



Gillson Beach, Wilmette

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE
Second Sunday in Lent
Covid 2 –Year Remembrance
Annual Meeting
Sunday, March 13, 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
- Join us after worship in the Lounge for fellowship and coffee

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 Jeff Lehn and Laura Sherwood

Spiritual Practice:

Paying Attention to Your Spiritual Story

Make time and space to ponder the following questions. Feel free to write your answers in a journal or to share them with another person:

- Reflect on a time when you grew spiritually in a significant way. Describe what was happening in that period of your life.
- What was it about that period of your life that caused you to grow spiritually?
- What do you think God was trying to teach or show you?
- Where do you experience God's presence most often now (i.e. in worship, nature, silence, conversation with family/friends, prayer, serving others, or perhaps in Bible study)?

Order of Worship
Sunday, March 13, 2022

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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Laura Sherwood, preaching
Rev. Jeff Lehn, pastoral liturgist
Karen Miller, liturgist
Reed Morris, Acolyte
Jenn and Jossie Mullman, Lenten Liturgy/Progressive Display
Peggy Massello, Music Director
Chancel Choir
Chancel Bells

PRELUDE - *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Southern Harmony, arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT

The Acolyte brings in the light to remind us that we have gathered in the light of Christ.

WELCOME AND COMMON LIFE

LENT II - Opening Litany and Progressive Display

For the Beauty of the Earth: Water, Streams, Rivers and Oceans (Genesis 1:9-22)

As we walk together on this year's journey through Lent...

...May we give thanks for God's creation whenever we look to the sky and every time we take a breath.

Waterfall is placed on the Display representing Water, Streams, Rivers, and Oceans

LENTEN PRAYER (unison)

Buoy us with your tender strength, Holy Jesus. Bathe us with gratitude for baptismal water and all water. Help us to see the work of your hand in the rivers, streams, and oceans that support all life on earth. Guide us through this time of Lent, so that every hour leads us closer to your dream for us and for all creation. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 32** - *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

ELLACOMBE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Congregation may be seated)

God is gracious and merciful and knows our needs even before they reach our lips. Still, we engage in confession, admitting to God all that rests uneasily in our hearts. Confident of God's love, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer. . . *silence is kept...*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**God of Living Water, you call us to come and drink.
Yet we often complain that there is not enough water.
You call us to strike the rocks of our world and let your Living Water flow.
But we do not trust that the spring is there.
You call us to share the Water of Life with the world around us.
But we believe that the water is limited,
and so we are tempted to save it for ourselves.
For all the times we turn away from your Water,
for all the times we sully the Water by misusing it,
for all the times we let others go thirsty instead of offering a drink,
Forgive us, we pray.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The Water of Life flows with abundance to fill us with hope,
Refreshed by the Living Water, we are forgiven and set free to live abundant life.
Thanks and praise to God. Amen.

*SHARING THE 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.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children are invited to share the peace and gather with leaders to go to the Chapel to continue to worship together in an age-appropriate and meaningful way. They will return to sit with their families toward the end of worship service in the Sanctuary.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn No. 14 verse 2)

**For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING - Psalm 33:1-9 and 20-22 (pg. 507-508 in the Old testament)

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON - "Message in a Bottle"

Rev. Laura Sherwood

BELL ANTHEM - *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

The Agincourt Hymn, arr. Cathy Moglebust

COVID PANDEMIC REMEMBRANCE - 2 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

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.**

WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD'S BEAUTY THIS WEEK?

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, or sending a check to the church office. An offering plate is also available in the Narthex.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - The Doxology (OLD HUNDRETH - 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)

God of the wilderness, we give these offerings in gratitude,
rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.

We give these offerings in faith, trusting that you will provide for our needs.

We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.

And with these offerings, we give ourselves;

May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen

***SENDING HYMN NO. 375** - *Shall We Gather at the River*

HANSON PLACE

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***FOLLOWING THE LIGHT**

The Acolyte carries the light as we go out, to remind us that we both follow and carry Christ's Light into the World.

