

## Gathering

### Gathering Music

*We invite you to complete the prayer card found in this worship bulletin and to place it in the plate during the sharing of gifts. Information about the prayer cards is printed on the outside back cover of the bulletin.*

### Welcome

*Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Presbyterian Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical limitation, educational background, or economic situation.*

### Call to Worship

Leader: Hear the choices God sets before us:

life and prosperity or death and adversity.

People: **O God, you have searched us and known us.**

**You know our thoughts and every move we make.**

Leader: Listen to the ordinances of our God;

love God and walk in the way God commands.

People: **O God, we will listen for your words.**

**We will seek to walk on the paths you intend.**

Leader: Happy are those who delight in God's law;

blessed are all who meditate on God's Word.

People: **Wonderful are all your works, O God.**

**We are your creation; we are in your hands.**

**\*Song** "If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee"

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**Awesome God, we confess that we have become slaves  
to our own narrow self-interest.  
We pay more attention to our possessions  
and our desire to accumulate than to you.  
We try to hide from you,  
for we are guilty of devotion to false gods.  
You have called each of us to work for your kingdom on earth,  
even with risk, but we pursue paths of safety and security.  
We act without thinking or planning or consulting with you.  
O God, show us the way to a more faithful life.  
Hear now our silent prayers . . .**

**Silence**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Leader: As God's forgiven people, let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.  
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*All are invited to stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.*

## Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

**Psalter** Psalm 150

**Scripture Lesson** Luke 14:25–33 (page 73, N.T.)

**Sermon** by Victoria G. Curtiss  
Prepare for Faithfulness

**\*Song** "The Summons"

# Sealing the Word

## Sharing of Gifts

*Please place gifts and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.*

**Offertory Solo**      "God Has Smiled on Me"

*Isaiah Jones Jr.*

## \*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

### Sanctus

### Prayers of the People

**The Lord's Prayer** (*unison*)

**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.**

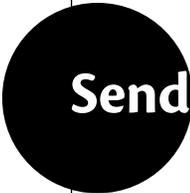
**The Communion**

**Communion Solo** "If the Path I Travel"

*Margaret E. Barber*

**Prayer after Communion** (*unison*)

**Loving God, at this meal we remember the costly sacrifice  
Jesus Christ made in order to show us the true nature of life  
and of your love. We have no way to repay you for all we have  
received from your hands. Yet we want to give our best to  
the work you call us to do. Keep us steadfast in obedience  
to you throughout our lives. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**



**Sending**

**\*Sending Song**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

**\*Benediction**

**Sending Music**

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### **A note on inclusive language**

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God will be named corporately in a variety of ways that are gender neutral. This allows for your personal expressions as you are led to name the Holy in ways meaningful to you.

### **Worship Leaders**

**Victoria G. Curtiss**

Associate Pastor

**Lucy Smith Jazz Quartet**

#### ***Acknowledgments:***

*Words*—"If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee" by Georg Neumark. Used with permission. LicenSingOnline. License L18227.

*Words and Music*—"Psalm 160" by Isaac Everett. *The Emergent Psalter*. New York: Church Publishing, 2009; "The Summons" by John Bell, copyright © 1987 GIA/Iona Community/WGRG. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.

*Music*—"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" to the tune of "Spiritual." Used with permission. LicenSingOnline. License L18227.

### **The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago**

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)  
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584



### **Fourth Church Cares**

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion with a Deacon, contact Sarah Johnson, member of the pastoral staff at 312.981.4034 ([sjohnson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:sjohnson@fourthchurch.org)).

# News and Opportunities

## Children and Family

**“Steppin’ Up Sunday”** is next Sunday, September 12. Sunday school classes for children will resume at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House. Youth will meet at 10:30 a.m. with Elevation (grades 6–7) in the Manse Basement, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8 confirmation) in the Page Smith Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) in the Crow’s Nest. Choir practice will be held in the Dining Room, with Junior High Choir at 9:30 a.m., Cherub Choir at 10:30 a.m., Children’s Choir at 11:00 a.m., and Senior High Choir at 11:45 a.m. At 12:00 noon, children, youth, and their families are invited to a luncheon in Anderson Hall.

**Fall Family Camp** will be held October 8–10 at the Presbyterian Camps in Saugatuck, Michigan. Registration forms will be available in Westminster House and online in the coming weeks.

## Enrichment

**Men’s Bible Study** meets this Tuesday, September 7 at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details, contact Deanna Fedaj at 312.573.3364 (dfedaj@fourthchurch.org).

**“Overcoming the Fear of Recurrence”** is the topic of the Tuesday, September 7 Triumph over Cancer presentation, beginning at 6:00 p.m. For details, call the Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 443.

