

## 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.*

### \*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.*

\* Stand as you are able

## Call to Worship

Leader: Among the poor, among the proud,

Men: among the persecuted,

Women: among the privileged,

All: **Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Leader: In the private house, in the public place,

Men: in the wedding feast,

Women: in the judgment hall,

All: **Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Leader: With a gentle touch, with an angry word,

Men: with a clear conscience,

Women: with burning love,

All: **Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Leader: That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,

Men: that the powerful might stumble,

Women: that the hidden might be seen,

All: **Christ is coming to make all things new.**

Leader: Within us, without us, behind us, before us,

Men: in this place, in every place,

Women: for this time, for all time,

All: **Christ is coming to make all things new.**

**\*Song**        "Somebody's Knocking at Your Door"

**Scripture Reading**    Matthew 13:1–9

(page 13, N.T.)

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

**God of our lives,**

**you speak words of wisdom, but we do not hear them.**

**Though we are often lost, unhappy, scared, or just self-satisfied,  
we ignore your own voice in favor of our own.**

**Silence in us, O God, the voices that drown out your call.**

**And when we hear you, make us quiet enough to listen,**

**wise enough to hear, and bold enough to live,**

**all in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.**

**As we seek your forgiveness for ways we have not listened**

**and the courage to be made new, hear now our silent prayers . . .**

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

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

**\*Song** "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

## **Hearing and Proclaiming the Word**

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 13:10–17 (page 13, N.T.)

### **Jazz Improvisation**

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 13:18–23 (page 13, N.T.)

**Sermon** by Adam Fronczek

Let Anyone with Ears Listen

### **Jazz Improvisation**

## **Sealing the Word**

### **Sharing of Gifts**

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

**Offertory Solo** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" *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** "Shall We Gather at the River?"

*Robert Lowry*

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

**God of grace, you have brought us to this table and fed us with the bread and cup we need for the journey of daily living. Send us out into the world with the will to follow you, to struggle to find the meaning of your plan for us, and to persevere, knowing that you are with us on the journey. Amen.**

## Sending

**\*Song**

"We Walk by Faith"

## \*Benediction

## Sending Music

### 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

**Adam Fronczek**

Associate Pastor

**Kerri Allen**

Pastoral Resident

**Kevin Cline Jazz Trio**

**Andrea Pokrefke**

Song Leader

### *Acknowledgments:*

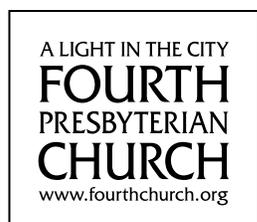
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## The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; [www.fourthchurch.org](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)).

## 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](http://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](mailto:jpreuninger@fourthchurch.org)).