

Gathering

Gathering Music “Whisper Not” *Benny Golson*
“Peace Piece” *Bill Evans*

Greeting

*Opening Responses

Leader: All you who are thirsty,
People: this is the place for living water.

Leader: All you who are hungry,
People: this is the place for the bread of life.

Leader: Our grace comes from God’s compassion,
People: who reveals to us the One who brings us new life!

* Stand as you are able

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Church welcomes all of God’s children into the life of the church regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, mental health, educational background, economic situation, religious background, or documentation status.

***Opening Song** “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

Please note

Copyrighted musical pieces that we do not have permission to distribute online (but only to include in the printed order of worship) are not shown in this version of the bulletin.

For details on the licenses, permission to reprint, and copyright information for the musical pieces not included here, please see the “Acknowledgments” page later in this bulletin.

Litany of Confession

Leader: Gracious God, in Jesus Christ you broke through all that tries to separate us from our neighbor, ourselves, and you.

We seek your grace so we might move from alienation to new life.

People: So God, grant us new life in you.

Leader: When we deny your presence in our busy days—

People: O God, grant us new life in you.

Leader: When we feel justified in our anger and resentment toward others—

People: O God, grant us new life in you.

Leader: When we judge others before looking at ourselves—

People: O God, grant us new life in you.

Leader: When we try and forget our neighbors in need because it is too overwhelming to us—

People: O God, grant us new life in you.

Leader: When we deny our own need because it is too embarrassing to us—

People: O God, grant us new life in you.

Leader: When we refuse to follow your will because we are fearful and untrusting—

People: O God, grant us new life in you.

Leader: O God, do grant us new life in you, so that our cries of confession might be transformed into alleluias of restoration.

We pray in the name of our Savior.

People: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, hear this good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, blessed, and sent into the world.

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

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

***Song** "Reach Out Your Hand in Peace". *Lucy Smith*

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

Unison Prayer

**Holy God, remind us of the promises given
in our own baptism and renew our trust in you.
Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Welcome

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Psalter Psalm 124 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Leader: If God had not been on our side—let Israel now say—
if God had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us,
then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;
then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;
then would the raging waters have gone right over us.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **The snare is broken and we have escaped. Blessed be our God!**

Leader: Blessed be God, who did not give us over to be a prey for their teeth.
We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
Our help is in the Name of God, the maker of the earth.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **The snare is broken and we have escaped. Blessed be our God!**

Scripture Reading

Exodus 1:8—2:10 (*Old Testament, page 47*)

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

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.

Sharing of Gifts *(Please place gifts and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.)*

Offertory Music "Blackbird" *John Lennon and Paul McCartney*

***Doxology** *Lucy Smith*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Sanctus *Lucy Smith*

The Communion

Communion Music "Of All the Gifts Thy Love Bestows" *John Stevenson and William Comper*

Closing Responses

Leader: Gracious God, for your love for us that is gentle as a shower,
that heals our pain and binds up our wounds:

People: we give you thanks.

Leader: For your love for us that is as sure as the dawn,
that transforms our shadow places and reveals your truth:

People: we give you thanks.

Leader: For your love for us that is mercifully steadfast,
that calls us to you and raises us up:

People: we give you thanks.

Leader: For your love for us that encourages questions and is open to doubts:

People: we give you thanks.

Leader: Urge us on, O Christ, to find wholeness through serving you by serving others
in the power of your Spirit until you make all things new.

People: Amen.



Sending

***Closing Song.** “When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land”

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner	Pastor
Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Summer Zhao	Lay Liturgist
Lucy Smith Quartet	Allison Orobia, vocals Bryan Doherty, bass Amr Fahmy, piano Isaiah Spencer, drums

Baptized during worship today

Nolan Jeffrey Lewis Capilla, child of Craig and Danielle Capilla
Colin Lukas Chapman Wood, child of Taylor and Jessica Wood

A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God is 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.

