own small group, or submitting responses in writing (please contact Interim Associate Pastor Laura Sherwood for the fillable form - at lsherwood@fpcw.org).



Chapel Garden

Fpcw's exquisite Chapel Garden was built and dedicated as part of the 75th anniversary celebration in 1986. This beautiful garden is a hidden gem and a quiet place for reverence and remembrance of loved ones. By 2012 all the existing sites had been filled, and in 2013 the garden was expanded along the south side of the church to include 80 spaces. In addition to the new spaces, a Scattering Garden on the west side of the church was also created. The Chapel Garden, is a wonderful resting place for family members or even yourself. The Chapel Garden brochure is available on request and the brochure is on display outside the main office. If you have questions reach out to Madeline Weston, Office Coordinator or Joyce Knauff, Buildings and Grounds

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

Has 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.



Backpack Project

Once again the Mission Ministry Group will be sponsoring the summer backpack project to provide much-needed backpacks and supplies for 60 students from the neighborhood around our sister church, First Presbyterian Church in Rogers Park. By contributing \$25 you're ensuring a child will have the supplies they need to begin the school year. Members of the Mission Committee will be available today to take your donations and checks can also be mailed to the church office. Thank you for supporting this important mission.



Slowing Time

1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7 pm via Zoom. Questions? Contact Sue Sklansky at 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): Third Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, Carol Korak provides the Zoom link. carolkorak@gmail.com.

Senior Suppers

(discussion without supper): Third 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 or jlehn@fpcw.org.

Abigail Group

If there 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. If you're interested please, email Sue Sklansky at suesklansky@gmail.com.

Loop Group

The "Loop Group" 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. We gather on the first Wednesday of the month and there is nothing to prepare. The Zoom Link is available in the Daily Bread. (Meeting ID: 834 2370 6195; Passcode: 680391; Call In: 312-626-6799) Interested? Please contact Pastor Jeff Lehn at jlehn@fpcw.org.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Calendar for the week of July 18th, 2021

Sunday, July 18th

8:00 am	Gillson Beach Service	Gillson Park (picnic area 1)
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Livestreaming Worship	YouTube
11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn	Fellowship Garden
11:15 am	1 Conversation Groups	Lounge & Upper Room

Monday, July 19th

7:00 pm	Session	Wallace Moore Fellowship Center
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Tuesday, July 20th

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Lounge
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Wednesday, July 21st

4:30 pm	VBS	Fellowship Garden
5:30 pm	Church BBQ	Fellowship Garden
6:15 pm	Book & Dinner Group	Wallace Moore Fellowship Center
7:00 pm	Tower Youth Bonfire	Manse backyard

Thursday, July 22nd

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

Friday, July 23rd

6:00 pm	Sukkat Shalom service	Fellowship garden
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Saturday, July 24th

No meetings scheduled

Sunday, July 25th

8:00 am	Gillson Park Beach Service	Gillson Park (picnic area 1)
9:00 am	Breakfast at the beach	Gillson Park
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Livestream Worship	YouTube
11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn	Fellowship Garden
11:15 am	1 Conversation Groups	Lounge and Upper Room

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God, in memory of Pearse and Siobhan Courtney by the Baily family.

Last weeks flowers were given to the glory of God, in celebration of the lives of Sara Western Garavaglia, Joe Massello and Paul Massello from the Western/Massello families.

A special thank you to Amy McJoynt, our host today for Lemonade on the Lawn.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- For the joy of in-person and livestreaming worship which brings us all together in one place,
- For those with health concerns,
- For those who are grieving: Rick Baer's father passed away, please hold Rick and his family in your prayers.
- For our homebound members,
- For those who suffer from depression, anxiety or addictions, and for those who walk alongside them.

STAY CONNECTED

If you are unable to attend worship

Please note: Sunday worship services are livestreamed each week, and 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.

WEBSITE

www.fpcw.org

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/1st-Presbyterian-Church-of-Wilmette

SERMONS

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

CALENDAR

www.fpcw.org/events-calendar

CHURCH STAFF

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Marvin Behm
Financial Manager
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Please note:

Our new office hours are:
Monday - Thursday, 9 am– 5 pm
Friday 9 am - 1 pm.



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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