



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILMETTE

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent

*Experience God. Grow Disciples. Transform Lives.*

\*PLEASE STAND

**BOLD TYPE** INDICATES CONGREGATIONAL SPEAKING OR SINGING

**PRELUDE** - *Prelude on BEACH SPRING*

Dale Wood

## **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**

Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods! Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

**When we look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; we wonder, what are human beings that you are mindful of us, mortals that you care for us?**

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.

**We will celebrate your abundant goodness, God. Every day we will bless you, we will praise your name forever and ever.**

God sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever.

**Our hearts stand in awe of your words, your deeds, and all you have created and inspired, Lord. Holy and awesome is your name!**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 498, verses 1, 3, and 4** - *Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken*

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

During these forty days of Lent, we remember how Peter denied Jesus three times, and how quickly the crowd's cries changed from adulation to anger. Our faith, too, can waver when we are fearful or disappointed, or even just in the mundaneness of daily life. We come to you, holy Creator, seeking forgiveness. Turn us from focusing too much on ourselves. Help us to seek you, the One who gives the breath of life, and the promise of life eternal, first in silent prayer.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of wonder, each day you reach out to us and surround us with sights that should take our breath away - clouds painted in shades of rose and gold at sunset, the ever changing countenance of Lake Michigan, and the daily activities of the many birds and animals who share this corner of our planet with us. And yet we often overlook these signs of your presence and glory. The world is filled with your children, each created**

in your image, and each with their own stories, personalities, and gifts to share. But, instead of expecting to be enriched and inspired by those different than us, we often allow fear and distrust to guide our engagement with them. Forgive us, Lord. Remove the barriers we have constructed, thinking they protect us when really they limit us. Help us to follow in the example of Jesus. Draw us out of ourselves. Give us the wisdom to recognize what is temporal and trivial, and the will to devote our attention and energy to that which is meaningful and transcendent - that which points to you. Amen.

#### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

In the cross, we see the incredible depth of God's amazing love for us. Although we are part of our fallen world, we are God's beloved children. In the abundance of grace, God calms our fears, heals our pain, and does not count our sins against us. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and offered fullness of joy.

**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. 434 - *Restore in Us, O God***

BAYLOR

**Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;**

**Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.**

#### **CHILDREN'S CHAPEL**

Today is a family worship Sunday. Children are invited to sit and worship with their parents. Worship bags are available from an usher. The Nursery is available for infants and very young children.

#### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Lord, throughout the ages your word has shined light on human existence, revealing what is good and true, what has lasting importance and meaning, what blesses our lives and is pleasing to you. Reveal this once again to us this morning through your word read and proclaimed, that we might be guided to the abundant life Jesus came to bring. Amen.**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING - Mark 6:30-44 (New Testament page 41)**

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD THROUGH DRAMA - *Table for Five...Thousand***

Allen Pote &  
Tom Long

**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](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 as you exit the Sanctuary. We are grateful for your generosity.*

**OFFERTORY - *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need***

Southern Harmony

**\*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**

**Lord, you are faithful in providing for our every need. You bless us so richly. Each day you reach out to us through the kindness and resilience of others, the beauty and diversity of the world around us, and experiences that lift our spirits and give our lives meaning. Use these gifts, and us, to make the world a place where compassion, beauty, meaning, and joy abound, we pray. Amen.**

**NEW MEMBER WELCOME**

Kimbol and Marty Soques

**\*SENDING HYMN - NO. 769, verses 1, 3, and 5 - *For Everyone Born***

FOR EVERYONE BORN

**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**

Please join us after worship for a special Fellowship Hour hosted by members of the Board of Deacons and held in the Church Lounge.

**TODAY IN WORSHIP:**

Rev. Jeff Lehn, Pastoral Liturgist

Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein, Pastoral Liturgist

Midweek Meetup Children:

Adair Karottki	Brooke SooHoo
Xander Karottki	Max SooHoo
Eden Lehn	Eve Springer
Simon Lehn	Lark Traynor
Elizabeth Schuck	Bronwen White
Joe Schuck	Emory Xu
Charlotte Smith-Laubenstein	Evan Xu

Alana Haro and Rose McGrath, Midweek Meetup Helpers

Lindley Traynor, Narrator

Paul Traynor, Drama Director

Greg Korak and Pete Holtermann, Stage Design and Setup

Stephanie Phelan, Props

Peggy Massello, Music Director and Organist

Chancel Choir

Wonee Kim, Accompanist

Ethan Holtermann, Livestream Engineer

John Phelan, Sound Engineer

Julie Fogarty and Ray Hopkins, Ushers

Mary Watt, Greeter

Paula Balthazar and Sevan Hovakimian, Nursery

Armando De Lacruz, Facilities

**OUR LENTEN LITURGY** reflects the research and writing of Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski.



Eularia Clarke, *The Five Thousand*



## Common Life Week of March 17, 2024

### WELCOME & CONNECTION

#### **Join Us for Worship on Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday**

Gather for a Service of Tenebrae at 7:00 pm on Maundy Thursday, March 28, in the Chapel. Arrive at 6:15 pm for a supper of soup and bread in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center beforehand. On Easter Sunday, worship services in the Sanctuary will begin at 9:00 am and 11:00 am. We will announce which service will include a livestream during the preceding week. The Nursery will be open for infants and very young children during both services.

#### **Sing with the Choir During Lent and Easter**

Rehearse with the Chancel Choir on Wednesday nights between 7:30 pm and 8:45 pm and sing in worship on Sundays now through Easter (March 31). Contact Peggy Massello, Director of Music & Worship, with questions ([pmassello@fpcw.org](mailto:pmassello@fpcw.org)).

