



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

Sunday, October 29th, 2023

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Confirmation Sunday

Experience God. Grow Disciples. Transform Lives.

*PLEASE STAND

BOLD TYPE INDICATES CONGREGATIONAL SPEAKING OR SINGING

PRELUDE - *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

arr. Brenda Austin

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**

O God, in you we trust.

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

Make us to know your ways, O Lord;

Teach us your paths.

Lead us in your truth and teach us,

For you are the God of our salvation; for you we wait all day long.

God leads the humble in what is right, and teaches them his way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 679** - *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

SALZBURG

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus calls us to enter that joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness together, so that we may know more deeply the joy that God intends for us, first in silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you are always present and active in us and in all creation. We confess that sometimes we fail to recognize and respond to your work in the world. We defer to power and privilege, expect the tried and true, and succumb to doubt and despair when your ways are not clear. Behold, you are doing a new thing; help us to perceive it. Forgive us when we do not respond to your call. Liberate us from our fears and self-imposed limitations. Guide us into the fullness of life and love that you are at work preparing. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Our God makes a way where there is no way, infusing our world with grace and hope when such goodness feels long gone. We are a people redeemed and restored. Be confident that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - HYMN NO. 466 - *Come and Fill Our Hearts* Jacques Berthier

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia! (sing twice)

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children are invited to share the peace and gather with leaders to go to the Chapel and continue to worship in an age-appropriate and meaningful way. They will return to sit with their families in the Sanctuary toward the end of the worship service. The Nursery is available for babies and very young children.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Open us to your life-giving Word. Quiet the voices within us that do not align with your will. Focus our minds on the message you intend for us so we may faithfully discern your way. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS - Psalm 46:1-3, 10; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

(Old Testament pages 517 and 518; New Testament pages 12 and 175)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON - "Spiritual Practices: Silence and Stillness"

Rev. Jeff Lehn

ANTHEM - *The Plans I Have for You*

Allen Pote

(*chorus*)

I know the plans I have for you, a road you cannot see,
A winding way with highs and lows that leads at last to me.
And though your heart has hopes and dreams for futures still unknown,
My dream for you will always be far greater than your own.

May you walk the way with friends; find work that feeds your soul;
Someone to love you to the end; a family strong and whole.
Then call on me and celebrate the words I speak today,
Then call on me and I will come and join your song of praise. (*chorus*)

Yet days may come when you feel lost, in exile far from home,
Held captive by a choice you made abandoned and alone.
Then call on me and I will come and I will set you free.

Then call on me and I will come and bring you back to me. (*chorus*)

~ Tom Long, based on Jeremiah 29:11-14

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Questions

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do, with God's help.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple obeying his word and showing us his love?

I will, with God's help.

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Congregational Welcome

We promise our continuing friendship and prayers as we follow the ways of Jesus together and strive to embody the love and justice of the kingdom of God. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in faith, hope, and love, and to be witnesses to our risen Lord and Savior.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Musical Response

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary;

Pure and holy, tried and true.

With thanksgiving I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Confirmands: Miles Lehmer, James Lundgren, and Alex McGrath

Confirmation Leader: Amy Lyon

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

And also with you!

CALL FOR OFFERING



We invite you to give via the church website www.fpcw.org (see QR code), our smartphone app, or by sending a check to the church office. An offering plate is also available as you exit the Sanctuary. We are grateful for your generosity.

OFFERTORY - *Beach Spring Stomp*

The Sacred Harp, arr. Jeffrey Honoré

***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.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***SENDING HYMN NO. 741** - *Guide My Feet*, verses 1, 2, and 3

GUIDE MY FEET

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.

***CHARGE AND BENDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Jeff Lehn, Preaching

Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein, Pastoral Liturgist

Leanne Larson, Liturgist

Peggy Massello, Director of Music and Organist

Chancel Choir

Chancel Bells

Wonee Kim, Accompanist

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Amy Miller whose brother-in-law, Ray, died on October 14.

TODAY'S FLOWERS

Bob and Linda Malstrom gave today's flowers to the glory of God in loving memory of Bob's parents, Bob and Betty Malstrom.

Join us after worship in the Church Lounge
for fellowship, cupcakes, and coffee.



Common Life Week of October 29th 2023

CONNECT, GROW, SHARE

Make Your Pledge to the 2024 Stewardship Campaign

Pledge cards welcomed by mail and by hand delivery to the church office using the secure mailbox located opposite the Church Lounge. You may also [make your pledge online](#).

Attend Our Current Adult Faith Formation Study

Rev. Jeff Lehn's leads a study of scholar, philosopher, theologian, and civil rights leader Howard Thurman using Lerita Coleman Brown's book *What Makes You Come Alive: A Spiritual Walk with Howard Thurman* Sundays at 8:45 am in the Church Lounge. Participation on Zoom available on request.

Join Men's Council on Saturday

The gathering will begin with breakfast at 8:00 am on Saturday, November 4 in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center and continue with a program. Contact Steve Polkoff (odyssey1516@gmail.com) for more information.

Discuss November's Selection with the Book Group

Read Anne Tyler's *French Braid*, which, according to *Washington Post* reviewer Ron Charles, "offers the comfort of a beloved hymn" and attend the discussion on Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 pm in the Church Lounge. Contact Joyce Knauff (joyce@jckassociates.com) for more information.

