



Jyoti Sahi, *Resurrection* (2007)



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE**

**Sunday, April 9th, 2023**

**Easter Sunday**

*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. No matter what's happening in our lives or in the life of the world, we will continue to be agents of God's love. We will keep growing as followers of Christ. We will keep loving and listening to our neighbors. We will continue praying for one another. 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—also see the QR code later in this Bulletin to give online.
- Join us after worship for Fellowship Hour in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center (lower level).

We're so glad to be worshipping with you in person and online!

With gratitude in Christ,

### **Spiritual Practice: Hope**

This Lent, we focused on the theme of hope, using the recent book by MaryAnn McKibben Dana as our guide, “Hope: A User’s Manual.”

Hope is a potent spiritual practice with the power to pull us through difficult times. It is usually described with light metaphors — a ray, a beam, a glimmer of hope; the break in the clouds; the light at the end of the dark tunnel. It is often discovered in unexpected places.

The posture of hope can be learned with practice. Certain attitudes support it. One is patience, an ability to tolerate delays, a willingness to let events unfold in their own time. The other is courage, an attitude of confidence even when facing the unknown. A third is persistence, the determination to keep going no matter what happens. We have hope when we can say, all will be well, and we mean it.

There are many faithful ways to embody hope in different seasons of our lives. How might you lean into this spiritual practice more intentionally?

*Adapted from [spiritualityandpractice.com](http://spiritualityandpractice.com)*

Join us after worship in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center.  
Cookies, coffee and lemonade will be served.

**WORSHIP LEADERS:**

\*PLEASE STAND

Rev. Jeff Lehn, Preaching

Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein, Pastoral Liturgist

Carol Moss, Liturgist (9:00)

Dick Schroeder, Liturgist (11:00)

Peggy Massello, Music Director

Wonee Kim, Piano

Chancel Choir

Brass Quintet: Steven William Ehrhardt & Samantha Kovach, trumpets; Sarah Fleming, French horn; Adam

McLimans, trombone; Nick Collins, tuba

**PRELUDE** - *Music for Brass and Organ*

**WELCOME AND COMMON LIFE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Joyful is the sound we make this morning! For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.

**Thankful is the song we sing! For this day moves us past bewilderment and despair.**

Hopeful is the prayer on our lips! For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.

**Jesus promised, "I will be with you always, even to the end of the age."**

The tomb is empty, light has extinguished darkness, and new creation has dawned.

**The living Christ is with us here and now, at this hour, in these pews, setting us free to love and serve.**

Friends, Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 232** - *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*, verses 1, 2 & 4

EASTER HYMN

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

When the women first encountered the empty tomb and the risen Christ, they were flabbergasted. "How could this be?" they wondered. They were afraid, yet they summoned their faith. They were doubtful, yet they persevered. In the same spirit, let us confess our brokenness, yet strive for our Easter faith, first in silent prayer.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

**Gracious and gritty God, even as we sing of Christ's resurrection and the promise of new life, we know things are not the way they are supposed to be in your world. We have hurt ourselves and others. We have chased after appearance, affluence, and achievement. We have missed the life that is truly life. We have been complicit in hoarding more than our share. Please forgive us. Please empower us. Open up a new and hopeful future. Invade our hearts and lives with your self-giving love and transform us into new people. We are yours, now and always. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Christ is alive and all things are being made new! Because of Christ, the old is gone and the new has come. Because of Christ, grace is really true. Because of Christ, reconciliation is possible. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

**Christ is risen! Thanks be to God.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (Hymn No. 233, verse 1)

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it abroad,  
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,  
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Let us pray together in unison for the illumination of the Holy Spirit.

