

Fourth at Four
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4:00 Order of Worship 09.18.11

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 forgiven children of God, let us not be strangers to one another, but sisters and brothers in Christ. Please stand and 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.

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

**God of fire,
you are a force beyond human understanding,
with the power
to sear through the veins of creation
with passion and vigor.
Your presence is dangerous
for there is no predicting
where you might burn,
and yet comforting
for the light and warmth
offer an invitation to draw closer.
Amen.**

***Song** "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Redeeming God,
out of the flames of your creation,
your voice calls, marking us as your own.
Yet there are times
when we choose to ignore your voice
and listen instead to our own needs and desires
and those that challenge our faith from within the world.
Forgive us for those times;
when we have ignored the needs of others;
when we have failed to place our feet upon your path;
when we allow the earthly voice to distract us from your call.**

(Silence)

**Loving Lord, in your forgiveness
you offer again your invitation
to know your love, to be loved,
and to respond to your call.
In hearing your voice
may we find our place
within your creation.
Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

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



Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading: Exodus 3:1–21

(page 48, O.T.)

Sermon by Kerri N. Allen

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

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

Offertory Music “Go Down, Moses”

African American Spiritual

***Doxology**

Lucy Smith

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

Lucy Smith

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 Music "God Has Smiled on Me"

Isaiah Jones Jr.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**God of fire,
we thank you for gathering us at this table.
We pray that by this bread and wine
that we may be spiritually nourished,
that we may see the ways in which you
reveal yourself in our world,
and be transformed by your presence.
In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

Sending

***Song** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*Benediction

Sending 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

Kerri N. Allen

Pastoral Resident

Matthew J. Helms

Pastoral Resident

Lucy Smith Jazz Quartet

Acknowledgments:

Words—Opening Prayer and Prayer of Confession are by the Reverend Mary Ann R. Rennie, St. Anne's Parish Church, Edinburgh.

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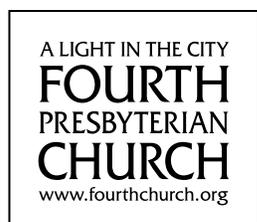
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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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 Judith Watt, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).

News and Opportunities

Enrichment

Men's Bible Study will gather on Tuesday, September 20 at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details, call Deanna Fedaj at 312.573.3364.

The Christian Century Study Group, which discusses issues presented in the *Christian Century* magazine, meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. beginning September 21. To register (required), call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

"Religion in Interfaith Homes: A Series for Couples and their Families," led by Joyce Shin and David Levinsky, will begin this Thursday, September 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Clare (corner of Rush and Pearson). It will then meet one Sunday a month through May 2012. For details, call Joyce Shin at 312.274.3835.

Barbara Wheeler and Richard Mouw will speak on "Reasons for Hope: A Dialogue on the Christian Future" at a Christian Century event on Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Arts Club. For ticket details and to register (required), contact the Century at 312.263.7510, ext. 229.

Beginning bridge lessons, offered through the Center for Life and Learning, take place on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. For details, contact Ashley Elskus at 312.981.3387 (aelskus@fourthchurch.org).

New Academy for Faith and Life classes will begin next Sunday, September 25 at the Clare (corner of Rush and Pearson). "An Introduction to Howard Thurman," led by Carol Allen, and "The Big Questions: Essentials of Christian Theology," led by Adam Fronczek, will meet at 9:30 a.m. "What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?" led by Matt Helms, will meet at 11:00 a.m. For details or to register, pick up a brochure or visit www.fourthchurch.org/academy.html.

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

CLL, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class will next meet Sunday, September 25 at 12:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room.

"Race, White Privilege, and Faithful Engagement," a luncheon workshop sponsored by the Multicultural Initiatives and Resources Committee, will take place on Sunday, October 9 at 12:30 p.m. To register, call Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 by Wednesday, October 5.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday school classes meet at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Dining Room.

Fourth Church youth will meet on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. at the 737 building, with Elevation (grades 6–7) in the Knox Room, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8 confirmation) in the Calvin Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) in the Multipurpose Space.

Single parents interested in forming a group to talk about the joys and challenges of parenting are invited to contact Liz Nickerson at 312.573.3366 (lnickerson@fourthchurch.org).

