



Jan Richardson, "Shall Come Home with Joy"

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE
Sunday, October 23rd, 2022
Commitment Sunday
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
10:00 am Worship Service in the Sanctuary

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 Hour

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 for October Ignatian Imaginative Contemplation

Ignatian contemplation is a way of praying with a gospel story. In the second week of Ignatius' Exercises, practitioners accompany Jesus through his life by entering scenes in the Gospels imaginatively. After reading the story, go back and visualize it as if you were really there. Craft in your mind's eye the small details: sights, smells, colors, feelings, tastes, oddities. Become lost in the story, and place yourself there. Ignatius believed that through this kind of imaginative contemplation, the Holy Spirit makes the mystery of Jesus' life present for us in a way that is meaningful now. Use your imagination to dig deeper into the story, so that God may communicate with you in a personal, evocative way.

Learn more at ignatianspirituality.com and *The Ignatian Adventure* by Kevin O'Brien, SJ.



Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God, by Mary and Bill Watt in celebration of the life of Jane Mahoney Hill, Mary's mother.

Order of Worship
Sunday, October 23rd, 2022
10:00 am Sanctuary

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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Jeff Lehn, Preaching
Joyce Knauff, Liturgist
Peggy Massello, Director of Music
Hyejin Joo, Pianist
Chancel Choir
Chancel Bells

BELL PRELUDE - *Cantad al Señor*

Brazilian Folk Song, arr. Kevin McChesney

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 108)

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples,
and we will sing praises to you among the nations.

Our hearts are steadfast, O God.

We will sing and make melody.

For your steadfast love is higher than the heavens,
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens,
and let your glory be over all the earth!

***OPENING HYMN NO. 637** - *O Sing to the Lord*

CANTAD AL SEÑOR

CALL TO CONFESSION

The God revealed to us through scripture is a merciful and loving God, who directs us to love one another as Christ has loved us. We gather to ask God's help in removing all barriers to that love.

Come now to confess all that separates you from others, from God, and even from your true self.

Let us begin with silent prayer... And now let us pray in unison:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Loving God, we come before you in need of your mercy and forgiveness.

We've been reluctant to face the central sins of our lives.

We settle for confessing those things we really don't mind changing.

Or, sometimes we go through the motions, of confessing the systemic sins of our society, without feeling any genuine responsibility for them. Our common confession in worship can be for us a routine that we endure, that leaves us unchanged. Forgive us, Lord.

Help us to seek in earnest to become the people you have created and called us to be.

Help us to recognize and accept the cost of discipleship. Help us to be honest with ourselves and with you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

With the sound of water pouring into the baptismal font, we are reminded of the eternal promises of our faith. So, let us fear not, sisters and brothers, God, who is full of grace and abounding in steadfast love, meets us in our sin and transforms us for God's glory and the healing of God's world. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven, be now at peace.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

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.)

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 CHORAL RESPONSE - *This is Where Children Belong*

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.

Water, God's word, bread and cup, prayer and song;

This is where children belong.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, help us to experience the truth that the Bible is not just ancient literature, but is your living Word. Speak to us through these stories of our ancestors in faith. Weave your stories into our own, so that we will recognize our place in your plan for the world, and the place that you desire to have in our lives. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READINGS - Psalm 98 and Philippians 4:4-9

Psalm 98:

Sing to the Lord a new song because he has done wonderful things!

His own strong hand and his own holy arm have won the victory!

The Lord has made his salvation widely known; he has revealed his righteousness

in the eyes of all the nations. God has remembered his loyal love

and faithfulness to the house of Israel; every corner of the earth has seen our God's salvation.

Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth! Be happy! Rejoice out loud! Sing your praises!

Sing your praises to the Lord with the lyre—with the lyre and the sound of music.

With trumpets and a horn blast, shout triumphantly before the Lord, the king!

Let the sea and everything in it roar; the world and all its inhabitants too.

Let all the rivers clap their hands; let the mountains sing together for joy

because he is coming to establish justice on the earth!