POSTLUDE -

ANNUAL MEETING DOCKET

Sources

Lent II - Opening Litany and Progressive Display: written by Rev. Laura Sherwood for First Pres Wilmette;

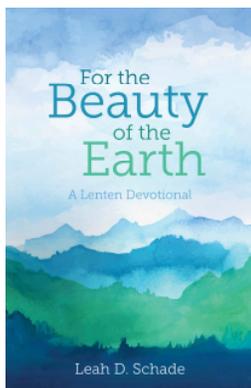
Unison prayer inspired by Third Wednesday prayer from *For the Beauty of the Earth Lenten Devotional* by Leah D. Schade.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness (adapted) ~ (inspired by Exodus 17: 1-7, John 4: 5-42) written by Rev Gord, and posted on Worship Offerings. <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/>

Prayer of Dedication ~ written by Joanna Harader, and posted on her **Spacious Faith** blog. <http://spaciousfaith.com/>

Our Common Life Week of March 13th, 2022

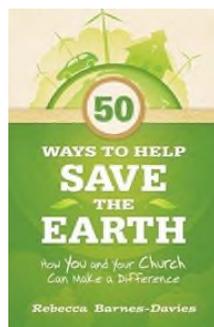
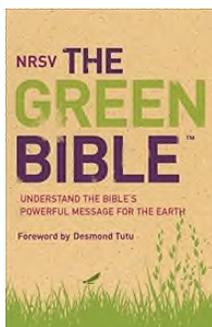
Lent 2022



Our theme for Lent this year is “For the Beauty of the Earth.” Drawn from the title of the beloved hymn written by Folliot Pierpoint in 1864, our theme will unfold week after week in worship as we focus on a different aspect of God’s good creation. We will also reflect on how creation nurtures us and our call to steward the earth, our precious home. Throughout Lent – from Ash Wednesday to Holy Week – you’re encouraged to read the daily devotional by Leah Schade of the same name. Each daily devotion includes scripture, a brief reflection and questions to ponder, or a spiritual practice for the day. Pick up your copy from the church office beginning on Sunday, February 27, or call or email Madeline Weston to ask her to send one to you (office@fpcw.org; 847-256-3010)

Adult Faith Formation Class

Sundays, 8:30-9:30 am (6 Weeks, March 6 – April 10)



“The Green Bible and 50 Ways to Help Save the Earth”

Join Pastor Jeff for this six-week Lenten study that serves as a “deeper dive” into our broader theme for the season: “For the Beauty of the Earth.” Each week, we will (1) look at a portion of “The Green Bible,” a recent translation of the Bible focused on creation care, and (2) discuss several practical ways that we can make a difference. No pre-reading required – just come and grow with us as we together seek to “Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently, nourish the life of the world in our care” (Shirley Erena Murray). This class will be in a hybrid format in-person and Zoom.



Women’s Breakfast - Saturday, March 19, 2022, 9:30 am - noon

Come discover your spiritual type. Are you someone who loves to study the word, experience God through song, or meditation, or are you more of an activist? There are many ways to experience and express your faith. We will explore the different types and find out where our growing edges may be. This morning gathering is for women of all ages and stages, high school through age 100. It is planned for in-person at this time, with breakfast and a program in Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. To RSVP, email Sue Sklansky at ssklansky@fpcw.org



New Members Exploration Class - March 20th at 11 am

Anyone interested in learning more about what it means to be Presbyterian, what First Pres has to offer you in your faith journey, and ways you can serve? Join Pastor Jeff, Elder Rick Baer and Sue Sklansky, Dir. of Congregational Care and Engagement, for a conversation about what church membership means. RSVP to Sue at ssklansky@fpcw.org

Tutors Needed!

Would you like to get involved in important Mission work outside of the Church, do hands-on, good works at organizations that our Church supports. There is a waiting list of ten students at the Family Matters community house in Rogers Park who need tutoring. With all the stay-at-home remote learning at the start of this Year it is more important than ever to help students keep up with their studies and have the resources and mentors to support their success. There are currently six *fpcw* members who spend 1 ½ hours per week in one-on-one evening tutoring of grammar school and high school students in English, math, or other studies. Tutoring options available are in-person at Family Matters, remote tutoring, or a hybrid of the two with flexible hours from 4 to 8 pm. There is also a need for reading



FPCW's Mission Committee has committed to a matching gift initiative to channel humanitarian relief funds to the people of Ukraine.

The Committee will match congregational donations up to \$10,000, bringing the total to \$20,000 to be directed toward help for people seeking to escape the violence tearing the country apart.



While gifts may be given directly to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the way to ensure that your gift is counted toward the \$10,000 congregational goal is to make a donation directly on the FPCW website (www.fpcw.org).

Please click on the **Giving** button at the top of the home page of our website.



PDA Ukraine Relief
Regular Offering
PDA Ukraine Relief
Memorial Gifts
Midweek Meetup Dinner
Sunday Flowers
Stock the Shelves
Tower Youth Sales / Work Trip

Then click on the drop-down menu and select **"PDA Ukraine Relief."** The match/donation will be open and available through to the end of Lent. We continue to pray for Ukraine and your donations will help.

PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH – Week of March 13th, 2022

SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

Children's Chapel for children ages 3 yrs. - 6th grade.

