



Gathering

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gathering Music "Mahjong" Wayne Shorter
"Pieces of Dreams (Little Boy Lost)" . . . Michel Legrand, Alan and Marilyn Bergman

Greeting

*Opening Responses

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

In the hardest time of night,
we wait for the power of God to break through.
In sorrow and loss,
we wait for comfort and consolation.
When all hope seems gone,
we wait for new pathways and new understanding.
When we can see no stars,
we wait for the rising of the sun.
Come, Lord, be with us this night. In this season of Lent, be close to us.
Strengthen us in faith, sustain us in love, and grant us hope in despair.
In our challenge, be a light on the road ahead.
Amen.

* 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** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

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*)

Holy One, we clothe ourselves in piety but turn away from your justice.
We can get so caught up in being “good” for you
that we miss that we’re actually harming ourselves and others.
Forgive us, God. Help us discern your Spirit and the ways you guide us for hope,
for wholeness, for life. Amen.

***Kyrie** “Blues Kyrie”

Extinguishing the Fourth Lenten Candle

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the 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** “Sign Me Up” *Kevin Yancy and Jerome Metcalf*

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Psalter Psalm 89:1–8 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Blessed is God forever, Amen and Amen!**

Your love, O God, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
For I am persuaded that your love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David, my servant:
‘I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Blessed is God forever, Amen and Amen!**

The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O God,
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;
for who in the skies can be compared to God?
who is like God among the gods?
God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and terrible to all those round about him.
O Most High God of hosts,
who is mighty like you?

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Blessed is God forever, Amen and Amen!**

Scripture Reading

Mark 12:35–44 (New Testament, page 46)

Lenten Sermon Series: Following Jesus through the Gospel of Mark *Abbi Heimach-Snipes*



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 “Throw It Away” *Abbey Lincoln*

***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 "Lead Me, Guide Me" *Doris Akers*

Closing Prayer *(unison)*

**We know that sometimes we are alone
and sometimes we are in community.**

**Sometimes we are in shadow,
and sometimes we are surrounded by shelter.**

Sometimes we feel like exiles—in our land, in our languages, and in our bodies.

And sometimes we feel surrounded by welcome.

**As we seek to be human together, may we share the things that do not fade:
generosity, truth-telling, silence, respect, and love.**

And may the power we share be for the good of all. Amen.



Sending

***Closing Song.** "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

*Benediction

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lesley Conzelman Lay Liturgist

Musicians
Michael Caskey, drums
Bryan Doherty, bass
Marcus Evans, percussion
Amr Fahmy, piano
Holly McGuire, vocals

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

Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission

Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults

Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident

John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

Lent

Lenten devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available via email (sign up online at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); daily at facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), as well as fourthchurch.org; and in printed booklets in the literature racks.

A contemplative Lenten retreat will be held at Fourth Church on Saturday, March 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Cosponsored by the Fourth Church Spiritual Formation Council and Urban Village Church, the retreat will be facilitated by Teresa Pasquale Mateus of Mystic Soul Project. Registration is required and can be completed at www.bit.ly/lentretreat18

A candlelit Lenten Taizé service—a contemplative service of prayer, meditative song, and silent reflection—will be held Friday evening, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Worship

Sacred Pause meditation 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 join staff in prayer for Fourth Church members and those in need.

The Buchanan Chapel labyrinth is available to walk on Mon. and Tues. (7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.), Wed. (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), and Sat. (8:00 to 10:00 a.m.).

Holy Week and Easter

Gifts toward our Easter flower Sanctuary decorations can be made by using the cards available in the literature racks, online at www.bit.ly/FPCgifts, or by calling Andrea Miller (312.640.2576). Names of those honored by the gifts will be listed in the Easter bulletin. Donations must be received by next Sunday, March 18 in order for the names to be printed.

Palm/Passion Sunday, with the children's palm procession at the 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. services, is March 25. (*The last morning service that day begins at 11:30 a.m.*)

Maundy Thursday Communion services on March 29 will be held at 12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (*Tenebrae*).

Good Friday services on March 30 will be held at 12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (*Choral Service*) in the Sanctuary. A Good Friday program for children will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

A Saturday Easter Vigil will be held on March 31 at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Easter Sunday services on April 1 will include a Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. at Oak Street Beach; 8:00, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m. worship; and a 4:00 p.m. jazz service. An Easter program for children will take place at 9:30 a.m. on Gratz Floor 4.