He will establish justice in the world rightly; he will establish justice among all people fairly.

Philippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I say, rejoice! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise. Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.

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

SONG OF RESPONSE - *If Not Now

Carrie Newcomer

(chorus) If not now, tell me when. If not now, tell me when.

We may never see this moment, or place in time again

If not now, if not now, tell me when.

I see sorrow and trouble in this land. I see sorrow and trouble in this land

Although there will be struggle we'll make the change we can.

If not now, If not now, tell me when. *(chorus)*

I may never see the Promised Land.

I may never see the Promised Land.

And yet we'll take the journey

And walk it hand in hand

If not now, If not now, tell me when. *(chorus)*

So we'll work it til it's done

Every daughter, every son,

Every soul that ever longed for something better,

Something brighter.

It will take a change of heart for this to mend.

It will take a change of heart for this to mend.

But miracles do happen every shining now and then

If not now, tell me when? *(chorus)*

And, miracles do happen every shining now and then.

If not not, if not now tell me when

If not not, if not now tell me when

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.

OFFERTORY BELL ANTHEM *Praise His Name in the Dance*

Derek K. Hakes

CALL FOR OFFERING

God has abundantly blessed us, and God calls us to be a community that extends that blessing to others through the sharing of our love, our talents, and our material resources. We have many ways to serve, and multiple ways to make a financial contribution - please consult your bulletin or the slide on your screen. Let us bring God our offerings with joy, and with gratitude for all the ways in which God lovingly cares for us.

2023 STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION - "Together for Joy"

***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)

Loving God, there is nothing we can offer you that even begins to compare with all that you give to us. So we come humbly before you, and offer you what we can - our praise, our thanks, our devotion, and a small portion of our worldly resources. Make our offering acceptable in your sight this morning, Lord. Use it to further your purposes, within our world and within us. Help us to grow as Christ's disciples so that we offer our very lives as a holy and living offering to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN NO. 716** - *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

BEACH SPRING

***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.

***RESPONSIVE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor: God has shown us what is good. What does the Lord require of us but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God?

Liturgist: To do justice in our community, in our workplaces, and in our world.

Congregation: Even when justice is inconvenient, is met with resistance, and requires sacrifice.

Pastor: To love kindness expressed in acts both big and small,

Congregation: And to people of all races, abilities, ages, and beliefs.

Liturgist: To walk humbly with our God in all the circumstances of our lives,

Congregation: With praise and gratitude in our hearts.

Pastor: And may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

POSTLUDE - *Impromptu*

David Lasky

Everyone is invited to stay for Fellowship Time in the Lounge following worship
Coffee, Cookies, and Lemonade!

Sources: Call to Worship, Confession Call and Prayer; Prayer of Illumination, Call and Prayer for the Offering, and Responsive Charge and Benediction - written by Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski for First Pres Wilmette fall 2022 worship season. Assurance of Forgiveness - *Pastrix*, reported by Bolz-Weber as being said by a pastor at a church she attended



Our Common Life

Week of October 23rd, 2022



STEWARDSHIP 2023

Our Giving Team is excited to share that the stewardship theme for 2023 is **“Together for Joy.”** This theme invites us to experience joy in this tumultuous season of our personal and communal lives. We invite you to join us in giving thanks for all of the resources – spiritual, theological, physical and financial – that support this indispensable work. Commitment Sunday is today as we celebrate our financial commitments and thank God for them and for all the gifts that are shared.



TOWER, THE SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP, is selling Christmas wreaths again this year and for the first time, you can buy them online or in person! Tower will be selling wreaths after worship in the narthex at a clearly marked festive table for the next two Sundays (10/23, 10/30). If you would like to purchase a wreath in person, stop by the table or email Scott McElhenie (youth@fpcw.org), and please note that the last day to buy wreaths in person is October 31.