A drop-in playgroup for parents and their children is held on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room. For information, contact Liz Nickerson at 312.573.3366 (lnickerson@fourthchurch.org).

News and Resources

Those attending the Cubs game this Tuesday are reminded to be seated by 6:30 p.m. in order to see John Buchanan throw out the first pitch. While tickets in the Fourth Church section are sold out, tickets to the game are still available through regular Cubs ticket outlets.

Judy Watt will be installed as Associate Pastor for Congregational Care on Sunday, September 25 during the 11:00 service. A reception in her honor will follow in Anderson Hall.

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. Recommendations will be received through Friday, September 30.

A concert to honor John Buchanan will be held Friday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Fourth Church choirs and Tower Brass will perform.

Save the date! Carnival 2012, the annual Mission Benefit, will be Friday, March 2.

Chestnut Street will be unavailable for drop-offs during the upcoming weeks while the City of Chicago undertakes sewer work in the neighborhood. There will be a single drive lane only, with no parking or standing zones during that period.

A giving kiosk in the Narthex makes it possible to use credit or debit cards to give to Fourth Church or Chicago Lights or to fulfill pledges.

Stay up-to-date with Fourth Church:

"Like" Fourth Church on Facebook; follow Fourth Church on Twitter (@FourthChicago).

A special Michigan Avenue Forum at the Newberry Library will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible (KJV) with speaker Randall Zachman on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. To register for this free event, contact Deanna Fedaj at 312.573.3364 (dfedaj@fourthchurch.org).

Worship

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can pray there with a Deacon at 10:30 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. or place their prayer requests, written on paper, in one of the prayer boxes outside Stone Chapel or in the Narthex.

Morning Prayer is held weekdays in Stone Chapel at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesdays, when it is at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for the opportunity to remember in prayer members of the congregation and those in need.

A service in the style of Taizé is held at 7:30 p.m. each fourth Friday of the month, offering an opportunity to gather for a time of prayer, meditative singing, and silent reflection. The next service will be this Friday, September 23. For details, visit www.fourthchurch.org/taize.html. There will not be a labyrinth walk prior to the service this month, but it will be offered again on October 28.

News and Opportunities

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Tutors for children from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday at Fourth Church

Church members to staff the Book Nook on a rotating basis during Coffee Hour

Church members to teach Sunday School or serve as an office assistant at 9:30 or 11:00 a.m.

Grocery shoppers for Sunday and Monday Night Suppers

Urban Farm helpers on Saturdays and in the office during the week

Church members to replenish a care team for a family with a chronically ill child (60618 zip code)

Current Donation Needs

Men's shoes and pants for the Elam Davies Social Service Center

For details or to volunteer, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org).

Fellowship

Young Adults meet on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. on the 19th floor of the 737 building for fellowship and discussion.

ThirtiesForties will gather for the Taizé service this Friday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and will meet for tea following the service.

Cornerstones will meet for "A Fireside Chat" with John Buchanan on Friday, October 7 at 6:00 p.m. on the 19th floor of the 737 building. Space is limited; to register (required), call the Cornerstones infoline at 312.787.2729.

Mission and Outreach

A Guatemala mission trip over Christmas break will offer opportunity to help build a home and a school outside of Antigua. For details, call Vicki Reynolds at 312.981.3384 by Monday, September 19.

New volunteers for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program who have not attended an orientation session are asked to do so on Monday, September 26 at 6:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall. This session will be the last orientation opportunity for new volunteers. For information, contact Meghan Stegemann at 312.981.3560 (mstegemann@fourthchurch.org).

A new hands-on mission group, to do painting, construction, cleaning, and gardening together, is being formed by the Outreach Ministries Committee. To learn more, attend an organizational gathering on Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. RSVP to Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815.

Music and the Arts

Organist Graham Davies will perform this Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The art exhibition "Bound for Glory," featuring Timothy Botts's expressive calligraphy inspired by African American spirituals, is on display in the Loggia now through late November.

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 Judith Watt, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care.

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

Kerri N. Allen, Pastoral Resident

Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for
Adult Education and Worship

Matthew J. Helms, Pastoral Resident

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

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. 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.

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 Sunday, September 25 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Monday, October 3 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, October 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (hkim@fourthchurch.org).