



Jan Richardson, "End and Beginning"

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE
Sunday, November 20, 2022
Christ the King Sunday
10:00 am Worship Service in the Sanctuary
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 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: Intercessory Prayer **Praying for People and Challenging Situations**

Give yourself a few moments to breathe and become quiet in God's presence. Allow yourself the gift of enjoying the presence of God for your own soul's sake, and rest for a while in the familiarity and intimacy of your friendship with God. Then, as you are ready, allow God to bring others to your heart and mind—any person or situation that is of concern to you, someone who has asked for your prayers, any person or group of persons who has been harsh or critical or complaining, any situation that is causing you stress or requires wisdom. Imagine God asking you, “Is it okay for us to invite this person to join us (*or* for us to look at this situation together)?

If you are able to say yes, welcome that person into the space where you and God are communing, and be with that person (or situation) in God's presence. Listen for the prayer (the desire, the groaning) the Holy Spirit is already praying for that person or situation. Ask God, “How can I join you in that prayer?” See if there is anything God is inviting you to offer to that person or situation out of that prayer. Do not force or push for anything. If nothing comes, continue to rest in God relative to that situation. If wisdom or a next step does come, determine that you will respond faithfully as God makes your way clear.

If you notice resistance to inviting a person or situation into the time that you and God are sharing, feel free to tell God, “No, I'm not ready,” and then pay attention to that together. Even your resistance can have a lot to tell you about what is really going on inside you relative to the person or situation.

Adapted from Ruth Haley Barton, *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry*



Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God, by the Jevelian/Lane family in loving memory of James Lee Lane.

Order of Worship
Sunday, November 20, 2022
10:00 am Sanctuary

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

Worship Leaders

Rev. Laura Sherwood, Preaching
Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski, Pastoral Liturgist
Craig Hutson, Liturgist
Peggy Massello, Music Director
Hyejin Joo, Pianist
Chancel Choir

PRELUDE - *A Suite for Thanksgiving*

John Ferguson

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. 336-** *We Gather Together*

KREMSER

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 RESPONSE - *This is Where Children Belong*

**This, this is where children belong; welcomed as part of the worshiping 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 - Ephesians 1:15-23 (pg. 192 In the New Testament)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON - *Eyes of the Heart*

Rev. Laura Sherwood

HYMN OF REFLECTION NO. 452 (remain seated) - *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

OPEN THE EYES

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

**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 ANTHEM - *O Lord, You Are My God and King* (text based on Psalm 145:1-13)

C. Hubert Parry

CHURCH MEMBER TESTIMONY

Sal Karottki

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.

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. 643** - *Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

***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 Jeff (steps or Lectern) and Liturgist (pulpit)**

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.

Liturgist: 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 - *Postlude on NUN DANKET*

Charles Callahan

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 November 20, 2022

EXCITING UPDATE FROM THE APNC

The APNC is pleased to give a progress report on our search for a new Associate Pastor. In late August/early September, we connected with an outstanding candidate, who has a passion for Christ and the Good News, particularly as it relates to children and youth, among her many gifts and talents. Since that time, we have gone through a rigorous process to get to know her and mutually discern a call – a call that we discerned unanimously as an APNC. We have been grateful for guidance from the Holy Spirit throughout.

Last week, Session voted to call a congregational meeting for Sunday, January 8. Our Associate Pastor Candidate will preach during the worship service. After the service, the congregation will vote to determine if a call will be extended. Please **SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, January 8** for worship and a congregational meeting.

APNC wants you to know how excited we are about the candidate we are bringing forward. We appreciate her heart and her faith and the type of genuine commitment she is willing to make to FPCW and our work together. We feel truly blessed to have found her and we hope you will feel the same way. Thank you!



2023 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: A GREAT START!

So far, 61 households have submitted their pledge for our life and ministry together in 2023. That's a great start! Thank you for your commitment and generosity to FPCW - every gift of every size matters. If you haven't yet submitted your pledge and are able to do so in the coming days, it will allow the Session to plan for our 2023 budget. You can mail a pledge card to the church office, submit one in worship on Sunday or pledge online. Thank you for your past support of FPCW, whether it has been financial, elbow grease or any other method of showing support. You have helped us weather the pandemic and to grow into who we are and who God desires us to be. We are grateful to be "together for joy" with you!

OUR CALL TO RACIAL JUSTICE: *Racial Microaggressions*



Have you ever heard the term “death by a thousand cuts?” This is a metaphor for the racial microaggressions aimed at people of color constantly and continually throughout their lives. The term microaggression is defined as “an instance of indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group such as a racial or ethnic minority.” Studies show that the macro impact of mi-

croaggressions can “increase stress in the lives of people of color, lower emotional well-being, increase depression and negative feelings, assail the mental health of recipients, impede learning and problem-solving, impair employee performance and take a heavy toll on the physical well-being of targets.(1)” Learning how to recognize, acknowledge and stop microaggressions is a way we can show love and compassion to those around us. Please check out our website or the Daily Bread to access the links.