#### **Attend Gallimaufry, a Musical Kaleidoscope**

Register now for an evening of music featuring the voices of Linnea Jacobs, Peggy Massello, and Carol Moss beginning at 7:00 pm on Friday, April 5 in the Chapel. Proceeds will benefit [Stock the Shelves](#) (\$15.00 freewill donation recommended). Check the [flyer](#) for details and [register](#) your plans to attend.

#### **Save the Date for the Tower Benefit**

Don't miss the 2024 dinner and silent auction beginning at 5:00 pm on Sunday, May 14. Watch for more information on tickets and how you can contribute to the fundraiser and fun.

### SHARE, SUPPORT, GROW

#### **Contribute to Sanctuary Flowers this Easter**

Beautify the Sanctuary with lilies and hydrangeas by ordering one in memory of a loved one or in appreciation of a special person. A list of those being remembered will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please complete the order form inserted in today's bulletin and accessible [online](#); deliver the form to the church office on or before Sunday, March 24 or send a scanned copy to [office@fpcw.org](mailto:office@fpcw.org).

### MISSION

#### **Contribute Contents for Care Packages**

Just-arrived migrants can use a variety of toiletries, snacks, clothing items, and other essentials while they wait for shelter placement, from granola bars to fresh undergarments. We have a collection box inside the east entry (off the parking lot) for contributions. Please consult the [complete list of needs](#) for details.

#### **Nurture the Love of Reading in C24/7 Kids**

Please consider supporting a C24/7 book drive by placing new or gently used children's books in the collection box inside the east (parking lot) entry or purchasing a gift card from The Book Stall in Winnetka. Learn more about the book drive and gift cards through the [flyer](#) or by calling the church office.



## Common Life Week of March 17, 2024

### RACIAL JUSTICE

#### **Hear the Chicago Reader's 2022 Activist of the Year, Jahmal Cole, On Neighborhood Activism**

The Racial Justice Committee will welcome Cole, Founder and CEO of My Block, My Hood, My City to the Joseph Sears School Auditorium in Kenilworth on Thursday, March 21 at 7:00 pm. Learn about his commitment to building an interconnected Chicago through service and education, especially among young adults. His ethos: What's something simple I can do that will have a positive impact on my block? Read the [event flyer](#) for more on Jahmal Cole, the March program, and his organization plus a QR code to [register](#) your plans to attend.

### ADULT GROUPS

#### **Come for Men's Council on Saturdays in March**

Men's Council will begin with breakfast at 8:00 am on Saturday, March 23 in the Wallace Moore Fellowship Center and continue with a program featuring Rabbi Sam Gordon, founder of Sukkat Shalom and Rabbi Emeritus. Rabbi Gordon has titled his presentation "Yes In My Backyard: Jewish-Christian Partnership in Wilmette." Learn more about him at the [Sukkat Shalom website](#). Weekly breakfasts and programs will continue into May. Contact Steve Polkoff with questions ([odyssey1516@gamil.com](mailto:odyssey1516@gamil.com)).

#### **Attend Adult Faith Formation Before Worship Next Sunday**

Rev. Jeff Lehn concludes a class on the practice of awe using the [recent book by Dacher Keltner](#) as a guide on Sunday, March 24 at 8:45 am in the Church Lounge. Contact Jeff ([jlehn@fpcw.org](mailto:jlehn@fpcw.org)) with questions or to receive the week's email containing an optional reading.

#### **Enjoy an Afternoon of Fellowship at the Senior Supper**

The group will continue its winter lunchtime gatherings for one additional month on Tuesday, March 19 beginning at 1:00 pm at Ridgeview Grill in Wilmette. Contact Bonnie Wehrenberg ([bwherbie007@att.net](mailto:bwherbie007@att.net)) with questions.

#### **Participate in the Book Group**

Read Diane Chamberlain's *Necessary Lies*, a historical novel set in the American South circa 1960, and then join the Book Group to discuss it on Wednesday, March 20 at 7:00 pm in the Church Lounge. Contact Joyce Knauff ([joyce@jckassociates.com](mailto:joyce@jckassociates.com)) for more information.

#### **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/](http://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 MARCH 17, 2024

### SUNDAY, MARCH 17

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
11:00 am	Fellowship Hour	Church Lounge
11:30 am	MAD Tweens Meeting	WMFC
4:00 pm	Piano Recital	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	Tower Senior High Fellowship	Tower
6:30 pm	Tower Senior High Dinner	WMFC

### MONDAY, MARCH 18

5:15 pm	Primary Election Polling Place Set-Up	WMFC
6:00 pm	Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting	Upper Room
7:00 pm	Board of Deacons Meeting	Church Lounge
7:00 pm	Troop 5 Garage Clean-Up	Garage

### TUESDAY, MARCH 19

6:00 am	Primary Election Polling Place Opening	WMFC
10:00 am	Staff Meeting	Church Lounge
12:00 pm	Youth & Family Ministry Team Meeting	Church Lounge
1:00 pm	Senior Supper	Offsite

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

5:00 pm	Children's Musical Cast Party	WMFC
6:00 pm	Church Family Dinner	WMFC
6:30 pm	Youth Bells Rehearsal	Music Room
7:00 pm	Book Group Meeting	Church Lounge
7:00 pm	Troop 5 Gear Pull	Garage
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room

### THURSDAY, MARCH 21

10:00 am	Bible Study	Church Lounge
7:00 pm	Men's Hour	Church Lounge

### FRIDAY, MARCH 22

No Events Scheduled

### SATURDAY, MARCH 23

8:00 am	Men's Council	WMFC
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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  
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Rev. Kara Smith-Laubenstein  
*Associate Pastor*  
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Rev. Dr. Lolly Dominski  
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