Note the Senior Supper Club's Winter Edition

Gatherings will move to 1:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month beginning in November and continuing through February. The next gathering will start at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, November 21 at Ridgeview Grill in Wilmette. Contact Bonnie Wehrenberg (bwherbie007@att.net) for more information.

Hear Lakeshore Brass at First Pres Wilmette

Mark your calendars for a holiday concert on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary and invite neighbors and friends to join you for this festive and joyful time. The concert is free, but we will accept contributions (\$15 recommended) to benefit one of our mission partners.

Support Our Board of Deacons

Contribute to the Deacons' Fund using a green pew envelope or through a designated [online contribution](#). Funds allow Deacons to purchase cards and small gifts for those in their care. Contributions also underwrite training materials and costs associated with maintaining the church's defibrillator.

WELCOME & CONNECTION

Serve as a Greeter this Fall

Welcome members and visitors as they enter the church or during Fellowship Hour. Read a complete description of this welcoming ministry and [sign up](#) online.



Common Life Week of October 29th 2023

MISSION

Attend a Shame of Chicago Documentary Screening and Director Discussion

The [featured episode](#), titled “The Color Tax,” considers the origins of the modern-day wealth gap. See it and join a discussion with Director Bruce Orenstein and Clinton Boyd, Executive Director of Fathers, Families, and Healthy Communities at 7:00 pm on Thursday, November 2 at The Joseph Sears School in Kenilworth. Register [online](#) in advance.

Volunteer to Serve Our Family Promise Guests in November

We will host families from mission partner Family Promise between Sunday, November 5 and Sunday, November 12. In partnership with Congregation Sukkot Shalom, we seek volunteers to set up, prepare evening meals, stay overnight, and help us close the week. Learn more about this mission partner and what volunteering entails from our [Family Promise webpage](#). Then [sign up online](#) or by calling the church office (847-256-3010).

Discover the Work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Pick up a copy of the newly-released year in review publication below the Missions bulletin board outside the church office. Contact the church office to have a copy mailed to you (847-256-3010 | office@fpcw.org). Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is part of Presbyterian Mission, a PC(USA) Agency.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Don't Miss Reflections on Generosity from Our Midweek Meetup Kids

Director of Children & Family Ministry Lindley Traynor [created a video](#) narrated by the kids and featuring their artwork.

Midweek Meetup and Church Family Dinner Continue

Come at 5:00 pm Wednesdays for crafts, games, music, and fun for age three through grade six. Stay for dinner starting at 6:00 pm, all in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. Parents and caregivers may drop children off, participate in the activity, or share fellowship with others who have children taking part. [Register children online](#) and then [email Peggy Massello](#) so we know you're coming to dinner.

Use Our Bulletin Interactively Online

Follow links and generate email messages by viewing our Sunday Bulletin online. Find it at fpcw.org/worship-livestream/worship-archive/

Calendar for the Week of October 29, 2023

Sunday, October 29

8:45 am	5th-8th Grade Fellowship	Yellow Room
8:45 am	Adult Faith Formation	Church Lounge
9:00 am	Special Session Meeting with Confirmands	Yellow Room
9:45 am	Nursery Care for Ages 0-3	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	Church Lounge
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Fellowship	Tower
5:30 pm	Troop 5 Patrol Leaders' Council Meeting	Upper Room
6:30 pm	Tower Senior High Dinner	WMFC

Monday, October 30

7:30 pm	Tempelmeyer Committee Meeting	Offsite
7:30 pm	Troop 5 Meeting	WMFC
7:30 pm	Crew 5 Meeting	Yellow Room

Tuesday, October 31

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Church Lounge
----------	---------------	---------------

Wednesday, November 1

5:00 pm	Midweek Meetup	WMFC
6:00 pm	Church Family Dinner	WMFC
6:30 pm	4th-8th Grade Bell Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room

Thursday, November 2

10:00 am	Online Bible Study Meeting	Zoom
7:00 pm	Men's Hour	Church Lounge
7:30 pm	Chancel Bells Rehearsal	Music Room

Friday, November 3

No Scheduled Events

Saturday, November 4

7:30 am	Troop 5 Parent Troop Leadership Meeting	Upper Room
8:00 am	Men's Council Meeting	WMFC/Church Lounge
2:30 pm	Girl Scout Troop 47277 (Central School) Meeting	WMFC

WMFC = Wallace Moore Fellowship Center

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 in the world. 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.

We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning—a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God. After the service, please stick around. Introduce yourself to one of our pastors. We have lots of programs and community groups to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you might just be home!

With gratitude in Christ,
Pastors Jeff Lehn, Kara Smith-Laubenstein, and Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski

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.



CHURCH OFFICE

847-256-3010
Monday-Thursday 9:00am-5:00pm
Friday 9:00am-3:30pm

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Jeff Lehn
Senior Pastor
jlehn@fpcw.org ext. 101

Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein
Associate Pastor
ksmithlaubenstein@fpcw.org ext. 102

Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski
Parish Associate for Congregational Care
ldominski@fpcw.org ext. 108

Peggy Massello
Director of Worship & Music
pmassello@fpcw.org ext. 103

Lindley Traynor
Director of Children & Family Ministry
ltraynor@fpcw.org ext. 104

Marvin Behm
Financial Manager
finmanager@fpcw.org ext. 107

Jane Currie
Office & Communications
office@fpcw.org ext. 106

Ethan Holtermann
Livestream Engineer
ethanholtermann1@gmail.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

600 Ninth Street, Wilmette, Illinois 60091

847-256-3010

office@fpcw.org www.fpcw.org