There is a larger variety and cheaper prices for wreaths bought in person and they can be picked up at the church on the Sunday after Thanksgiving (11/27). If you would prefer to buy wreaths online, they will be shipped directly to you and can be found at this website: GiftItForward.com make sure to use code FIRSTPIL001 to support Tower Senior High Youth Group or us the QR Code.



FIELD TRIP TO EVANSTON - Join other members of the FPCW congregation on **Sunday afternoon, October 23** for a field trip to Evanston's Northminster Presbyterian Church to view an exhibit of works by local artist Jevoid Simmons. Simmons is a painter and woodcarver, who works primarily in the folk/primitive style. Through his art and written narrative, he has documented his family's history in a series of 20 paintings which are on display at the Evanston church through the end of October. The exhibit is open on

Sunday afternoons from 1-3 pm. Members of the FPCW Racial Justice Committee are planning to meet there at 1 pm and we hope others will choose to join us. Questions? Contact Mary Watt at mhw1117@gmail.com.



Beyond the Offering Plate

NEW ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS:

“Beyond the Offering Plate: A Holistic Approach to Stewardship”
Sundays, 8:45-9:45 am, Oct. 23 – Nov. 20

Join Pastor Jeff this fall as we study five chapters from the recent book, “Beyond the Offering Plate: A Holistic Approach to Stewardship,” edited by Adam Copeland. (1) time; (2) money; (3) body; (4) community; and (5) work. Each week, we’ll dive into different aspects of stewardship with the lens of our faith: (1) time; (2) money; (3) body; (4) community; and (5) work. Scanned copies of the chapters we’ll discuss this week are available, but not required to read ahead of time. The class will meet in person in the Lounge and virtually via Zoom for 5 weeks on Sundays: Oct. 23 – Nov. 20, 8:45-9:45 am. Zoom Link; Meeting ID: 840 3593 7190; Password: 815640



Adam J. Copeland, editor
Foreword by Dorothy C. Bass

OUR CALL TO RACIAL JUSTICE: *Every Voice Heard*

As midterm elections approach, it is a good time to remind ourselves of the privilege and responsibility we have as members of a democratic nation to vote. Unfortunately, equitable access to voting rights continues to be denied to many people in our country. Please take some time in the coming weeks to learn about how suppressed voices can be lifted to ensure everyone can practice their right to vote. Please checkout the Racial Justice page on our website to learn more about this importance concern.



CONNECT, GROW, SHARE – Adult Groups at First Pres 2022-2023

Our adult group ministry strives to encourage all members to be a part of this wonderful way to grow in faith. We'd love to see you at one of our small group gatherings! More information on our church website's Small Group page.

STUDY, BOOK, AND DISCUSSION GROUPS

Adult Faith Formation – Sundays 8:45-9:45 am, Upper Room, Led by Rev. Jeff Lehn

Join any Sunday for lively discussion on current study series. jlehn@fpcw.org

Bible Study – Every Thursday 10:00-11:00 am, Church Lounge, Led by Rev. Jeff Lehn

How does the Bible inform our daily lives? Contact: Bonnie Wehrenberg bwherbie007@att.net

Book Group – 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 pm (October 19th) – Church Lounge

Members take turns leading a book discussion. Hosted by Joyce Knauff joyce@jckassociates.com

FELLOWSHIP AND MEAL GROUPS

Lunch Hour Loop Group – 1st Wednesday at Noon – Zoom, Hosted by Rev. Jeff Lehn

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 – and you are always free to eat your lunch while we meet! Contact Pastor Jeff for the Zoom link.

[Jlehn@fpcw.org](mailto:jlehn@fpcw.org)

Senior Supper Club – Next gathering: Tuesday, October 18th, 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 bwherbie007@att.net

WOMEN'S GROUPS

Slowing Time for Women – Next Gathering: Wed. Oct. 26th, 7-8:30 pm, Upper Room

Group member will share article/poem about our relationship with Time - Chronos-Human Time/Productivity focus and Kairos-God's Time/Fruitfulness focus.