**A twelve-session T’ai Chi course for beginners** will start Thursday, September 9 at 5:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall South Balcony. For more information or to register, call the T’ai Chi Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 388.

**Learn about educational programs open to those sixty and over** when the Chicago Lights Center for Life and Learning hosts its free Autumn Open House on Thursday, September 9. Attend between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon in Anderson Hall or between 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. in the Manse.

**Caring Circles** will host an informational luncheon on Thursday, September 9 at 12:30 p.m. in the Manse. Those interested in learning about this team that extends care to CLL members needing special attention are invited to attend.

**British historian Peter Cormack** will give a lecture about the stained glass at Fourth Church on Tuesday, September 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This free event offered by the Charles J. Connick Stained Glass Foundation will be preceded by a 5:00 p.m. tour highlighting the glass.

**Ken Stone**, professor of Bible, culture, and hermeneutics at Chicago Theological Seminary, will speak on Friday, September 17 on the topic of how the Bible is used in discussions about homosexuality. This Changing Conversations gathering is part of a series inviting members and friends of Fourth Church into discussion about issues affecting gay and lesbian persons and our life together in community. For details or to RSVP, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

**A twelve-week Nia exercise course** begins Wednesday, September 22 at 10:00 a.m. in Anderson Hall; a Nia “Splash Out” will be held Saturday, September 25 at 10:00 a.m. in Anderson Hall. For details or to register (required), call the Nia Class Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 371.

**New Academy for Faith and Life courses** begin Sunday, September 26. Course descriptions are available online at [www.fourthchurch.org/academycourses.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/academycourses.html).

**Vanderbilt Divinity School professor Ted Smith** will speak on “Sex and the Limits of Ethics,” the topic of the next Michigan Avenue Forum, which will be held on Sunday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

# News and Opportunities

## Volunteers

### **Current Volunteer Needs**

**Sunday School teachers** for alternate Sundays; teach in pairs; training provided

**Grocery shoppers** for Sunday and Monday night suppers; rotating schedule; car essential

**Cooks and supervising cooks** for a men's shelter at 835 W. Addison on rotating Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.; training provided; free parking close by, near "L" and bus stops

**Tutors** for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program, which resumes in the fall; orientation is provided

*For details and a list of additional needs, contact Larry Nicholson, Director of Volunteer Ministry, at 312.981.3382 ([lnicholson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:lnicholson@fourthchurch.org)).*

## Worship

**Morning Prayer** will be held this Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday–Friday at 9:30 a.m. in Stone Chapel and offers opportunity to pray for those in need.

**A daytime labyrinth walk** will be available on Saturday, September 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall during the fall Open House for visitors.

**Sunday morning worship services** are held at 8:00 (Communion) and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**A prayer service in the style of Taizé** is held each fourth Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel. Prior to the service, a meditative labyrinth walk is available from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall. The next service will be held Friday, September 24.

## Fellowship

**Fourth Dimension**, a fellowship group for individuals forty-seven and older, will gather on Saturday, September 11 for a walking tour of Old Town, beginning at 9:45 a.m. in the lobby of the Chicago History Museum. For details or to RSVP (required), contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 by Tuesday, September 7.

**Books by Women** will gather on Tuesday, September 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse to discuss *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel.

**Young adults** age twenty-two to thirty-five are invited to participate in a Saturday, September 18 Habitat for Humanity project in Joliet. For details or to RSVP, contact Liz Nickerson at 312.573.3366.

**The Cycling Club** will gather on Sunday, September 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Anderson Hall North Balcony A to discuss future group rides and programming. To RSVP, email [cyclists@fourthchurch.org](mailto:cyclists@fourthchurch.org).

## Music and the Arts

**The Fourth Acts theater ensemble** will gather next Sunday, September 12 at 12:30 p.m. in the Activity Room for a light lunch and planning session.

**A P2C exhibition** highlighting concepts for the proposed new building is on display in the Gallery; "Seeing the Savior" is on exhibition in the Loggia.

**Musicerend Gezelschap**, a musical duo featuring baroque violinist Hyunjung Choi and harpsichordist Sonia Lee, will perform this Friday's Free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

# News and Opportunities

## News and Resources

**Gifts to help those in Pakistan** affected by the recent flooding can be made by using the special envelopes in the pew racks. For more information or to give online, visit [www.pcusa.org/pda](http://www.pcusa.org/pda).

**A congregational meeting** has been called by the Session of Fourth Church for Sunday, September 19 at 12:00 noon. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear and act on a recommendation from the Project Second Century Steering Committee, which has been working on a proposal for (a) a new building be built in the space currently occupied by the parking lot, Westminster House, and the Counseling Center and (b) a capital campaign to fund such a project. A new exhibit in the Gallery presents some of the concepts for the new building; details are available online at [www.fourthchurch.org/P2C.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/P2C.html).