Easter Sunday Brunch for families and individuals of all ages will be served at 12:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room on April 1. Tickets are available online at www.bit.ly/fpcbrunch18 or by contacting Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering that is received

throughout Lent supports Fourth Church Meals Ministry; Chicago Lights Tutoring and Social Service Center; and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People, and Hunger Programs. Gifts can be made using the envelopes in the pew racks; by writing "Lenten Offering" on a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church; or at www.bit.ly/FPCgiving



News and Opportunities

Children, Youth, and Family

A Family Night magic show with dinner will be Friday, March 16 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

The youth bake sale to raise funds for the summer mission trips to Cuba, Detroit, Montreat, and Missouri will take place next Sunday morning, March 18 during morning Coffee Hour.

Sunday School meets at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

Youth gather for fellowship on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, followed by youth group meetings at 11:00 a.m.

Tunes for Tots, for parents and children up to two years old, is held on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in Day School Classroom B.

Choirs for children and youth meet on Sundays in Room 4F: Cherub (age 3–grade 1) at 9:00 a.m.; Youth (grades 6–12) at 10:00 a.m.; and Children's (grades 2–5) at 10:30 a.m.

News and Resources

Inquirers' Class provides opportunity to learn about Fourth Church. This one-session class—which will next be offered on Sunday, April 8 and is a prerequisite for membership—meets from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. On April 8 the class will also attend the 11:00 a.m. worship service together.

Enrichment

Men's Bible Study next meets Tuesday, March 20 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Women at Fourth's Horizons Bible Study meets this Wednesday noon, March 14 in Room 5H.

"Conversations about Palestine and Israel: Bridging Divisions," an adult education class led by Nanette Sawyer and Dirk Ficca, meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5D.

"Celtic Spirituality," a class led by Vicky Curtiss, meets Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5D.

A meditation group offering "silence in community" is hosted by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being and meets on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. in the Boyle Conference Room. A time of discussion follows for those interested.

Fellowship

The Young Adults group for those in their twenties and thirties meets weekly on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A for a time of discussion and fellowship.

Books by Women will discuss *Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family* by Amy Ellis Nutt this Tuesday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Men's Book Group will be discussing *Provenance: How a Con Man and a Forger Rewrote the History of Modern Art* by Laney Salisbury and Aly Sujo on Monday, March 26 at 7:30 a.m. in Parish House Dining Room.

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

Music and the Arts

The Morehouse College Glee Club, whose 107-year history includes performing for multiple presidents and singing at both the Olympics opening ceremonies and the Super Bowl, will present a free concert this Tuesday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Organist Theodore Davis will present this Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Those interested in singing with the Fourth Church Choral Society for their spring concert featuring Baroque music from the Bolivian rainforest are invited to Thursday evening rehearsals, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., beginning April 5.

Art by Center for Life and Learning members is on display in the Loggia Gallery, celebrating the creativity of those participating in our weekday programming for adults sixty and over.

Mission and Outreach

The Benevolent Guild meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create taggies and stuffed animals for hospitalized children. (*No sewing experience necessary.*)

Used bicycles, bicycle parts, helmets, and jerseys will be collected on Saturday, April 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. here at the church. The bicycles will be repaired by Working Bikes and then sent to those in need in Africa and Central America.

The 2018 Chicago Marathon team for Chicago Lights is recruiting runners. Slots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. To sign up, contact Lauren Suppes (312.981.3383; lsuppes@fourthchurch.org).

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).

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Social Service Center volunteers; orientation will be this Thursday, March 15 at 3:00 p.m.

Greeters for 4:00 p.m. Sunday worship

Showers Ministry greeters (men) for rotating Tuesday schedule (1:15–4:00 p.m.)

Someone to help an older member (who lives near the church) get to and from Sunday morning worship

Tutors to work one-to-one with Chicago Lights Tutoring students one evening a week at the church

Individually packaged snack items (5,000 per month) for Meals Ministry Bag Lunches and Sunday and Monday Night Suppers; particularly needed are fruit snacks, such as fruit or applesauce cups

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

Large paper shopping bags for use by guests of the 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).

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" or "T-coil" 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, 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, April 8, May 13, or June 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 Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org; 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 March 25.

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