



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE
Sunday, February 11th, 2024
Transfiguration of the Lord

Experience God. Grow Disciples. Transform Lives.

*PLEASE STAND

BOLD TYPE INDICATES CONGREGATIONAL SPEAKING OR SINGING

PRELUDE - *Phineas Windsor's Air*

Aaron David Miller

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**

Lord, you have called us to the mountaintop, but we are tired and weary.

Help us to go where you have invited us.

Give us eyes to see your vision of simple wisdom and complicated truth.

Give us ears to hear your message of gritty hope and new life.

Lord, we have come into this time and space to experience you.

Let us worship God, tender and just.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 193** - *Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain*

UNSER HERRSCHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

We come before God this morning seeking wholeness, in a world that is broken. Let us confess the ways in which we have contributed to this brokenness, so that we may be part of the healing for others, the earth, and ourselves. Let us begin in silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of vulnerability and glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. On this Transfiguration Sunday, we confess that our narrow vision often hides the brightness of your light. Our fear and fatigue often obscure your message of hope and new life. We confess what we have said and left unsaid, what we have done and left undone during the last week - things that have not realized your dream. Forgive us, God, and make new creation right here and right now, in our words and actions, in our hearts and minds. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, nothing, nothing, nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. The only thing that can separate you is the thought that you are separate. Rejoice in forgiveness. Rejoice in empowerment. Rejoice in new creation.

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. 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 infants 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 - Psalm 65:5-13 (Old Testament page 528)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Jeff Lehn

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 314 - *Christ, Be Our Light*

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

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 - *God Is Seen*

Southern Harmony, arr. Alice Parker

Through all the world below
God is seen all around;
Search hills and valleys through,
There He's found.

The growing of the corn,
The lily and the thorn,
The pleasant and forlorn
All declare God is there.
In meadows drest in green,
God is seen.

See springing waters rise,
Fountains flow, rivers run;
The mist that veils the sky
Hides the sun.

Then down the rain doth pour,
The ocean, it doth roar
And beat upon the shore,
And all praise, in their ways,
The God who ne'er declines
His designs.

The sun with all his rays
Speaks of God as he flies.
The comet in her blaze,
“God!” she cries.

The shining of the stars,
The moon, when she appears
His awful name declare;
See them fly, through the sky
And join the solemn sound
All around.

***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, in the multicolored company of your church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection, your interest in us. This day, we pray that, by your power and by these gifts we offer, you would bring new life where we are worn and tired, new love where we have turned hard-hearted, forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded, and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are the prisoners of ourselves. Amen.

SENDING HYMN - BLUE SUPPLEMENT NO. 2148 - *Over My Head

MUSIC IN THE AIR

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** - *Soon and Very Soon*

André Crouch, arr. J. Schrader

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Jeff Lehn, Preaching
Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein, Pastoral Liturgist
Bob Langewisch, Liturgist
Peggy Massello, Music Director and Organist
Chancel Choir
Wonee Kim, Accompanist
Ethan Holtermann, Livestream Engineer
Ray Hopkins and Kevin McJoynt, Ushers
Bill Sharp, Greeter

TODAY'S FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Vernon and Judy Squires in memory of Vern's daughter, Elizabeth Squires.

PLEASE PRAY for Carolyn Holtermann and the Holtermann family after the recent death of Carolyn's mother.

Join us after worship in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center
for a program about last fall's racial justice pilgrimage
with lunch provided for all.



Common Life Week of February 11th, 2024

WELCOME & CONNECTION

Attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 3

Join us for our church's Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 3 in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center, immediately following worship. Lunch will be served and a brief meeting will be held to (1) receive the annual report and hear words of gratitude for how our ministry changed lives in 2023, (2) receive the 2024 operating budget, and (3) approve terms of call for Jeff and Kara.

