



Jan Richardson, "Baptism of the Beloved"

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE
Sunday, September 4th, 2022
Communion Sunday
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
10:00 am Worship Service in Sanctuary/Livestream
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 Fellowship Garden for Lemonade on the Lawn

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: Remembering Baptism

Keep a small bowl of water near a door or in a sacred space in your home. Whenever you pass this bowl of water, dip your fingers in the bowl and make the sign of the cross, praying silently to yourself, “I am a beloved child of God.”

Ways to expand this practice:

- If you are traveling this summer, try this practice in a body of water that you visit. If it is safe to do so, you may choose to gather some water from important places to refresh your water bowl at home.
- Young children and siblings may enjoy blessing one another and gathering water from special places. Since this is a movement-based spiritual practice, it can be especially approachable for young children.

Order of Worship
Sunday, September 4th, 2022
10:00 am Sanctuary

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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Jeff Lehn, Preaching
Deborah Schroeder, Liturgist
Peggy Massello, Director of Music
Sharon Panzica and Bill Rapp, Guitars
Ethan Holtermann, Bass
Amy Russell, Vocalist

**PRELUDE - *Sanctuary* - Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living...sanctuary for you.**

I Will Call upon the Lord - I will call upon the Lord...who is worthy to be praised.

So shall I be saved from my enemies. I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

WELCOME AND COMMON LIFE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us worship the eternal God, the source of love and life, who creates us.

Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.

Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.

To the triune God be praise in all times and places!

***GATHERING SONGS**

God Is Here Today No. 411 **God is here today; as certain as the air I breathe,**

As certain as the morning sun that rises, as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying No. 469 **Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your**

Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power;

Send us grace.

O Sing to the Lord No. 637 (see hymnal)

CALL TO CONFESSION

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). Now, let us pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are,

**and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Even as we give our confessions, we remember that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. The only thing that can separate us is the thought that we are separate. Rejoice in forgiveness. Rejoice in empowerment. Rejoice in new creation.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

We are invited to share signs of peace in a manner that is both meaningful and comfortable for you—both in person and on line. Now, let us share the peace that forgiveness brings, saying,
The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

(Congregation is invited to share signs of peace with one another by staying at your seat or walking around.)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn No. 458, *The Lord Is a Lamp unto My Feet*

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (repeat)

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me.

Nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end. *(sing first line again 2x)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light,
in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING - Philemon 1:1-25

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON - "335 Words of Holy Flattery"

Rev. Jeff Lehn

HYMN OF INVITATION NO. 526 - *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

LINSTEAD

GATHERING AROUND THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE (All communion packs are gluten-free.)

COMMUNION MUSIC - *One Bread, One Body*

John B. Foley

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

Loving God, your love is as close to us as our own hands and feet. People who need your love are as close to us as the people beside us, behind us and in front of us. Having been nourished at your Table of love and grace, send us into your world to love each other, sure that you love us. Show us where we are needed and how we can make a difference so that the world sees the new life Jesus wants for everyone. Help us live for Jesus wherever we go, whatever we do. Amen

CALL FOR OFFERING

We are invited to participate in God's kingdom emerging all around us. May we offer ourselves to God with glad and generous hearts, freely giving of our resources, time and talents to the ministry of this congregation. We have many ways to serve and multiple ways to make a financial contribution - please consult your bulletin or the slide on your screen. As we gather our gifts together and offer them to God, may we do so in gratitude and praise.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - The Doxology (OLD HUNDREDTH)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

God of the old and the young, the straight-laced and the unrefined, the zealous and the wary, take this offering of our lives and resources and make of it a new possibility. Change hearts and lives with it. Mend relationships by it. Reconnect us to your love and to one another through it. Show us the life that really is life. Amen.

SENDING HYMN NO. 543 - *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

Pastor: May God bless you, keep you, be gracious to you.

Liturgist: May God give you grace to never sell yourself – or God – short.

Congregation: Grace to risk something big for something good.

Liturgist: Grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth,

Congregation: And too small for anything but love.

Liturgist: So may God take our minds and think through them.

Congregation: May God take our lips and speak through them.

May God take our hands and do good with them.

Liturgist: May God take our hearts and set them on fire.

Pastor: And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, go with you, this day and in all the days to come. Amen.

POSTLUDE - *I'll Fly Away*

Albert E. Brumley

Everyone is invited to stay for Lemonade on the Lawn.

Sources

Call to Worship - Worship Sourcebook, Call to Worship #26

Call to Confession - from Rev. Beth Merrill Neel, holdfasttowhatisgood.com

Prayer of Confession - Prayer of Confession # 49 from The Book of Common Worship - PC(USA), 1993

Assurance of Forgiveness and Prayer of Dedication - written by Rev. Jeff Lehn

Prayer for Illumination - Worship Sourcebook, Prayer for Illumination #12

Benediction/Blessing (adapted slightly) - Written by Rev. Kathi McShane, adapted from William Sloane Coffin

Communion Liturgy:

Words of Gathering from - A Brief Communion Service May 27, 2015, written By Jeanyne Slettom for Faith and Process at faithandprocess.org.

