



# Gathering

**Gathering Music** “Dear Lord” . . . . . John Coltrane  
“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go” . . . . . George Matheson and Albert L. Peace

## Greeting

### \*Opening Responses

Leader: Sing and rejoice! The Lord reaches out to you with healing love!

**People: The Lord is our strength and our power!**

Leader: Dance before the Lord, a dance of joy and hope!

**People: The Lord brings us joy and lifts us up in hope.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God who is always with us.

**People: Let us celebrate the good news God brings to us each day.**

\* Stand as you are able

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*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.*

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**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.

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**Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness**

**People:** That's how it is.

**\*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*

**Welcome**

# Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

**Psalter** . . . . . Psalm 114 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

**ANTIPHON** (*unison*) **What alarmed you that you fled?**  
**What alarmed you that you skipped like rams?**

Leader: When Israel came out of Egypt,  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,  
Judah became a sanctuary  
and Israel a dominion.

**ANTIPHON** (*unison*) **What alarmed you that you fled?**  
**What alarmed you that you skipped like rams?**

Leader: The sea beheld it and fled;  
Jordan turned and went back,  
the mountains skipped like rams,  
and the little hills like young sheep.

**ANTIPHON** (*unison*) **What alarmed you that you fled?**  
**What alarmed you that you skipped like rams?**

Leader: What ailed you, O sea, that you fled?  
O Jordan, that you turned back?  
You mountains, that you skipped like rams?  
you little hills like young sheep?

**ANTIPHON** (*unison*) **What alarmed you that you fled?**  
**What alarmed you that you skipped like rams?**

Leader: Tremble, O Earth, at the presence of God,  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,  
who turned the hard rock into a pool of water,  
and flint into a flowing spring.

**ANTIPHON** (*unison*) **What alarmed you that you fled?**  
**What alarmed you that you skipped like rams?**

**Scripture Reading**

Romans 14:1–12 . . . . . (New Testament, page 152)

**Sermon** . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner



**Responding to the Word**

**Musical Reflection**

**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.

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

**Offertory Music** “How Can I Keep from Singing?” . . . . . Robert Lowry

**\*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** "As Members of the Body" . . . . . *Samuel S. Wesley*

### Closing Prayer (*unison*)

**We have been nourished at your table, O God.**

**We have been nourished by the company of all those in this place.**

**We have been nourished by your Living Word proclaimed in Scripture, in prayer, and in song.**

**And so may we respond. Transform our thinking and our doing.**

**May our actions speak your mercy, and may our lives speak your generous love. Amen.**



# Sending

\*Closing Song. . . . . “Soon and Very Soon”

\*Benediction

Sending Music

## Worship Leaders

<b>Shannon Kershner</b>	Pastor
<b>Alex Wirth</b>	Minister for Evangelism
<b>Nancy Jacobs</b>	Lay Liturgist
<b>Lucy Smith Quartet</b>	Lucy Smith, vocals Bryan Doherty, bass Marcus Evans, drums Amr Fahmy, piano

### 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

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**FOURTH**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
**CHURCH**  
*A Light in the City*

### 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  
**Alex Wirth**, Minister for Evangelism  
**Nanette Sawyer**, Minister for Congregational Life  
**Jeffrey Doane**, Parish Associate for Older Adults  
**Abbi Heimach-Snipes**, Pastoral Resident  
**John Buchanan**, Pastor Emeritus

## News and Resources

**Nominating forms for the offices** of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Chicago Lights Board are available online at [www.bit.ly/fpcnominating](http://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.

**Paul Roberts**, President of Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, will be our guest preacher at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship next Sunday, September 24, kicking off our “Always Reforming” sermon series that marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Following that 11:00 service, he will speak at an adult education forum in Borwell Dining Room.

**This week we are honored to host** Chicago Sinai Congregation as they hold their community Rosh Hashanah services here in the Sanctuary as they have for several years.

**A Stephen Minister** is a trained lay person who walks alongside an individual experiencing life challenges. The next fifty-hour training course for new Stephen Ministers will begin early next year, after which those trained will make a two-year commitment to this ministry of caring. To learn more about becoming a Stephen Minister, pick up a brochure from the literature racks.

## Worship

**This Friday a candlelit Taizé service** will be held 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 between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

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

**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.

**We gather for worship** each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. (with Communion), 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and, for Jazz at Four with Communion, at 4:00 p.m.