After the Sharing of the Peace, children ages preK - 6th grade are invited to either remain in the sanctuary with their families, or move to the chapel for an age-appropriate time of worship, lead by Lindley Traynor (ltraynor@fpcw.org), Dir. of Children & Family Ministries, and Scott McElhenie (youth@fpcw.org), Dir of Youth and Family Ministries. This is a meaningful time of encountering God and connecting with each other through simple liturgy, songs, prayer, and the stories of our faith. Children return to sit with their families toward the end of the service in the sanctuary.

7th and 8th Grade Youth Group and Confirmation Class

Sundays 11:00 am-12:00 noon in Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. All 7th and 8th graders are invited to join the group which will include activities and discussion to help dive into the meaning of our faith and how faith applies to our lives. 8th graders will have additional opportunities to reflect on their desire and readiness to be confirmed as active members of the church. Contact Pastor Laura Sherwood, lsherwood@fpcw.org.

TOWER Senior High Youth – 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Senior High Youth will gather tonight at 5:00 pm in the WMFC for a devotion ("For the Beauty of the Earth" by Leah D. Schade), fellowship and dinner. Questions? Contact: Scott McElhenie, youth@fpcw.org

Mid-Week Meet-Up - Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm activity and music (singers and ringers) followed by dinner provided in Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. **For children ages 3 yrs. through 6th grade.** Parents are invited to come and help with the activity or gather for parent fellowship during the children's program and stay for the community dinner. Contact: Peggy Massello, pmassello@fpwc.org or Lindley Traynor, ltraynor@fpwc.org.



Nominations for Elders and Deacons

The Nominating Committee has begun meeting to discern the fall 2022 new set of Elders and Deacons for First Pres. If you would like to nominate yourself or other church members (membership is a requirement), please email the nominee's names to Elder Rick Baer rickbaer2112@gmail.com, or Sue Sklansky, Dir. of Congregational Care and Engagement ssklansky@fpcw.org.

Celebrating Wilmette’s Sesquicentennial, 1872 - 2022

On Monday, March 28th, from 7 to 8:15 pm, join members of the Wilmette faith communities to celebrate where we have been and offer prayers for what Wilmette may become in the next 150 years. This event will take place at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1747 Lake Ave. Wilmette. You can attend in person or on the St. Joseph’s YouTube channel. To learn more about this event check out the Wilmette 150 website at www.wilmette150.org/events.

Tower Benefit Dinner – Sunday, April 24 at 5:00 pm in WMFC

Save the date because you are invited to the Tower Benefit Dinner! The Benefit Dinner is a night of fun for the whole family including games, prizes, and an auction. The proceeds from the event will go to support the Youth Work Trip. This summer Tower is going to help rebuild homes in Ronceverte, WV. If would like to support the youth, please consider donating to the Benefit Dinner. Contact Scott McElhenie with questions or donations, email: youth@fpcw.org.

HOLY WEEK 2022



PALM SUNDAY

April 10th
10 am Worship Service
in-person /Livestreamed



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 14th
5:45 pm Soup Supper (WMFC)
6:30 pm Worship Service
(Sanctuary)
in-person/Livestreamed



GOOD FRIDAY

April 15th
3 - 6 pm Self-guided
Stations of the Cross (Chapel)



EASTER SUNDAY

Join us Easter Sunday for one of two worship services.

9 am Worship in-person (Sanctuary)

10 am Fellowship Hour (Lounge)

11 am Worship in-person and Livestreamed (Sanctuary)

There will be one Fellowship Hour after the 9 am worship service.

Calendar for the week of March 13th, 2022

Sunday, March 13th Annual Meeting

8:30 am	Adult study - The Green Bible	In-person/Zoom
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
	Livestreaming Worship	YouTube
10:15 am	Children's Chapel Time	Chapel
10:45 am	Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)	In-person/Zoom
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
	7th & 8th grade Youth & Confirmation Class	WMFC
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Youth fellowship/dinner	WMFC

Monday, March 14th

7:00 pm	Session (Upper Room)	In-person/Zoom
7:30 pm	Scouts Troop 5	WMFC
8:30 pm	Troop 5 Crew	Yellow Room

Tuesday, March 15th

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Lounge
7:00 pm	Cub Scouts	WMFC

Wednesday, March 16th

4:45 pm	Mid-week Meetup	WMFC
5:45 pm	Church family dinner	WMFC
6:15 pm	Book & Dinner Group	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Slowing Time Women's Group	Lounge
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	WMFC

Thursday, March 17th

10:00 am	Bible Study	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Men's Hour	Lounge
	APNC	Upper Room

Friday, March 18th

No meetings scheduled

Saturday, March 19th

8:00 am	Men's Council (breakfast & program)	Lounge	in-person & Zoom
9:30 am	Women's Breakfast		WMFC