**God of all life, we come to worship on Easter morning eager to hear the old and familiar words of hope. Save us from letting those words fall too soft and easy because they are so familiar. Like the lilies before us, may we open our hearts wide to hear them fresh. We don't ask them to be emptied of mystery. We ask only that we might stand under their wonder. In Christ our risen Lord, we pray. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Matthew 28:1-10 (pg. 33 in the New Testament)

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

**SERMON** - "Hope Beyond Hope"

Rev. Jeff Lehn

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 248** - *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

HYMN TO JOY

**Affirmation of Faith** (drawn from 1 Corinthians 15)

**This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand,  
and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast;  
that Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures,  
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,  
that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter,  
and to the twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.  
Christ is alive, the first and the last,  
the one who defeated death a long time ago  
and who gives new life to all today. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**CALL FOR OFFERING**



Give online here

*We invite you to give via our church website [www.fpcw.org](http://www.fpcw.org) (see QR code), our smartphone app,  
or by sending a check to the church office. An offering plate is also available in the Narthex.  
We are grateful for your generosity!*

**ANTHEM** - *Alleluia*

Randall Thompson

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - THE DOXOLOGY** (LASST UNS ERFREUNEN)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Abundant God, we know it is more blessed to give than to receive. You are the absolute owner of all things and we are stewards of your gifts for a time. It's our joy to return a portion of what you've entrusted to us. May our gifts do awesome things in your world, for the last, the lost, and the least, things only you can imagine. All we have is yours this Easter. We are yours. Amen.

**\*HYMN - *Hallelujah Chorus*** from Messiah

G. F. Handel

(a copy can be found in your pew rack—please return at the conclusion of the service)

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE - *Music from Brass and Organ***



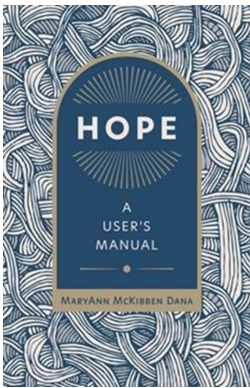
**Our Common Life**  
**Week of April 9th, 2023**



**Family Promise April 16-23**

First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette and Congregation Sukkat Shalom will again partner to host families from Family Promise at First Pres the week of **April 16-23**.

We continue to seek volunteers to cook and serve dinner, spend the night at church, or help with set up and clean up. Sign up online (email [office@fpcw.org](mailto:office@fpcw.org) to request a link to the online sign up page) or call the church office for more information.



**Adult Faith Formation Class: "Hope: A User's Manual"**

Join us on **Sunday, April 16** between **8:45 and 9:45 am** when Pastor Jeff will conclude our study series on the theme of hope using "Hope: A User's Manual," the recent book by author MaryAnn McKibben Dana. No pre-reading required; just come and grow with us as we together seek to wrestle with what hope is, what it is not, and to find it even in hopeless times. The hybrid class will meet in the Lounge and on Zoom (Meeting ID 840 3593 7190; Password 815640).

A new class will begin **Sunday, April 23**; information coming soon.



**Chancel Choir Offering "Gospel Mass" by Robert Ray**

On **Sunday, April 23** our Chancel Choir will offer Robert Ray's Gospel Mass as the proclamation of the word during Worship. Join us for this celebration of the sounds and rhythms of gospel music.

Members of the Mission Committee and the Buildings and Grounds Committee recently delivered a church member's large furniture contribution to the Deerfield Free Store (DFS), an organization at Holy Cross Church of Deerfield that supplies household goods to refugees. DFS could not accept a large china cabinet, now located in our church's east lobby, nor will any other recipient of furniture donations we've contacted. If you know where this piece might find a home, please email your suggestion to Greg Korak ([greg.korak@gmail.com](mailto:greg.korak@gmail.com)).





## Racial Justice Pilgrimage November 2 through 5

In November, First Pres Wilmette will be sponsor a racial justice pilgrimage to a number of important historic civil rights sites in Birmingham, Selma and Montgomery, Alabama. While specific plans for the pilgrimage are still in the development stage, the itinerary will likely include the Edmund Pettis Bridge in Selma; the Legacy Museum, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the Civil Rights Museum in Montgomery; the Civil Rights Memorial, and the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

The tour will begin in Birmingham on Thursday morning, November 2 and end back in Birmingham on Sunday, November 5. Travel arrangements include direct flights from/to O'Hare or carpooling with other participants if that is preferred.

