



Jan Richardson, "Epiphany"

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE
Epiphany of the Lord
Sunday, January 2, 2022
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 continue both in-person and livestreamed services, 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!

- 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
- The offering plate will be available to place a cash or check gift in before or after the service

We're so glad to be worshipping with you in person and online! You are loved and never alone, friends.

With gratitude in Christ,
Pastors Nancy Dolan and Laura Sherwood

Spiritual Practice: Daily Examen

The Daily Examen is a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of your day in order to notice God's presence and discern God's direction for you. It is an ancient practice in the Church, most commonly associated with Ignatius Loyola, who believed it to be a gift that came directly from God. Practicing the Daily Examen is quite simple, requiring only a few minutes at the end of your day. The discipline will add structure and meaning to your Star Gift word reflections, if you choose to incorporate your word into your Examen. To practice the Daily Examen, set aside a few minutes each evening to:

1. Sit quietly and become aware of God's presence.
2. Review every aspect of your day, from the mundane to the memorable, from joyful to stressful. Ask God to, “Reveal yourself to me. Show me where you were present.”
3. Pay attention to your emotions and what God might be showing you in those.
4. Choose one feature of the day that stands out and ask God to show you where God was present.
5. Look toward tomorrow and pray for greater awareness of God's presence.

To explore The Examen further visit Ignatianspirituality.com

Order of Worship
Sunday, January 2, 2022

*Indicates please stand, rise in body and spirit as you are able.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Nancy Dolan, preaching
Leanne Larson, liturgist
Peggy Massello, Director of Music, Organist
Nick Lin, soloist

PRELUDE - *Puer Nobis*

arr. Thomas Gieschein

WELCOME AND COMMON LIFE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Nations shall come to your light

And rulers to the brightness of your rising.

Jesus said: I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Let us worship Christ, the newborn king!

OPENING HYMN - *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

CALL TO CONFESSION

God became one of us so that we could see the face of love, hear the voice of peace, be touched by the hand of grace, know the heart of mercy. God comes to us, offering us forgiveness and peace. Please join me as we lift up to God the brokenness in ourselves and our world, first in silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world to reveal your love for all people. On this Epiphany Sunday, we confess that our weakness often hides the brightness of your light. We turn away from the needy; we ignore calls for justice; we do not strive for peace. Renew us with your light this day and into the new year. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The good news is simple: God loves us so much that we are forgiven and granted new life.

Praise God! As forgiven people, we will go out to forgive others and share God's grace with them. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn No. 581)**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen, amen.

***PEACE OF CHRIST**

Now, let us share with each other the peace that forgiveness brings, saying:

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE - Matthew 2:1-12 (pg. 2 in the New Testament)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON - "Willing to be Led"

Rev. Nancy Dolan

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 151 - *We Three Kings*

KINGS OF ORIENT

(verses 1 & 5 and all refrains: congregation; verses 2-4: solo)

STAR GIFT DISTRIBUTION AND BLESSING

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 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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

As we gather our gifts and offer them to God, may we do so in gratitude and praise.

We invite you to give via our church website www.fpcw.org, our smartphone app, send a check to the church office, or text the word "Wilmette" to the number 77977. Also, an offering plate is available in the Narthex.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM - *One Star*

Cheryl Rogers

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - The Doxology (Hymn No. 606)

**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 (unison)

Loving God, as Magi approached the child Jesus, we follow a star of hope, we come with awe and wonder, and we bring gifts – ourselves, our time, our money and our commitment. We give in response to your generosity. Send us home as transformed people, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN NO. 141 - *On This Day Earth Shall Ring*

PERSONENT HODIE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - *Improvisation on "We three Kings"*

Alfred Fedak

Prayers of the People and Star blessing adapted from prayers by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



Our Common Life Week of January 2, 2022

Star Gift Words

Today during worship you are invited to receive the gift of a Star Word. Just as the Star over Jesus' birthplace in Bethlehem guided the magi, Star Gifts on Epiphany Sunday are an opportunity to allow God to guide you — not by what you can see, but by what God shows you. Your Star Gift Word is just a word, but also an invitation to ponder what significance this word might have in your life, and how God might be speaking to you through that simple message. We encourage you to place your word where you'll notice it every day, as you consider how it might apply to your journey with God over the next year. *How do I live it out? Where is it lacking in my life? How does it relate to my life in general, as well as my spiritual life?* These are the kinds of questions you might consider as you ponder and pray about this word and what God would say to you about it throughout the year. We pray the Spirit will inspire and bless your reflections!

