



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

Sunday, January 21st, 2024

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Experience God. Grow Disciples. Transform Lives.

*PLEASE STAND

BOLD TYPE INDICATES CONGREGATIONAL SPEAKING OR SINGING

PRELUDE - *Prelude sur L'Introit L'Épiphanie*

Maurice Duruflé

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**

Beloved, silence your scattered thoughts and lay down your distractions. God calls us here to worship.

We are here to worship.

Drop your nets and leave your boats.

God is with us. Jesus calls us.

We are here to worship.

Let us worship God together.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 410** - *God Is Calling through the Whisper*

W ZŁOBIE LEŻY

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus calls to us: change your hearts and change your lives! Repent, and believe the good news. The mercy and forgiveness we have already received enables us to be honest about the places in our lives in need of transformation. Let us confess our sin together, first in silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down in our own Nazareth. We have gotten comfortable in our categories: the haves and have-nots, the makers and takers, the bigots and bystanders, the self-starters and subordinates, the law-abiders and lawbreakers, the perpetrators and the innocent. We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy. Let us hear your good news right here and right now. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God desires relationship with us, and reconciliation for all of creation. Jesus comes bearing the good news of forgiveness and transformation. Receive the good news of God's grace: We are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - HYMN NO. 314, Refrain, sing twice - *Christ, Be Our Light*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children are invited to share the peace and gather with leaders to go to the Chapel and continue to worship together 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

God you are beyond knowing, shrouded in wonder and mystery and yet as close to us as our very breath. Illuminate our hearts and minds through your Word so that our love for you and for all your creation might grow deeper. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING - Mark 1:14-20 (New Testament page 35)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Jeff Lehn

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 726 verses 1, 2, and 5 - *Will You Come and Follow Me* KELVINGROVE

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING



Give online here

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 - *True Light*

Keith Hampton

***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**

Holy and vulnerable God, change our hearts and our lives. Renew us by your good news. Use the gifts we bring for your holy work of transformation, as we seek to go where Jesus leads us. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN NO. 170** - *You Walk along Our Shoreline*

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

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 BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** - *Mennet Gothique*

Leon Boellmann

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Jeff Lehn, Preaching

Jim Weyrens, Liturgist

Peggy Massello, Director of Worship & Music and Organist

Chancel Choir

Wonee Kim, Accompanist

Ray Hopkins and Steve Reinhart, Ushers

Stephanie Phelan, Greeter

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given by Colleen Jersild in loving memory of her parents, Thelma and Clyde Campbell.

PLEASE PRAY for Jesse Cox and the Reesecox family after the recent death of Jesse's uncle.

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



Common Life Week of January 21st, 2024

WELCOME & CONNECTION

Prepare for Fun at the Annual Family Bowling Event

Come to the Wilmette Bowling Center at 3:00 pm on Sunday, February 4 for bowling, pizza, games, and prizes. The \$18.00 per person fee covers bowling, shoe rental, pizza, and soft drinks. Register all participants ages five and up [online](#). Plan to play until 5:00 pm; the Wilmette Bowling Center is located at 1903 Schiller Avenue in Wilmette. Direct questions to the church office (847-256-3010 | office@fpcw.org).

Provide a Warm Welcome by Serving as a Greeter

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.

Discover What's Happening with Our Youth

Join participants, pastors, and parents for an engaging discussion about Tower Senior High Fellowship and our church's young people at 11:30 am on Sunday, January 28 in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center. Contact Kara Smith-Laubenstein (ksmithlaubenstein@fpcw.org) for more information.

SHARE, SUPPORT, GROW

Honor a Loved One by Contributing Flowers for the Chancel

Sign up on the poster in the Narthex. An announcement will appear in the Sunday Bulletin acknowledging your gift and naming the person you wish to honor, celebrate, or remember. Contributors may take their flowers home or leave them for Deacons who will divide them into posies and deliver them to Care Partners. Contact Linda Malstrom (lindamalstrom@gmail.com) with questions.

Receive Meal Ministry Communications

The Meal Ministry cares for families and individuals in our congregation by preparing and delivering meals to them while they recover from a health complication, a loss, or when they welcome a new child. If you would like to receive communications about the Meal Ministry, please contact Associate Pastor Kara Smith-Laubenstein (ksmithlaubenstein@fpcw.org | 847-256-3010 x102).

Make Your Pledge to the 2024 Stewardship Campaign

We continue to welcome your pledge card by mail, hand delivery to the church office, and through [the online form](#). You will find an introduction and invitation to the 2024 Stewardship Campaign on the [stewardship page](#) of the church website. Thank you in advance for your commitment and generosity.

Stay Engaged On Your Social Channels

Follow First Pres Wilmette on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). Share our weekday posts with your friends and tell us what you'd like to see from us on our social channels.



Common Life
Week of January 21st, 2024

RACIAL JUSTICE

Listen to Stories from the Racial Justice Pilgrimage

Travelers to Montgomery, Selma, and Birmingham will show photos, share stories, and invite conversation about how we might build on their pilgrimage experiences to do the work of justice in the Chicago area and beyond. Join them in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center on Sunday, February 11 at 11:00 am for a brief presentation and luncheon. Contact the church office with questions (847-256-3010 | office@fpcw.org).