Blessing of the Bread and Cup from - Order of the day for Special NYAC Session, March 16, 2019, *Adapted from CLOSING WORSHIP: GOD IS ABLE liturgy: General Conference Worship Team, and Do Not Be Afraid Liturgy- Rev. Dr. Nora Colmenares service on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.*

Great Thanksgiving - portions from A Brief Communion Service May 27, 2015 and Order of the day for Special NYAC Session, March 16, 2019

Prayer after Communion - written by Rev. Jeff Lehn



Our Common Life Week of September 4th, 2022



Sunday, September 11, 2022 - 10:00 am

Mark your calendar for this very special yearly gathering to kick off the program year! We'll also ordain and install our new Elders and Deacons as well as a formal welcome of Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski as our Parish Associate for Congregational Care

We'll be entertained by a blue grass band, **The Special Consensus**, and we hope you will join us, everyone's invited!

Worship Service, under the tent

Luncheon at 11 am (please bring a side dish to share)

Fun and games (including a giant inflatable slide)



Special Consensus – 2012 & 2018 Grammy Nominee

The Special Consensus bluegrass band has achieved a contemporary sound in their four decades of performing, making their music a modern classic. Check out their website or their Facebook page get to know this group, they're pretty awesome.

www.specialc.com www.facebook.com/specialconsensus Instagram: specialconsensus



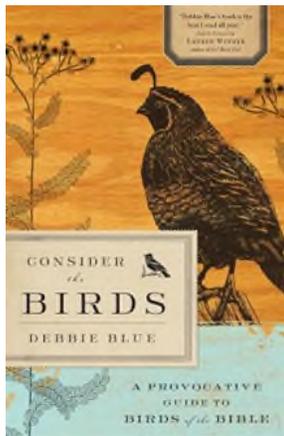
BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE FOR C24/7

The After-School Program at C24/7 is in need of items to best serve their students as they start the new school year. The donated back to school items can be dropped off at the church and left in the parking lot foyer. Please label your donations as C24/7. We hope you all will consider generously donating to this important mission partner.



Items needed are:

- Backpacks
- Boxed washable markers
- Boxed #2 pencils (unsharpened)
- Spiral notebooks
- Pocket folders
- Plastic rulers (12")
- Pens - medium point black, blue, or red



"CONSIDER THE BIRDS"

5 Weeks, 8:30 - 9:30 am Sundays (Sept. 18 - Oct. 16)

Join us for an engaging adult formation class this fall, led by Pastor Jeff, using the provocative book by Debbie Blue, "Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to Birds of the Bible." From the well-known image of the dove to the rooster that announced Peter's betrayal, birds play a dynamic role in Scripture. We will take a closer look at five of the ten birds Blue discusses in her book: pigeon, quail, eagle, sparrow, and cock. Through study and conversation, we'll explore what these birds have to teach us about gratitude, vulnerability, desire, and insignificance. In a word, we will "consider the birds of the air" today, as Jesus taught his followers in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6. This hybrid class will meet for five weeks in person on Sundays in the church lounge and virtually via Zoom (Zoom link is available in the Daily Bread and the Saturday email. Meeting ID: 840 3593 7190; Password: 815640)



CHILDREN'S CHAPEL:

Children's Chapel resumes Sunday, September 18!

Children begin worship in the sanctuary with their families, children ages 3 years - 6th grade are invited to the chapel each week for a meaningful time encountering God and connecting with each other, through simple liturgy, songs, prayer, and the stories of our faith, led by Lindley Traynor, Director of Children & Family Ministry, and Scott McElhenie, Director of Youth and Family Ministry.



MIDWEEK MEETUP:

Our fall season of Midweek Meetup begins Wednesday, September 21, from 5 pm to 6 pm, followed by church family dinner!

Kids ages 3 - 6th grade are invited to join us for crafts, music, games, and fun with friends. We'll be meeting outside on the church lawn, with Wallace Moore Fellowship

Center as our backup in case of bad weather. Parents may drop children off and go, or stay and join our parent fellowship group for a relaxed but meaningful time of connecting with other parents in our family of faith.

Contact [Peggy Massello](#), Director of Music Ministries, or [Lindley Traynor](#), Director of Children and Family Ministry for more information about Midweek Meetup, and [Pastor Laura Sherwood](#) for more information about the parents' group.



TOWER ORIENTATION AND REGISTRATION

Sunday, September 18 at 11:00 am in WMFC

Tower is the Senior High Youth Group at fpcw and they gather Sundays for fellowship, devotions, and dinner. If you or your child is in high school, please come join us at our orientation meeting for students and parents to learn more about what Tower has to offer this upcoming year.



CHANCEL CHOIR – begins Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm in the Music Room. We rehearse every Wednesday thereafter. We sing weekly at 10 am worship from a variety of repertoire, early music to gospel. We'd love you to join us!

