



Gathering

Gathering Music "Living for the City" *Stevie Wonder*
"Impressions". *John Coltrane*

Greeting

***Opening Responses**

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

People of God, how long have we pitted darkness against light?

Night and day have no hard feelings for each other.

Evil can surface equally when well lit or shadowy.

Goodness is present in deep darkness and bright light.

Let us recognize the seeds of prejudices, the roots of divisions.

Let us come before you, loving God, open and ready to be set free.

We lay down all our falsehoods and worship the God of truth.

* 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.

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 (*unison*)

**Awake or asleep, God of the day and God of the night,
we seek a fuller understanding of who you are.**

Awake, we come with our questions.

We come ready to wrestle with the intricacies and metaphors of your Word.

Asleep, we dream dreams of what you look like.

We let the intricacies and metaphors of our minds wrestle with your Word.

And sometimes we miss the point. Lose the plot.

Because we are proud and stubborn, it can take centuries to admit it.

Makes us ready to be wrong, gracious God.

Let us see all that you are making right and follow. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear this good news.

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

***Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

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 123 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.**

To you, I lift up my eyes,
to you, enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to you, our God,
awaiting favor.
Have mercy upon us, O God,
have mercy!
We have had more than enough of contempt,
the scorn of the indolent rich,
the derision of the proud.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.**

Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11. (*New Testament, page 193*)

Sermon “The Lightness of Darkness” *Alex Wirth*

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, pledges, and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.)*

Offertory Music "Black and Blue" Thomas "Fats" Waller, Harry Brooks, and Andy Razaf

***Doxology** Lucy Smith

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Sanctus *Lucy Smith*

The Communion

Communion Music "Just Taste and See". *Traditional*

Closing Prayer *(unison)*

**In all things, God of truth,
let us seek truth.**

**Faced with truth, faithful God,
let us live in faithfulness.**

**Having lost something dear,
trustworthy God,
let us trust that we are alive in you.**

**In all things,
God of encouragement,
let us build one another up.
Amen.**



Sending

***Closing Song** "In an Age of Twisted Values"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

*Benediction

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Alex Wirth	Minister for Evangelism
Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Jaime Murphy	Lay Liturgist
Lucy Smith Quartet	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
Nanette Sawyer, Minister for Congregational Life
Alex Wirth, Minister for Evangelism
Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

Thanksgiving

Interfaith Thanksgiving worship will be held this Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00 p.m. at Chicago Sinai Congregation (15 W. Delaware) and will be cohosted by Chicago Sinai, Downtown Islamic Center, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Holy Name Cathedral, LaSalle Street Church, and St. James Cathedral. Nanette Sawyer will be preaching.

Thanksgiving Day worship at Fourth Church will be held at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary this Thursday, November 23. Vicky Curtiss and Kent Organ will preach on Thanksgiving morning.

A Thanksgiving Day Dinner will be held this Thursday, November 23 at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Tickets (*required*) are available online at www.bit.ly/thanksdinner2017 through Monday, November 20 or by contacting Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Thanksgiving Day parking for the worship service and dinner is available at a discounted rate at the 900 parking garage. Please note, however, that the discounted rate will not be the Sunday morning rate but will be the \$17 holiday rate set by the garage. The \$17 vouchers can be purchased with cash or check at the church reception desk on Thanksgiving morning. There will then be no additional fee when validating your ticket at the garage upon exit.

Worship

The labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is available for walking this week on Monday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.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 for Fourth Church 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.

Fellowship

Young Adults, a group for those in their twenties and thirties, meets for their weekly Sunday Gathering—a time to discuss a different topic each week—at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

Men's Book Club will meet next Monday, November 27 at 7:30 a.m. at a member's home to discuss *The Four* by Scott Galloway. Contact Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org) for details.

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

Five years ago this weekend . . .

. . . we dedicated the Gratz Center and prepared to begin using its classrooms for the first time the following week. We remain profoundly grateful to all whose generous gifts made building the Gratz Center possible and to all whose offerings of time and talent fill the space with vibrant expressions of a church alive in mission and ministry, embodying our call to love and serve..