Acknowledgments

Words—The Opening Responses are adapted from *The Wee Worship Book* (Wild Good Publications with the Wild Goose Worship Group. Glasgow, 1999). All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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Music—“Reach Out Your Hand in Peace” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2013. “Doxology” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2016. “Gospel Sanctus” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2011. All rights reserved. Used with permission. “When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land” music arrangement copyright © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.



PASTORAL STAFF

Shannon J. Kershner, Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry
Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Nanette Sawyer, Minister for Congregational Life
Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

Worship

Our Jazz at Four service will be held outdoors next Sunday, September 3. Join us for worship around the fountain, in the midst of summer's beauty!

Sacred Pause meditative silence is offered on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

Morning Prayer is held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel as a time to pray with Fourth Church staff for members and those in need.

The next candlelit Taizé service will be held on Friday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, as it is on the fourth Friday of each month. Prior to this contemplative time of meditative song, prayer, and silent reflection, there will be a labyrinth available in Anderson Hall for walking that evening between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

The labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is available for walking this week on Monday and Tuesday between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., on Wednesday between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., and on Saturday between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

The "I Am" banners were made for the liturgical season of Ordinary Time by Vicky Curtiss. In the literature racks is a brochure explaining them.

Our Communion table cloth contains painted handprints from members of this worshiping community. The handprints are different shades of green—the liturgical color of the Season of Ordinary Time—symbolizing growth and change.

News and Resources

Fourth Church has been abuzz with activity this summer! The programs, opportunities, outreach, and services that more than filled our campus on summer weekdays—from Meals Ministry Bag Lunches to Chicago Lights Summer Day to Vacation Bible School—depend on the generous summertime giving of members and friends. Gifts can be made online at www.bit.ly/FPCgiving or placed in the offering plate. Thank you for your continued support!

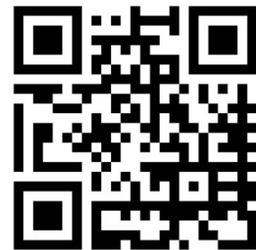
Nominating forms for the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Chicago Lights Board are available online at www.bit.ly/fpcnominating as well as in the pew racks. Please use the forms to recommend Fourth Church members who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry. When completed, paper forms may be placed in the offering plate, dropped off at the reception desk, or mailed to the church office.

Inquirers' Class offers opportunity to learn about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class, which is also a prerequisite for membership, next meets Sunday, September 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. Class attendees are encouraged to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. that day.

Be sure to bookmark the Fourth Church website—www.fourthchurch.org—for easy access to the church calendar and upcoming event details.

Did you see the solar eclipse photo with our steeple?

You can view it online at www.facebook.com/fourthchurch (even if you don't have a Facebook account)—where you can also read favorite quotes from sermons, prayers, and devotions; catch pictures of church life and activities; and keep up-to-date on Fourth Church news as well as invitations to upcoming concerts and events..



Volunteers/Donations Needed

102 new tutors by October 2 to work with students of the Chicago Lights Tutoring program one evening a week at the church; a one-session volunteer orientation will be offered on various days: September 7, 12, 13, 18, and 26 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room; to learn more or to RSVP online for an orientation session, go to www.tutoringnvo2017.eventbrite.com

Sunday School teachers (*in rotating teams*) for 9:30 a.m. (third grade) and 11:00 a.m. (three- and four-year-old class; fourth- and fifth-grade)

Men's pants, all sizes and styles, for the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center Share Shop

Individually wrapped snack items for Meals Ministry bag lunches; (*label donations "Meals Ministry"*)

Shopping bags—large-size, from grocery or department stores—for guests of the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center Share Shop and Food Pantry

Donations can be left at the reception desk. To sign up—or for additional volunteer opportunities—contact Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry, at 312.981.3382 (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

Mission and Outreach

Chicago Shares voucher booklets—which offer a way to give to those in need on the streets while knowing that the \$1 gift will be redeemed at a grocery store or restaurant—are available by emailing Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

Enrichment

Men's Book Club meets this Monday, August 28 at 7:30 a.m. in Parish House Dining Room to begin the first of a two-part discussion of *An American Sickness* by Elisabeth Rosenthal.