Contact: Marcia Baylin marciabaylin3101@comcast.net

Lunch Group for Women – 2nd Wednesday, 11:30 am, Church Lounge

Each month a member takes the responsibility to lead the discussion. Nancy Freeman coordinates

njwfreeman@gmail.com. Next gathering will be on Wednesday, October 12th.

Westminster Place "Spoke" – 1st Thursday 10:00-11:00 am in-person and via phone conference

The group meets in a member's home at Westminster Place and follows a provided study guide with discussion facilitated by Rev. Laura Sherwood. Anne Menard (amenard4347@yahoo.com) coordinates this group.

MEN'S GROUPS

Men's Hour – Meets year-round, Thursdays at 7 pm in the Upper Room

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 – Saturday mornings (8-9:30 am)* in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center

Meets October – June. We gather for breakfast and then listen to an interesting program. All are welcome any Saturday. If you have questions or would like to join our mail list, please contact Steve Reinhart steve.reinhart@gmail.com.

PARENT GROUPS

Parents of High School Youth (POHSY) – Meets several times a year in member's home or at the

Church 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.

Weekly and Monthly Parent Fellowship Groups – Contact: Rev. Laura Sherwood lsherwood@fpcw.org

Wednesdays 5:00-6:00 pm in the Green Room during Mid-Week Meetup for PreK-4th Graders

1st Sunday 8:45 am-9:45 am in the Upper Room

Coming Soon: College Parent Fellowship

Calendar for the week of October 23rd, 2022

Sunday, October 23rd - Tower Senior High Youth Wreath Sale After Worship

8:45 am	Jr. High Youth class	Yellow Room (2nd floor)
	Middle High Youth Class	Red Room (2nd floor)
	Adult Faith Formation	Lounge/Zoom
9:55 am	Livestream Worship	YouTube
10:00 am	In-person Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Children's Chapel	Chapel
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Youth Group	Tower
6:00 pm	Tower Senior High Dinner	WMFC

Monday, October 24th

7:00 pm	Troop 5	WMFC
8:30 pm	Crew 5	Yellow Room

Tuesday, October 25th

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Lounge
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Wednesday, October 26th

5:00 pm	Midweek Meetup	Fellowship Garden
	Parent Fellowship	Green Room
6:00 pm	Church Family Dinner	WMFC
7:00 pm	Slowing Time Women's Group	Lounge
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	Music Room

Thursday, October 27th

10:00 am	Bible Study (Lounge)	In-person/Zoom
7:00 pm	APNC* (Upper Room)	In-person/Zoom
	Men's Hour	Lounge
7:45 pm	Chancel Bells	Music Room

Friday, October 28th

No meetings scheduled

Saturday, October 29th

8:00 am	Men's Council	WMFC
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Sunday, October 30th

8:45 am	Jr. High Youth class	Yellow Room (2nd floor)
	Middle High Youth Class	Red Room (2nd floor)
	Adult Faith Formation	Lounge/Zoom
9:55 am	Livestream Worship	YouTube
10:00 am	In-person Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Children's Chapel	Chapel
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Youth Group	Tower
6:00 pm	Tower Senior High Dinner	WMFC

WMFC = Wallace Moore Fellowship Center
APNC = Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

Joy and Celebration:

- Beautiful fall weather

Prayers of Care and Concern:

- **Jenn Mullman**, recovering from surgery,
- **Steve Reinhart**, recovering from surgery,
- All areas of the world suffering from recent hurricanes and extreme weather,
- The country of Ukraine and all war-torn lands.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) -

<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-ian/>



— *Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Gabriel Wisdom*

HURRICANE IAN

PDA is working with affected presbyteries and international partners to assess the aftermath of Hurricane Ian and offer resources and support. Emergency grants have been disbursed and National Response Team members are deployed.

As people of faith, we stand ready to partner with presbyteries, congregations and communities to meet the immediate and long-term needs. To support this response, designate gifts to DR000194

CHURCH STAFF

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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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