Cost of the trip is estimated to be around \$2000 per person...although costs are yet to be finalized. **A \$500 deposit is required by April 15 to hold your place in the tour group.**

If you have questions or would like more information about the tour, please contact Mary Watt at [mhw1117@gmail.com](mailto:mhw1117@gmail.com) or reach out to another member of the Racial Justice Committee...and mark your calendars to save the **dates of November 2-5.**



### Racial Justice Pilgrimage: The Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama

For months, the efforts of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) to register Black voters in the county seat of Selma had been thwarted. In January 1965, Martin Luther King, Jr., came to the city and gave the backing of the Southern Christian Leadership Council (SCLC) to the cause.

Peaceful demonstrations in Selma and surrounding communities resulted in the arrests of thousands, including King, who wrote to the New York Times, "This is Selma, Alabama. There are more negroes in jail with me than there are on the voting rolls."

In response, civil rights leaders planned to take their cause directly to Alabama Governor George Wallace on a 54-mile march from Selma to the state capital of Montgomery. Although Wallace ordered state troopers "to use whatever measures are necessary to prevent a march," approximately 600 voting rights advocates set out from the Brown Chapel AME Church on Sunday, March 7, 1965.

As often said, the rest is history. The Edmund Pettus Bridge is one the key sites of the civil rights movement that the Racial Justice Pilgrimage will visit in November of this year. Join us and hear from knowledgeable guides the story of this place.

If you would like more information about the **November 2-5 Racial Justice Pilgrimage**, please contact Mary Watt [mhw1117@gmail.com](mailto:mhw1117@gmail.com) or reach out to another member of the Racial Justice Committee.



### Tower Benefit Dinner

Mark your calendar for this year's Tower Benefit Dinner on **Sunday, May 21 at 5:00 pm** in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. Reservations and event details available soon.

## **CONNECT, GROW, SHARE – Adult Groups at First Pres 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. Contact Jeff Lehn [jlehn@fpcw.org](mailto:jlehn@fpcw.org).

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

How does the Bible inform our daily lives? Contact Bonnie Wehrenberg [bwherbie007@att.net](mailto:bwherbie007@att.net).

#### **Book Group – 3rd Wednesday (April 19th), 7:00 pm, Lounge**

The April book is "A Yellow Raft In Blue Water" by Michael Dorris. Members take turns leading the book discussion. Joyce Knauff ([joyce@jckassociates.com](mailto:joyce@jckassociates.com)) hosts this group.

### **FELLOWSHIP AND MEAL GROUPS**

#### **Lunch Hour Loop Group – 1st Wednesday, 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 Jeff Lehn [jlehn@fpcw.org](mailto:jlehn@fpcw.org).

#### **Senior Supper Club – 3rd Tuesday (April 18th), 5:30 pm, 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](mailto:bwherbie007@att.net).

### **WOMEN'S GROUPS**

#### **Slowing Time for Women – Wednesday, April 26, 7:00-8:30 pm, Lounge**

A group member will share an article or poem about our relationship with Time - Chronos-Human Time/ Productivity focus and Kairos-God's Time/Fruitfulness focus. Snacks provided by members. Contact Marcia Baylin [marciabaylin3101@comcast.net](mailto:marciabaylin3101@comcast.net).

#### **Lunch Group for Women – 2nd Wednesday (April 12th), 11:30 am, Lounge**

Each month a member leads the discussion. Nancy Freeman ([njwfreeman@gmail.com](mailto:njwfreeman@gmail.com)) coordinates this group.

#### **Westminster Place "Spoke" – 3rd Wednesday, 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. Kara Smith-Laubenstein. Anne Menard ([amenard4347@yahoo.com](mailto:amenard4347@yahoo.com)) coordinates this group.

### **MEN'S GROUPS**

#### **Men's Hour – Every Thursday, 7:00 pm, Lounge**

Men's Hour consists of a brief group reading, a silent five-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! Contact Paul Traynor [paultraynor@haymoon.com](mailto:paultraynor@haymoon.com).

#### **Men's Council – Every Saturday, 8:00-9:30 am, Lounge**

Meets October through June. Participants gather for breakfast and then listen to an interesting program. All are welcome any Saturday. Contact Steve Reinhart [steve.reinhart@gmail.com](mailto:steve.reinhart@gmail.com).

**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 join together to lend support to one another. Contact Irris Boaz [iboaz@ameritech.net](mailto:iboaz@ameritech.net).