CHANCEL BELLS – begins Thursday, September 15 at 7:45 pm in the Music Room. We'll ring at 10 am worship on Sunday, October 23. More opportunities/sessions will follow during the program year!



VIRTUAL EVENT WITH ARTIST, SUYUN SON

Tues, September 20, 7-8 pm (Zoom)

Join us for an engaging one-hour virtual event with artist, Suyun Son, hosted by Pastor Jeff. We will hear a bit of Suyun's story, how her faith informs her work, and the call she feels to keep creating beauty in a world of fear and brokenness. Suyun works mainly with mixed media on canvas. Last July, she served as the **artist in residence** at the 25th General Assembly of the PCUSA in Louisville. Her work helps us access the experiential side of our faith, which is beyond words, beyond the logical, thinking brain. Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, September 20**, and plan to join us. The program will consist of a brief introduction, about a 30-minute presentation, and then time for Q & A. This event will also be recorded and available on our YouTube channel afterward. (Zoom link is available in the Daily Bread and on our website; Meeting ID: 836 7016 5687; Password: 255396)

Calendar for the week of September 4th, 2022

Sunday, September 4th

89:55 am	Livestream Worship	YouTube
10:00 am	In-person Worship Service (rain plan: Sanctuary)	Fellowship Garden
11:00 am	Lemonade on the Lawn	Fellowship Garden

Monday, September 5th

Church Office Closed - Labor Day

Tuesday, September 6th

10:00 am	Staff meeting	Lounge
5:00 pm	Tech Task Force	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Buildings & Grounds	Lounge

Wednesday, September 7th

6:00 pm	Finance, budget & Operations	Lounge
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	Music Room

Thursday, September 8th

10:00 am	Bible Study (Lounge)	In-person/Zoom
	Pres Homes Women's Spoke (Westminster Place)	in-person/Phone conference
7:00 pm	Men's Hour	Lounge
	APNC* (Upper Room)	In-person/Zoom

Friday, September 9th

No meeting scheduled

Saturday, September 10th

1:30 pm	Girl Scouts	WMFC
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Sunday, September 11th First Festival

9:55 am	Livestream Worship	YouTube
10:00 am	In-person Worship Service (rain plan: Sanctuary)	Under the Tent
11:00 am	Lunch (rain plan: WMFC)	Fellowship Garden
	Fun and games (Giant slide)	Fellowship Garden

WMFC=Wallace Moore Fellowship Center

APNC = Associate Pastor Nominating Committee



Small group offerings

All are invited.

Small Group Ministry 2022 Summer Schedule (* indicates group is meeting over the summer)

Slowing Time for Women

Meets the 3rd Wednesday at 7 pm. New joiners always welcome! Our last formal meeting is June 18th. Anyone interested in joining should contact Pastor Laura (lsruerwood@fpcw.org) Plans are underway for summer fellowship for this group.

***Lunch Group for Women**

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at noon. Each month a member takes the responsibility to lead the discussion. Nancy Freeman coordinates njwfreeman@gmail.com. Our first gathering for the program year will be on **Wednesday, September 14th at 11:30 am in the Lounge.**

***Book Group**

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm, in the Upper Room, hosted by Carol Korak. carolkorak@gmail.com. Members take turns leading a book discussion.

***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 mornings (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. Med's Council will kick off the season with a BBQ on **Friday, September 30th**. Regular meetings will begin **Saturday, October 1st**.

***Bible Study**

Meets on Thursdays at 10 am in the Lounge. How does the Bible inform our daily lives? This class is led by Pastor Jeff.

Adult Faith formation

Meets on Sunday morning at 8:30-9:30 am in the Upper Room. New class begins September 18th, exploring the provocative book "Consider the Birds." This class will be led by Pastor Jeff, in-person and Zoom.

***Pres Homes Women - "Spoke"**

1st Thursday of the month at 10 am, in-person and via phone conference. Pastor Laura (lsruerwood@fpcw.org) provides the link and the discussion includes a Bible Study guide. Anne Menard (amendard4347@yahoo.com) coordinates this group.

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. This group is on hiatus.

***Senior Supper Club**

Senior Supper is back!! **The next gathering will be Tuesday, September 20, 5:30 pm at Ridgeview Grill** in Wilmette. If you are an over 65 member and want to get to know others more casually, please join us! Interested? Contact Bonnie Wehrenberg bwherbic007@att.net.

Parents of High School Youth (POHSY)

Raising teenagers is always a challenge, and as our youth gather together to navigate their lives as Christians, their parents are also joining together to lend support to one another. If you want to learn more, reach out to Iris Boaz at iboaz@ameritech.net.

For our Prayers:

The joy of Anne Bishop and Scott Russell’s wedding (August 20th);
For those in the midst of illness or other concerns for family, friends, or self;
For those who are walking through a season of grief;
Areas of the world suffering from extreme heat, drought, floods, and wildfires;
The country of Ukraine and all war-torn lands.



CHURCH STAFF

- Rev. Jeff Lehn
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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.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

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