Sunday, March 20th

8:30am	Adult Study - The Green Bible	via Zoom
10:00 am	In-person Worship Service	Sanctuary
	Livestream Worship	YouTube
11:00 am	7 & 8 grade Youth & Confirmation Class	WMFC
	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
	New Member's Class	Upper Room
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Youth fellowship/dinner	WMFC



*Small group offerings
All are invited.*

2022 Small Groups (meeting via Zoom or in-person)

Slowing Time for Women

Meets the 3rd Wednesday at 7pm. New joiners always welcome! Starting in January 2022 we will read "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" (the genealogy of Jesus). Contact Sue Sklansky at suesklansky@gmail.com

Lunch Group for Women

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at noon, and each month a member takes the responsibility to lead the discussion. Nancy Freeman coordinates njwfreeman@gmail.com.

Book Group

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, hosted by Carol Korak. carolkorak@gmail.com. Members take turns leading a book discussion. February book is "Lost Roses," by Martha Hall Kelly.

Men's Hour

Meets Thursdays at 7 pm. 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! Paul Traynor at paultraynor@haymoon.com.

Men's Council

Meets every Saturday morning (8-9:30 am) in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. Members take turns cooking breakfast and providing a presentation. Questions? Contact Steve Reinhart steve.reinhart@gmail.com. This group meets in person and via Zoom.

Bible Study

Meets on Thursdays at 10 am. How does the Bible inform our daily lives? This class is led by Rev. Jeff Lehn. jlehn@fpcw.org.

Adult Faith formation

Meets on Sunday morning at 8:30-9:30 am in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. Led by Rev. Jeff Lehn, this group is studying The Green Bible and 50 Ways to Help Save the Earth.

Pres Homes Women

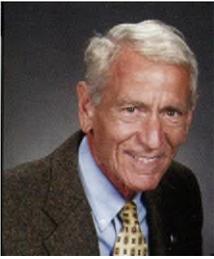
1st Thursday of the month at 10 am, via UberConference. Pastor Laura provide the link and discussion includes a Bible Study guide. lsherwood@fpcw.org

Abigail Group

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in a member's homes or Zoom. Abigail is a women's group for separated or divorced women. Questions? Please contact Sue Sklansky at suesklansky@gmail.com.

Loop Group

Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month at noon on Zoom. The "Loop Group" meets 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. You can work from anywhere to join this group. Interested? Email Pastor Jeff Lehn at jlehn@fpcw.org.



We mourn the recent passing of George Vandervoort. It is with deep sadness to inform you that our long-time, faithful and devoted member, George Vandervoort, passed away on Friday, March 4th. He was a caring and devoted member and he will be deeply missed. Please hold George's wife Mimi and their son, Robert in your prayers - for God's comfort and peace in their grief.

A service to celebrate George's life has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 16th at 1:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God by the Burdick family in loving memory of their mother Debby Burdick.

Fellowship Hour Hosting

We are gathering once again after the Sunday Worship Service for our long-standing tradition of Fellowship Hour. We are in need of individuals, families, or committees to take on the Fellowship Hour hosting role. It's easy to do and a wonderful opportunity for the congregation to gather with old friends and greet visitors. The SignUp Genius link is available on the News and Publications page of our website www.fpcw.org and in the Tuesday, Daily Bread..

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- For the joy of in-person and livestreaming worship,
- For those with health concerns,
- For those who are grieving, the Burdick family and the Vandervoort family,
- For our homebound members,
- For those who suffer from depression, anxiety or addictions, and for those who walk alongside them.

Lent: For the Beauty of the Earth Resources

With creation at the heart of our Lenten practice this year, we hope you will find new ways to appreciate and care for the earth in the coming days. Here are some ways to grow in your knowledge, and give thought to ways you can be a good steward of the earth. We welcome other resources as well!

Kiss the Ground film <https://kissthegroundmovie.com/>

A film about how we can repair the soil and impact the climate.

Islands of Faith film <https://www.netflix.com/title/81292475>

A film about Indonesia and the many faiths represented there that are caring for their native lands in ways that are sustainable and honoring their faith.

Go Green Wilmette <https://gogreenwilmette.org/>

A local resource for all things “green” in Wilmette—what you can do, and what we can do as a community to impact the planet.

Plant a tree in your parkway. <https://www.wilmette.com/engineering-public-works/forestry/tree-planting/>

Interfaith Climate Summit, Sunday, March 13 at 3 pm from Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church. In-person or online (youtube), see website for details <https://www.lppchurch.org/interfaith-climate-summit>

CHURCH STAFF

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Ethan Holtermann
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OFFICE HOURS

9 am-5 pm (Monday-Thursday)

9 am-1:00 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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