## Calendar for the week of April 9th, 2023

### Sunday, April 9th

8:45 am	Nursery Care ages Birth-3yrs during worship	Nursery
8:55 am	Livestream Worship	YouTube
9:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
10:00 am	Fellowship Hour	WMFC
11:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Fellowship Hour	WMFC

### Monday, April 10th

Church holiday; office closed		
11:30 am	Pierian	WMFC
7:00 pm	Troop 5	WMFC
7:30 pm	Troop 5 Kuehl Board Meeting	Upper Room
8:30 pm	Crew 5	Yellow Room

### Tuesday, April 11th

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Lounge
12:30 pm	Racial Justice Committee Meeting	Zoom
7:00 pm	Webelos Pack5 Meeting	WMFC

### Wednesday, April 12th

5:00 pm	Midweek Meetup	WMFC
6:00 pm	Church Family Dinner	WMFC
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir	Music Room

### Thursday, April 13th

10:00 am	Bible Study	Lounge
7:00 pm	Men's Hour	Lounge
7:00 pm	Webelos Pack 5 Meeting	WMFC
7:45 pm	Chancel Bells	Music Room

### Friday, April 14th

No events scheduled

### Saturday, April 15th

8:00 am	Men's Council	Lounge
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### Sunday, April 16th

8:45 am	Adult Faith Formation	Lounge/Zoom
8:45 am	Middle School Youth Class	Yellow Room
8:45 am	Junior High Youth Class	Red Room
9:45 am	Nursery Care ages Birth-3yrs during worship	Nursery
9:55 am	Livestream Worship	YouTube
10:00 am	In-person Worship	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Children's Chapel	Chapel
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Lounge
2:30 pm	Girl Scouts Meeting	WMFC
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Fellowship	Tower

WMFC = Wallace Moore Fellowship Center

## **For Our Prayers**

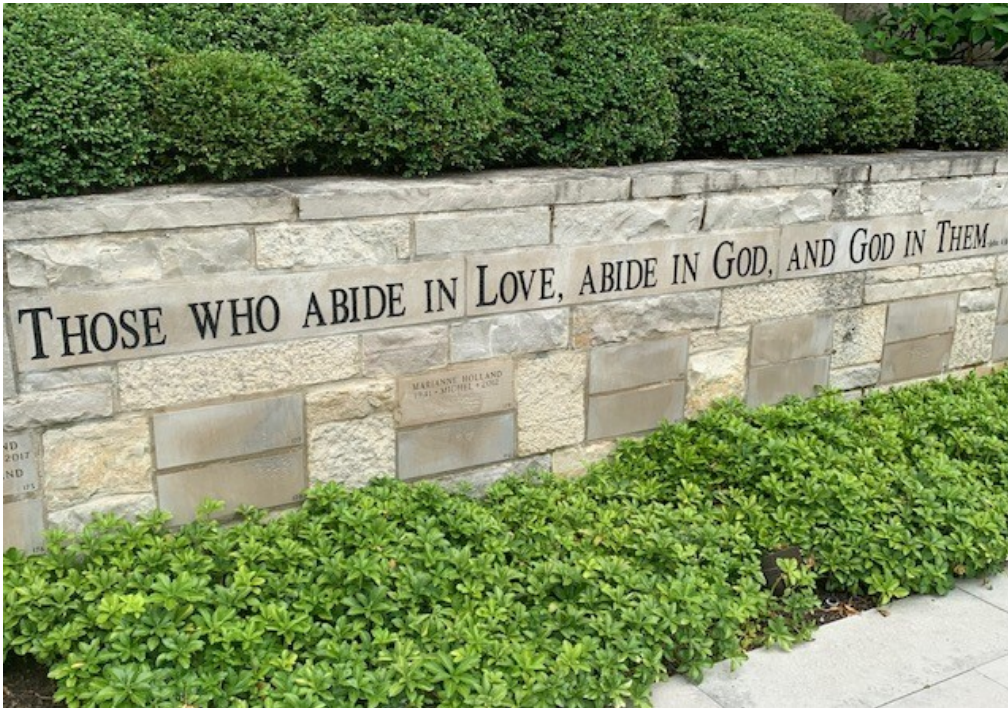
Please pray for those in the midst of illness, walking through a season of grief, or homebound and unable to join us this day.