Register for the Exploring Whiteness Workshop

The Racial Justice Committee will host four sessions on Thursdays in February (8, 15, 22 and 29) to explore and discuss four themes: White Identity, White Privilege, White Fragility, and White Supremacy. Each session will begin at 7:00 pm in the Church Lounge and conclude at 8:30 pm. Read a [detailed workshop description online](#) and then complete the optional but appreciated [registration form](#). Contact Jacquie Koch with questions (jacquelinkoch@gmail.com).

ADULT GROUPS

Come for Men's Council on Saturday

Men's Council will begin with breakfast at 8:00 am on Saturday, January 27 in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center and continue with a program about Alaskan fishing. Weekly breakfasts and programs will continue into May. Contact Steve Polkoff with questions (odyssey1516@gmail.com).

Participate in the Current Study Before Worship Next Sunday

Rev. Jeff Lehn will continue a study using *From Widows to Warriors: Women's Stories from the Old Testament* by Lynn Japinga on Sunday, January 28 at 8:45 am in the Church Lounge with online attendance available.

Lunch with the Senior Supper Club on Tuesday, February 20

Men and women age 65 and over share lunch this winter and will gather at Ridgeview Grill in Wilmette on Tuesday, February 20 at 1:00 pm. Contact Bonnie Wehrenberg (bwherbic007@att.net) with questions.

Join the Book Group on Wednesday, February 21

Reviewers described Bill Clegg's *Did You Ever Have a Family* as masterly, elegant, heartrendering, and absorbing, with characters who practice forgiveness and restore hope. The Book Group will gather to discuss the novel on Wednesday, February 21 at 7:00 pm in the Church Lounge. Contact Joyce Knauff with questions (joyce@jckassociates.com).

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/

2024 ADULT GROUPS AT FIRST PRES WILMETTE

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!

STUDY, BOOK, AND DISCUSSION GROUPS

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

Join any Sunday for lively discussion on the current study series. Contact Jeff Lehn jlehn@fpcw.org.

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

We study scripture and consider how it informs our lives. Contact Bonnie Wehrenberg bwherbie007@att.net.

Book Group – 3rd Wednesday (February 21), 7:00 pm, Church Lounge

Members take turns leading the book discussion. Contact Joyce Knauff joyce@jckassociates.com.

FELLOWSHIP AND MEAL GROUPS

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

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.

Parents of High School Youth

Parents meet several times a year in a 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 Iris Boaz iboaz@ameritech.net.

Senior Supper Club – 3rd Tuesday (February 20), 1:00 pm, Ridgeview Grill in Wilmette

If you are over 65 and want to get to know others more casually, please join us. Note our move to midday during the winter season. Contact Bonnie Wehrenberg bwherbie007@att.net.

WOMEN'S GROUPS

Lunch Group for Women – 2nd Wednesday (February 14), 11:30 am, Church Lounge

Each month a member leads the discussion. Contact Nancy Freeman njwfreeman@gmail.com.

Westminster Place “Spoke” – 4th Wednesday (January 31), 10:00-11:00 am, Westminster Place

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. Participation also possible through phone conferencing. Note our January move to the 5th Wednesday. Contact Anne Menard amenard4347@yahoo.com.

MEN'S GROUPS

Men's Hour – Thursdays, 7:00 pm, Church Lounge

Participants share a brief group reading, silent five-minute meditation, and an opportunity to share thoughts and experiences in turn. No homework or reservations required, and drop-ins are always welcome! Contact Paul Traynor paultraynor@haymoon.com.

Men's Council – Saturdays, 8:00-9:30 am, Wallace Moore Fellowship Center and Church Lounge

Meets October through mid-May. Participants gather for breakfast and then listen to an interesting program. All are welcome any Saturday. Contact Steve Polkoff odyssey1516@gmail.com.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 21, 2024

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

8:45 am	Adult Faith Formation	Church Lounge/Zoom
9:45 am	Nursery Care for Ages 0-3	Nursery
9:55 am	Livestream Worship Service	YouTube
10:00 am	In-Person Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Children's Chapel	Chapel
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Church Lounge
11:00 am	Nominating Committee Meeting	Zoom

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

7:00 pm	Mission Committee Meeting	Church Lounge
7:00 pm	Troop 5 Meeting	WMFC
7:30 pm	Crew 5 Meeting	Yellow Room

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Church Lounge
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

No Events Scheduled

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

8:00 am	Men's Council	WMFC
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

8:45 am	5th-8th Grade Fellowship	Yellow Room
8:45 am	Adult Faith Formation	Church Lounge
9:00 am	Endowment Fund Group Meeting	Narthex Meeting Room
9:45 am	Nursery Care for Ages 0-3	Nursery
9:55 am	Livestream Worship Service	YouTube
10:00 am	In-Person Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Children's Chapel	Chapel
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Church Lounge
11:30 am	What's Happening with Our Youth Discussion	WMFC
4:00 pm	Troop 5 Patrol Leaders' Council Meeting	Upper Room
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Fellowship and Dinner	Tower and 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

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Associate Pastor
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