Men's Bible Study next meets on Tuesday, September 5 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

A new Center for Life and Learning program year kicks off the week of September 11. The CLL offers a wide range of classes, exercise programs, and day trips for adults sixty and over. Details—including opportunities to register for classes and renew CLL membership—are available online at www.fourthchurch.org/cll

Daily devotions are available via email (*sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions*); in the literature racks; and at [@fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch), Twitter ([@FourthChicago](https://twitter.com/FourthChicago)), and www.fourthchurch.org

Fellowship

Young Adults meets this Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Oak Street Beach for a fun evening of beach volleyball. On Sundays they come together for a weekly Sunday Gathering time of discussion at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

Cornerstones, a group hosted by those fifty and over, meets this Friday, September 1 at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and a program—presented by professional storyteller Anne Shimojima—on the impact World War II incarceration had on Japanese American families. RSVP (*required*) to Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org; 312.640.5448) by this Wednesday, August 30.

For ways to connect with the community of Fourth Church, visit www.fourthchurch.org/community

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School and youth gatherings will resume after Labor Day, on Sunday morning, September 10 when we kick off another exciting year of programming for children, youth, and families. There will also be a family picnic in the Michigan Avenue courtyard that noon, along with games and a dunk tank.

“We Play Together,” an interactive class for parents and their children ages eighteen to twenty-four months (by September 1), will be offered by the Day School on Tuesdays from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., September through June. To sign up (*enrollment is limited*) or for more information, contact Kathy Hager (312.640.2579; khager@fourthchurch.org).

Confirmation registration is open for youth entering eighth grade. High school students wishing to make a profession of faith are also invited to participate in this program, which begins in September. Sign up online at www.bit.ly/confirmationfpc

Those who will be in college this fall are invited to participate in a mission trip to Mexico to build cisterns in Yucatan over Christmas break (December 26 to January 2). Register by this Thursday, August 31. Details and a registration form are available online at www.bit.ly/fpcmexico17info

Music and the Arts

Those interested in singing in the choir for 8:00 a.m. worship are invited to Chancel Choir rehearsals, which begin on Thursday, September 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The Fourth Church Choral Society invites all who like to sing to join them on Thursday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. for their first weekly rehearsal preparing music by Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi for a November 10 concert that will be presented at Fourth Church.

The Handbell Choir begins rehearsals on Sunday, September 10 at 8:00 a.m. in the Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft.

Free Friday Noonday Concerts move back indoors this Friday, September 1 with a performance by flutist Kathryn Flum and pianist Beilan Han in Buchanan Chapel at 12:10 p.m.

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 prayer requests will be read by the pastoral staff during the week.

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.

Worship also can be heard through the "T" setting of hearing aids.

Please silence all electronic devices when in the Sanctuary.

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 left-side aisle where your child can play quietly.

Worship folders, containing quiet activities and a bulletin for children, are available from a greeter.

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org/sermons/index.html.

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 Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).

If You Are New to Fourth Church

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Sundays, September 10, October 8, or November 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room. We invite you to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. the day you attend the class. For details or membership information, contact Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org) at 312.274.3815 or go to www.fourthchurch.org.

Information about opportunities and resources available to you here at Fourth Church is available in the literature racks as you're leaving the church. You can also find information on our website (www.fourthchurch.org), our page on Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to news@fourthchurch.org).

If you are interested in considering baptism or membership at the 4:00 p.m. service at Fourth Church, please contact Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org) or any pastor involved in the service. Information is available about the Baptism Seminar and Inquirers' Class, which are necessary for preparation. A monthly opportunity to be baptized or join the church at the 4:00 service is available on September 24.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up from the Chestnut Street reception desk.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org
312.787.4570; Fax: 312.787.4584; www.facebook.com/fourthchurch