Pray for the family of Bob Dunn, beloved and longtime church member, who died on March 23rd.

Pray for the family of Maryanne Raveret who died in Moraga, California on March 28th.

For those experiencing war, extreme weather and natural disasters:

- In the war-torn country of Ukraine;
- After Tropical Cyclone Freddy in Malawi; and
- Following severe storms in the southern Plains.



## **CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Jeff Lehn  
*Senior Pastor*  
[jlehn@fpcw.org](mailto:jlehn@fpcw.org) ext. 101

Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein  
*Associate Pastor*  
[ksmithlaubenstein@fpcw.org](mailto:ksmithlaubenstein@fpcw.org) ext. 102

Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski  
*Parish Associate for Congregational Care*  
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Peggy Massello  
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Lindley Traynor  
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Ethan Holtermann  
*Livestream Engineer*  
[ethanholtermann1@gmail.com](mailto:ethanholtermann1@gmail.com)

## **OFFICE HOURS**

9am-5pm (Tuesday -Thursday)

9am-3:30pm (Friday)

## EASTER FLOWERS IN APPRECIATION

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee Members .....	Kara Smith-Laubenstein
Chancel Choir.....	Amy Russell
Lolly Dominski.....	Amy Russell
First Pres Wilmette Congregation .....	Jeff and Arianne Lehn
First Pres Wilmette Staff .....	Anonymous
Rev. Jeff Lehn .....	Anonymous
Peggy Massello .....	Carol Moss
Peggy Massello .....	Amy Russell
Peggy Massello .....	Western Family
Sharon Panzica .....	Amy Russell
Amy Russell (Daughter) .....	Melissa Rooks
Kara Smith-Laubenstein.....	Mary and Bill Watt
Bonnie Wehrenberg .....	Anonymous
Jane Western.....	Anonymous
Wilma and Jane Western .....	Peggy Massello

## EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY

Charles L. and Helen Aslaksen.....	Bob and Linda Malstrom
Charles M. Aslaksen .....	Bob and Linda Malstrom
Dr. Tom Braithwaite .....	Jeff and Arianne Lehn
Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Brocksbank.....	Nancy Fox
Bob and Marge Brumitt.....	Brumitt, Brown, and Scott Families
Josephine Conway .....	Steve and Leanne Reinhart
David Cox .....	Reese Cox Family
Gail and Fred Curry .....	Traynor Family
Corky and Eileen Evans; Bill Whitlock (Parents) .....	Cory, Catherine, Sybil, and Gordon Evans
W. W. Fox.....	Nancy Fox
Sarah Western Garvaglia .....	Western Family
David Graham.....	Heidel Graham and Brian Mason
Don and Darlyne Hariman .....	Robert Hariman
Signe Howell.....	Heidel Graham and Brian Mason
Edward and Josephine Kuhles .....	Joyce Knauff
Dorothy Larson .....	Steve and Leanne Reinhart
Linda Kuhles Lellingner.....	Joyce Knauff
Ethel Jane Mahoney (Mary's Grandmother) .....	Mary and Bill Watt
Bob and Betty Malstrom .....	Bob and Linda Malstrom
Jack Mason.....	Heidel Graham and Brian Mason
David and Suzanne McElvain; Richard Garrison Baer (Parents) .....	Rick and Diane Baer
James and Guyneth Mikesell .....	Bill and Guyneth Sharp
Lucy Montgomery .....	Anonymous
Anne Peterson.....	Traynor Family
Walter and Susan Reese.....	Reese Cox Family
Ruth, Newton, and Mary Rooks .....	Melissa Rooks
Bill, Joan, Janice, and Gary Sharp.....	Bill and Guyneth Sharp
Dorothy Smith .....	Anonymous
Anne and Michael Traynor .....	Traynor Family
Betty Treiber.....	Smith/Treiber Family
Raymond Western .....	Western Family
Peter Weyrens.....	Jim and Kathy Weyrens



### **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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847-256-3010

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