



Gathering

Gathering Music “Heaven” Duke Ellington
 “Something ’bout Believing” D. Ellington

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: With all that is within us, let us bless God,

People: **who forgives all our sins, who heals all our diseases,**

Leader: who lifts us up from rock bottom, who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

All: **With all that is within us, let us give praise and thanks to God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us. Amen.**

* Stand as you are able

***Song** "Gather Us In"

***Song** "Be Thou My Vision"

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Forgiving God, we have messed up in so many ways. You gave us a wonderful world, filled with beauty, power, and majesty, and we have ravaged it—tearing away at its gifts with our own greed and cowardice. We have not treated this world or one another with compassionate love. We have turned our backs on situations of need in which we could have been instruments of help, healing, and peace. We have neglected service to others and have focused our lives on accumulating things and status. We have chased after false gods—greed, power, fame. You are the potter, O Lord. You fashioned us, but we focused on developing our flaws rather than working with our strengths. Please forgive us, Lord. Refashion us to be your people, celebrating your love in service to others. For we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

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

Sacrament of Baptism

***Song** "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"



Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Lesson Matthew 20:1–16

(page 20, N.T.)

Sermon by Sarah A. Johnson

God's Generosity

***Song** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

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

Offertory Solo

“O Healing River”

American folk song

*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 "Taste and See"

James E. Moore Jr.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**O God, you have so greatly loved us,
long sought us,
and mercifully redeemed us.
Give us grace that in everything
we may yield ourselves,
our wills and our works,
a continual thank-offering to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Sending

***Song** "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

***Benediction**

Sending Music "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

American folk song

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

Sarah A. Johnson	Associate Pastor
Mary Clare Barker Jazz Ensemble	
Jerry Johnson	Song Leader

Baptism

The child being baptized this afternoon is Devon Victoria Matuschka, daughter of Michael and Vanessa Matuschka.

Acknowledgments:

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; 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).

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

At the September 19 congregational meeting, the congregation voted to proceed with construction of a new multipurpose building and with the capital campaign and financing to fund it. A model of the new building, to be built as part of Project Second Century (P2C), is on display between the reception desk and Anderson Hall. P2C details and updates are available at www.fourthchurch.org.

Church Alive, the 2011 Annual Appeal for Fourth Church and Chicago Lights, is underway. Members will be receiving Church Alive information in the mail this week. Giving Response cards are also available in the pew racks and online. Please return completed cards by Commitment Sunday, October 31, so we can faithfully plan and budget for 2011.

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. Nominating forms are due Thursday, September 30.

Next Sunday, October 3 is “Bike to Church” Sunday and the kickoff for “Bike to Church” month (October). For details, visit www.fourthchurch.org/cycling.html.

“Celebrating the Whole Household of God” is the theme of the 2010 Covenant Network Conference, which will be held November 4–6 in Houston.

Worship

Morning Prayer is held each weekday at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesdays, when it is held at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for daily Morning Prayer, which takes place in Stone Chapel.

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

Mission and Outreach

The Sewing and Knitting Workshop resumes its monthly meetings this Tuesday, September 28 at 5:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room.

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.

A “Silence the Violence, Support Our Youth” rally will be held Sunday, October 3 at 1:00 p.m. in the Garth. Those interested in attending are asked to contact Natasha Holbert at 312.274.3831 (nholbert@fourthchurch.org).

October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. A candle-lighting ceremony, in remembrance of victims of domestic violence, will be held October 1 at dusk on the lakefront.

Volunteers

The annual Volunteer Fair will be held Sunday, October 3 during morning Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall. All are invited to attend and learn of service and community outreach opportunities.

Current Volunteer Needs

Volunteers to teach In2It Café courses for the Tutoring program; classes range from art to chess, acting, knitting, dance, cooking, and computers; once a week from 5:25 to 5:55 p.m.; October–December

Tutors for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program
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; free parking close by, near “L” and bus stops

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

Children and Family

Giggles for God—a weekly sing-along for parents and their babies, toddlers, or preschoolers—meets Sundays at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. in Westminster House.

Sunday School classes meet Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House.

Fourth Church youth meet Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Elevation (grades 6–7) meets in the Manse basement, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8 confirmation) meets in the Page Smith Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets in the Crow's Nest.

A new fellowship group for mothers with children ages 5–12 will begin Sunday, October 3. To join a group, contact Liz Nickerson at 312.573.3366 (enickerson@fourthchurch.org).

Fall Family Camp will be held October 8–10 at the Presbyterian Camps in Saugatuck, Michigan. Registration forms are available in Westminster House and online at www.fourthchurch.org/downloads/FamilyCamp0910.pdf.

Fellowship

Cornerstones, a fellowship group for couples, spouses and partners age fifty and over, will gather for an Egyptian dinner and program on Friday, October 1. Prepaid reservations are required and can be made by calling the Cornerstones Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 454.

Fourth Dimension, a fellowship gathering for individual adults age forty-seven and older, will gather Friday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall for a program on the history of “The Day of the Dead.” For details or to RSVP, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Books by Women will gather Tuesday, October 12 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett.

Enrichment

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities:

John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.

CLL, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

The Noonday Bible Study gathers each Wednesday at 12:10 p.m. in the Large Conference Room to discuss the biblical text for the upcoming Sunday sermon; this study is led by pastoral staff.

Understanding age-related hearing loss and treatment options will be the topic of a Tuesday, September 28 presentation, sponsored by the Centers for Whole Health and Life and Learning, taking place at 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room. Participants are invited to arrive at 11:30 a.m. for a brown-bag lunch and time of fellowship.

Academy for Faith and Life adult education courses are held Sunday mornings: “Authors Quoted from the Fourth Church Pulpit” meets at 9:30 a.m. and “Introduction to the Hebrew Bible” and “What Does It Mean to Be a Christian?” meet at 11:00 a.m. Course details are available in the literature racks and online at 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.

Christian Century Study Groups provide opportunity to discuss challenging issues as addressed in the *Christian Century*. Study groups will meet beginning Wednesday, October 6. For more details or to register, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 by Monday, October 4.

A screening of *Kepulihan: Stories from the Tsunami* will be shown Wednesday, October 13 at 6:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall and is sponsored by the Academy for Faith and Life.

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
Kerri N. Allen, Pastoral Resident
Matthew J. Helms, Pastoral Resident
Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Sarah A. Johnson, Minister for Congregational Care

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. 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.

Please turn off all cell phones when in the sanctuary.

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, October 4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, October 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, October 24 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information, contact Jo Preuninger, Interim Director of Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (jpreuninger@fourthchurch.org).