**Fourth Church welcomes two new pastoral residents** to the staff: Kerri Allen and Matt Helms. They will be formally introduced to the congregation on Sunday, September 12. Please take opportunity to introduce yourself and greet them.

**All are invited to attend the annual "Get Connected" Coffee Hour** on Sunday, September 26 to learn about educational opportunities, fellowship groups, and other activities. The following Sunday, October 3, all are encouraged to attend the annual Volunteer Fair. Mission Trip Sunday will be held Sunday, October 17.

**Nominating forms for the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Chicago Lights Board** are available in the pew racks and also can be completed online. Please use the forms to recommend Fourth Church members who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry.

**The scaffolding** outside the sanctuary will be there for the next few months as repairs are made to the ninety-eight-year-old stonework. This work is being undertaken as part of Project Second Century.

**"Celebrating the Whole Household of God"** is the theme of the 2010 Covenant Network Conference, which will be held November 4-6 in Houston. For more information, visit [www.covnetpres.org/conferences/2010-covenant-conference/](http://www.covnetpres.org/conferences/2010-covenant-conference/).

**The Fourth Church website**, [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org), makes available audio (including podcasts) of the 11:00 a.m. services; sermon transcripts from all worship services; the text of worship bulletins; devotions; and programming information.

## Mission and Outreach

**The Benevolent Guild** meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room to create toys and treats for children in hospitals and shelters.

**Chicago Lights Tutoring** orientation for new tutors will be held this Tuesday, September 7; Monday, September 13; and Thursday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m. at Fourth Church. Volunteers need only attend one of these identical sessions. For details, contact Meghan Stegemann at 312.981.3560 ([mstegemann@fourthchurch.org](mailto:mstegemann@fourthchurch.org)).

**A Christmas-break mission trip to Guatemala** will provide opportunity to help build homes outside of Antigua. Contact Director of Mission Vicki Reynolds at 312.981.3384 ([vreynolds@fourthchurch.org](mailto:vreynolds@fourthchurch.org)) by Wednesday, September 15 to apply.

**Chicago Shares voucher booklets** offer a way to give to those in need on the streets while knowing that the \$1 gift will be redeemed at a participating grocery store or restaurant (but not for liquor or tobacco). For information or to purchase a \$5 booklet, contact Natasha Holbert at 312.274.3831 ([nholbert@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nholbert@fourthchurch.org)).

## During Today's Worship

**All are encouraged to use the prayer card**, found in this worship bulletin, to offer joys and/or concerns. The cards will be collected during the Sharing of Gifts (simply place the card in the offering plate as it is passed). The prayers will then be incorporated into this afternoon's Prayers of the People.

If you have a prayer you would rather not share during worship, you are invited to complete a prayer card found by one of the prayer boxes in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary, and it will be passed on to Sarah Johnson of the pastoral staff.

**All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table** to receive Communion, which is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available in the paper "cup" within the basket of bread), which they will then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles.

### **Pastoral Staff for 4:00 Worship**

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission  
Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for  
Adult Education and Worship  
Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism  
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry  
Sarah A. Johnson, Minister for Congregational Care

**Please turn off all cell phones when in the sanctuary.**

**During the Concerns of the Church, please pass the** pew information pads, so that all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service.

**The large banners hanging in the middle of the Sanctuary** were created by liturgical artist Shawna Bowman during the 4:00 worship service and are artistic representations of our worship experience.

**Large-print Bibles and individual listening devices** for improved sound are available in the back of the sanctuary. Worship also can be heard through the "T" setting of hearing aids.

**If your infant or small child needs care** during the worship service, you may leave the sanctuary and return as you wish. The worship service audio can be heard in Stone Chapel, where you and your child are also welcome. There is also an area in the side aisle where your child can play quietly.

**Worship folders**, containing quiet activities and a bulletin designed for children, are available from an usher.

**Printed copies of sermons** recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks outside the South Transept doors (leading to Anderson Hall) and in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary. They are also available at [www.fourthchurch.org/sermons.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/sermons.html).

## If You Are New to Fourth Church

**Please wear a lapel pin**, found in the pew racks, so we might greet you after worship. We invite you to stop by the community meal or the Loggia (through the doors to your left as you face the front of the sanctuary) after worship for fellowship, conversation, and information about church programs and volunteer opportunities.

**Sunday parking is available** at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Streets) at the rate of \$7.75. Validation tickets must be picked up from

the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.

**Inquirers' Class** explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, September 13 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, September 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, September 26 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information, contact Jo Preuninger, Interim Director of Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 ([jpreuninger@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jpreuninger@fourthchurch.org)).