Learn:

[Microaggressions Explained](#)

(1) [Microaggressions: Death by a Thousand Cuts](#)

Advocate:

[Examples of Racial Microaggressions](#)

Activate:

[Responding to Microaggressions](#)

WINTER CLOTHES FOR REFUGEES

Our friends at World Relief have a need for **winter clothes** for adult refugees/immigrants coming to Chicago. For the long winter ahead, they will need children and adult winter clothing which includes, **hats, scarves, gloves, coats and boots**. FPCW had a successful winter clothing drive for World Relief in the fall of 2016 and members were very generous in their donations. We will have a drop-off location near the Narthex for the next several weeks to accommodate your gifts. Your participation in this request is greatly appreciated.



GIVING TREE 2022

Please help us give the children and families of The Erie House and Family Promise a happy holiday by purchasing a gift from their wish list off of FPCW's "Giving Tree". Just visit our tree outside the office, select one of the hanging tags with someone's gift wish on it, write your name on the bottom of tag and leave it in the basket so we know who is providing that gift, and return UNWRAPPED gift by Sunday, November 27th to the boxes outside office! Any questions, please call Jenni Holt at 630-887-6505.



POINSETTIAS

Help beautify the church during Advent season by buying a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or in appreciation of a special person. The cost is \$15 per plant. Order forms are available in your Sunday bulletin and the church office. Orders are due in the church office by **Wednesday, November 23rd.**



USHER IN ADVENT WITH...

Advent Lessons & Carols service
Sunday, December 4, 2021, 4:00 pm
Followed by our traditional Wassail Party
NOTE: there will be no 10:00 am worship service this day!



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

After a two-year hiatus, we are delighted to be presenting a live Christmas pageant again this year on **Sunday, December 18 at 10 am!**
Our rehearsals will be Wednesdays 11/30, 12/7, and 12/14 from 5-6 pm, and a dress rehearsal Saturday 12/17 from 9-11 am.
If your child would like to be in the pageant please email Lindley Traynor (ltraynor@fpcw.org) or Peggy (pmassello@fpcw.org) by 11/20, including any conflicts you have with the rehearsal schedule.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!

If you would like a wreath but have not purchased one already, you are in luck! Tower still has a limited number of wreaths available for purchase and delivery is expected during the week of Thanksgiving. Wreaths can be picked up on Sunday, November 27, or delivered to your home. There are some centerpieces in stock that make great gifts for the holidays. If you are interested in purchasing a wreath, please contact [Scott McElhenie](#) or speak with him in person on Sunday. Get your wreaths while supplies last!



From Generation to Generation... An Advent Devotional

Art, Poetry and Reflections for the Season of Advent.

"From Generation to Generation... reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions and stories are interconnected and woven together. May you remember that you belong to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go."

The devotional is available for you in the narthex please feel free to take one.

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, Lounge, 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 (December 21st) – 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, Jan. 17th, 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: Tues., December 13, 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, December 14th.

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 Lounge

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 Irris 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
November 20th, 2022**

Sunday, November 20th - Christ the King Sunday

8:45 am	Jr. High Youth class Middle High Youth Class Adult Faith Formation	Yellow Room (2nd floor) Red Room (2nd floor) Lounge/Zoom
9:45am	Nursery Care available —11:15am (ages 0-3)	Nursery
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 Youth Group Dinner	WMFC

Monday, November 21st

	Tower Senior High Youth Wreath Delivery	
7:30 pm	Troop 5	WMFC
8:30 pm	Crew 5	Yellow Room

Tuesday, November 22nd

No meetings scheduled

Wednesday, November 23rd

7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	Music Room
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Thursday, November 24th

Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 25th

Church Office Closed

Tower Senior High Youth Wreath Delivery

Saturday, November 26th

No meetings scheduled

Sunday, November 27th - 1st Sunday of Advent

8:45 am	Jr. High Youth class Middle High Youth Class	Yellow Room (2nd floor) Red Room (2nd floor)
9:45am	Nursery Care available - 11:15am (ages 0-3)	Nursery
9:55 am	Livestream Worship	YouTube
10:00 am	In-person Worship Service	Sanctuary
	Children's Chapel	Chapel
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
	Tower Senior High Youth Wreath Pickup	WMFC
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Youth Group Bowling Party	Wilmette Bowl

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

Joy and Celebration:

- **Thanksgiving** travels, reunions, time with family and friends. Gratitude for a bounty and beauty.

Prayers of Care and Concern:

- **Royce Eckhardt** - as he recovers from a sever case of RSV virus,
- **Jenn Mullman**, recovering from surgery in October,
- All areas of the world suffering from recent hurricanes and extreme weather,
- 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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