**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.

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

### **7,795 more single-serving snack items by Sunday, October 1!**

We have already received 2,205 snacks this month for neighbors in need: thank you!

With everyone's help we can reach our goal of 10,000, which is the quantity of individually packaged snacks (granola bars, fruit cups, chips, etc.) that will be used in September and October in Fourth Church Meals Ministry bag lunches and Chicago Lights Social Service Center emergency snack packs.

Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk. .



## Music and the Arts

**This week's free Friday Noonday Concert** will be presented by our Organist, John Sherer, at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**The Fourth Church Choral Society** invites all who like to sing to join them on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel for rehearsals preparing music by Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi for a November 10 concert, which will be presented at Fourth Church with the Chicago Camerata orchestra.

**The Handbell Choir** rehearses on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. in the Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft.

## Fellowship

**Young Adults** are discussing prayer during their weekly Sunday Gathering time at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A. Their Bible study meets on Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Manse.

**Men's Book Club** meets on Monday, September 25 at 7:30 a.m. in the Parish House Dining Room for discussion of Elisabeth Rosenthal's book *An American Sickness*.

**A ThirtiesForties Meet-and-Greet** Reception hosted by Nanette Sawyer will be held next Wednesday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room. This is an opportunity to get to know others in their thirties and forties and explore ways of getting connected at Fourth Church. RSVP to Anne Ellis: 312.573.3369.

**Women at Fourth** will have their monthly gathering on Thursday, September 28 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

**For ways to connect with the community** of Fourth Church, visit [www.fourthchurch.org/community](http://www.fourthchurch.org/community)

## Enrichment

**Two adult education classes** meet on Sundays:

"The Language of Discipleship: A Brief Statement of Faith," led by Jeff Doane at 9:30 a.m., and "The Architecture of Faith: Exploring Sacred Spaces," led by Suzanne Morgan at 11:00 a.m.

**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 on Sunday, October 8 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.

**Men's Bible Study** meets this Tuesday, September 19 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; [aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

**Sacred Sound Meditation** with the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being will be this Tuesday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. in Boyle Conference Room. For details, see [www.fourthchurch.org/rc](http://www.fourthchurch.org/rc)

**Christian Century Study Groups**, which discuss the challenging social, ethical, and theological topics presented in the magazine *Christian Century*, begin this Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room. RSVP to Anne Ellis (312.573.3369).

**Carol Moseley Braun** will speak on "Christianity and Capitalism" on Friday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. This event is free and open to the public; no RSVP necessary. Prior to the presentation, Cornerstones, a group of those fifty and older, will host their monthly dinner in Borwell Dining Room. Prepaid reservations for the dinner are required by Wednesday, October 4 by contacting Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org); 312.573.3369).

**Linda Loving** will talk about her new book, *A New Song to Sing*, which is written for women with breast cancer, at a reception in Anderson Hall on Thursday, October 19 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

## News and Opportunities

### 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 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](http://www.tutoringnvo2017.eventbrite.com)*)

**Greeters** for the Jazz at Four 4:00 p.m. worship service

**Individuals to staff the Book Nook** during the 12:00 noon Sunday Coffee Hour

**Sunday School teachers** for 11:00 a.m. classes

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

**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](mailto:rcrouch@fourthchurch.org)).*

### Mission and Outreach

**The Benevolent Guild** gathers on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create gifts for hospitalized children.

**Produce from the Chicago Lights Urban Farm** is available at their Farmstand (444 W. Chicago) on Saturdays (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.).

**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](mailto:ndavis@fourthchurch.org)).

### Children, Youth, and Family

**Sunday School classes** meet at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**Youth groups and Confirmation** meet on Sundays at 11:00 a.m., with a weekly time for fellowship beforehand at 10:30 a.m.

**Choirs for children and youth** meet on Sundays in Room 4F: Cherub Choir (age 3–grade 1) at 9:00 a.m., Youth Choir (grades 6–12) at 10:00 a.m., and Children's Choir (grades 2–5) at 10:30 a.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](http://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](mailto: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, October 8, November 12, or December 10 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 Alex Wirth ([awirth@fourthchurch.org](mailto:awirth@fourthchurch.org)) at 312.981.3399 or go to [www.fourthchurch.org](http://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](http://www.fourthchurch.org)), our page on Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to [news@fourthchurch.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.fourthchurch.org)  
312.787.4570; Fax: 312.787.4584; [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)