Programming Update from the COVID-19 Task Force

With the emergence of the Omicron variant, the COVID Task Force, whose charge is to monitor the situation and our policies regarding COVID, has determined it necessary to postpone the resumption of several activities and programming from January 2 to January 16. This will allow time to better understand the current surge and to avoid compounding an expected case spike after the holidays. Activities which will now resume January 16 include: Choir, Sunday Fellowship Hour, Children and Youth (Mid-Week Meetup, Children's Chapel, Tower, and 5/6 and 7/8 grade new programming). Committees may continue to decide collectively to meet in person or on Zoom but everyone in the church building must be masked.

Please be encouraged to reach out to the Task Force if you have questions or concerns. Members include: Brian Hughes, Jane Rankin, Steve Reinhart, Tammy Walker and Rev. Nancy Dolan.

Congregational Meeting

With deep gratitude to the work of the Nominating Committee of fpcw and those willing to serve, Session is pleased to announce a **January 23, 2022** Congregational Meeting, following the 10 am worship service, for the purpose of electing our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. In that meeting, the Nominating Committee will present the following slate of nominees:

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|---------------|----------------|
| Bill Bishop | Sharon Panzica |
| Irris Boaz | Mary Watt |
| Bob Hariman | Jane Western |
| Anthony Harro | Marnie Zimmer |
| Amy Lyon | |

Please make plans to attend this important meeting, either in person or via Zoom, as we eagerly anticipate with hope the plans God has for our church in the new year! Meeting details for Zoom participation will be provided closer to the date.

Important Sanctuary and Worship Reminders

Air Exchange in the Sanctuary

At fpcw we are fortunate to have an excellent air exchange system promoting good airflow throughout the Sanctuary including the balcony as well as the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. Please note, as we are well within the colder months the air exchange system can cause cooler temperatures in the Sanctuary so please consider dressing warmly on Sundays.

Livestream on Sundays in the Lounge

A special benefit of our ability to Livestream our worship services is you can sit comfortably in the Lounge on Sunday to watch the service if you desire more space or if you have a child who no longer wants to be in the Sanctuary. Also, please note: as our services are recorded each week and you do not wish to appear in the recording please consider sitting in the balcony, the livestream cameras do not cover that area of the Sanctuary.

Meals for the Lehn family

Many of you have asked how you can be a support for the Lehn family while Jeff is on medical leave. One way is to supply meals for the family. A Sign Up Genius link can be found on the News & Publications page of our website. Meals can be dropped off at the Manse back door by 4:30 pm. Please put the meal you bring in the cooler provided. No need to ring their doorbell as they will be expecting the meal to be dropped off. Many thanks to all who wish to prepare meals and support the Lehn family.

Calendar for the week of January 2, 2022

Please note: Per recommendations from the Covid-19 Task Force (mentioned earlier) many activities and programing including Fellowship Hour are postponed until January 16th.

Sunday, January 2

10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Livestreaming Worship	via YouTube

Monday, January 3

No meetings scheduled

Tuesday, January 4th

10:00 am	Staff meeting	via Zoom
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Wednesday, January 5th

No meetings scheduled

Thursday, January 6th

10:00 am	Pres Homes Spoke	via Teleconference
	Bible Study	via Zoom

Friday, January 7th

No meetings scheduled

Saturday, January 8th

No meetings scheduled

Sunday, January 9th - Baptism of the Lord

10:00 am	In-person Worship Service	Sanctuary
	Livestream Worship	YouTube

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, Julia Clauson and Al Menard,
- For those who are grieving, and for our homebound members,
- For those who suffer from depression, anxiety or addictions, and for those who walk alongside them,
- For Pastor Jeff Lehn and his family while he is away.

STAY CONNECTED

If you have not been able to attend worship

Please note: Our Sunday worship services are Livestreamed/recorded each week and are posted on our website at www.fpcw.org. Click on Worship Services under the Worship & Music tab.

FLOWER CHART

The 2022 flower chart is posted on the door to the usher's closet. If you would like to donate flowers in appreciation or in remembrance of a loved one please choose a Sunday that works best for you and add your name to the flower chart. Thanks you.

WEBSITE

www.fpcw.org

FACEBOOK

[facebook.com/1st Presbyterian Church of Wilmette](https://facebook.com/1stPresbyterianChurchofWilmette)

TWITTER

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

SERMONS

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

CALENDAR

www.fpcw.org/events-calendar

CHURCH STAFF

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Rev. Laura Sherwood
Interim Associate Pastor
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OFFICE HOURS

9 am-5 pm (Monday-Thursday)
9 am-3:00 pm (Friday)



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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