Advent and Christmas

Help decorate the Sanctuary and also memorialize or honor loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Advent and Christmas flowers and garlands. A list of those remembered will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made online at www.bit.ly/FPCgifts or by using the forms in the literature racks. Contributions must be received by Sunday, December 10 for names to appear in the Christmas bulletin.

Daily Advent devotions will be available beginning December 3 via email (sign up online at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); in the literature racks; and at facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), and www.fourthchurch.org

The annual Fair Trade Gift Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall and Borwell Dining Room.

A family Advent wreath workshop will be held Sunday, December 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Parish House Dining Room.

“Candlelight Carols,” a concert by the St. Charles Singers, will take place on Saturday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available online at www.stcharlessingers.com

“A Chanticleer Christmas” concert will be held Tuesday, December 5 and Wednesday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available online at www.cso.org

Holidays a cappella with Chicago *a cappella*, will take place on Saturday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets will be available at the door and online at www.chicagoacappella.org

Holiday Bags are being collected by Fourth Church Meals Ministry for guests of Sunday Night and Monday Night Suppers. A list of needed items and bags to decorate are available from Meals Ministry. Items are to be returned by Sunday, December 10.

The “Christmas Wishes” gift project collects gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students who might not otherwise receive them. Wish lists are available from Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org). Volunteers are also needed to help inventory and wrap gifts. Contact Anne for details.

The Festival of Advent Lessons and Music will take place on Sunday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A cookies-and-cocoa reception will follow in Anderson Hall.

A Christmas musical presented by the Children’s and Youth Choirs will take place Sunday, December 17 at 10:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

The Christmas with Tower Brass concert will be Saturday, December 23 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary; a freewill donation will be received at the door.

Some Christmas Eve candlelight times will be different this year. With Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday, that morning of December 24 we will worship at 11:00 a.m. only. (*There will be no 8:00 or 9:30 a.m. services that day.*) We will also gather for four candlelight Christmas Eve services:

4:00 p.m. Children’s Pageant

6:00 p.m. Family Service with Jazz

8:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

10:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

Taking Communion to homebound members will be part of the Deacon ministry this Advent. If you know of Fourth Church members who would like to receive Communion, please call Carol Allerton at 312.640.5448.

Music and the Arts

Art by the congregation will be on exhibit in the Loggia beginning in January. The deadline for submissions is November 30: only two-dimensional work, please (drawings, paintings, collage, and photography). Details and guidelines are available from Rob Koon (rkoon@fourthchurch.org).

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago will be performing Bach's Brandenburg Concertos on Thursday, November 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary in a concert dedicated to the memory of David Donovan.

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.

Enrichment

Men's Bible Study meets this Tuesday, November 21 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

A meditation group hosted by the Replogle Center meets on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. in the Boyle Conference Room.

A spiritual pilgrimage to Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, will be held April 6–13. Details are available in the literature racks.

Individuals experiencing life challenges can benefit from being paired with a Stephen Minister, who walks alongside them as a listening presence. The next fifty-hour training course for new Stephen Ministers begins February 3. Details are available in the literature racks.

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Volunteers to help with Fair Trade Bazaar setup or takedown (December 1 and 3); for details, email Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org)

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

Single-serving snack items for Fourth Church Meals Ministry and the Social Service Center

Large paper shopping bags for use by guests of the Social Service Center Share Shop and Food Pantry

Men's clothing (all sizes) for guests of the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center Share Shop

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

Information about 2018 mission trips to Cuba; to Mexico to build rain cisterns; and to Washington, D.C., with the Interfaith Coalition Against Racism to learn about the history of oppression and resistance is available at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips and also in brochures in the literature racks.

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

Knitting and Crocheting meets next Tuesday afternoon, November 28 between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. in Room 4F.

Runners interested in joining the 2018 Chicago Lights Marathon Team are asked to email Kate Solis Silva (ksolis@chicagolights.org) by Wednesday, November 29.

Gala of Hope 2018 will be Friday, March 2.

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 Sunday, 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; 312.981.3399) 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 November 26.

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

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