Don't Miss Gallimaufry, a Musical Kaleidoscope and Stock the Shelves Benefit

Join Una Voce, featuring the voices of Linnea Jacobs, Peggy Massello, and Carol Moss, for an evening of music on Friday, February 23 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel to benefit Stock the Shelves (\$15.00 freewill donation recommended). See the [flyer](#) and [register to attend](#) online.

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.

SHARE, SUPPORT, GROW

Tell the Nominating Committee About Church Members with Gifts for Leadership

Your Nominating Committee invites you to help fill vital positions on the ministry boards of our church. We value your input as part of our church's commitment to inclusiveness. Please let us know if you are interested in serving the church and willing to be considered for nomination and/or if you know of other church members qualified and willing to serve. We seek nominations for Elder, Deacon and Nominating Committee at-large members. Please complete our [online form](#) or use a print form found on the ushers' table and in the church office. All suggestions will be held in confidence.

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.

Learn About the Migrant Crisis and the North Shore

Attend When the Road Stops Here: Coordinating the North Shore's Humanitarian Response to the Migrant Crisis, a nonpartisan, interfaith, communitywide event on Tuesday, February 27 between 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm in the Saint Francis Xavier School Gym at 800 Linden Avenue in Wilmette. [Register in advance](#) and consider bringing a contribution of unopened toiletry items, store gift cards, or Ventra transit cards. Contributed items will reach migrants who arrived recently or will arrive shortly after the event. First Pres Wilmette is among the community partners hosting this event.



Common Life
Week of February 11th, 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 pilgrimage participants in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center today at 11:00 am for a presentation and luncheon.

Register for Upcoming Sessions in the Exploring Whiteness Workshop Series

The Racial Justice Committee will host three additional sessions on Thursdays in February (15, 22 and 29) to explore and discuss white identity, privilege, fragility, and supremacy. Each session will begin at 7:00 pm in the Church Lounge and conclude at 8:30 pm. Participants need not attend on all three dates; come to one or as many as you wish. Please see the enclosed [flyer](#) for detailed information including a QR code and link to the appreciated but not required [sign-up page](#).

ADULT GROUPS

Come for Men's Council on Saturday

Men's Council will begin with breakfast at 8:00 am on Saturday, February 3 in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center and continue with a program featuring Wilmette Village Manager Michael Braiman. Weekly breakfasts and programs will continue into May. Contact Steve Polkoff with questions (odyssey1516@gamil.com).

Rejoin Adult Faith Formation Before Worship On Sunday, February 25

Rev. Jeff Lehn will lead a new class during the season of Lent on the practice of awe using the [recent book by Dacher Keltner](#) as our guide. The study begins on February 25 and will continue for five weeks, concluding on March 24. Contact Jeff (jlehn@fpcw.org) with questions or to receive a weekly email containing optional readings. Note that Adult Faith Formation will not meet on Sunday, February 18.

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/

Stay Engaged On Your Social Channels

Watch for weekday posts on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). Share them with family and friends and encourage them to join us!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 11, 2024

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

8:45 am	5th-8th Grade Fellowship	Yellow Room
8:45 am	Adult Faith Formation	Church Lounge
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	Racial Justice Pilgrimage Presentation and Luncheon	WMFC

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

7:30 pm	Troop 5 Court of Honor	Sanctuary
8:30 pm	Troop 5 Court of Honor Reception	WMFC

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Church Lounge
7:00 pm	Session Meeting	Upper Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

11:30 am	Lunch Group for Women	Church Lounge
5:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service Rehearsal	Chapel
5:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service	Chapel
6:15 pm	Soup Supper	WMFC
6:45 pm	Youth Bells Rehearsal	Music Room
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

10:00 am	Bible Study	Church Lounge
12:00 pm	Clergy Luncheon	Church Lounge
7:00 pm	Exploring Whiteness Workshop	Church Lounge
7:00 pm	Men's Hour	Chapel
7:30 pm	Chancel Bells Rehearsal	Music Room

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

No Events Scheduled

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:00 am	Men's Council	WMFC
---------	---------------	------

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

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

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