



We Approach God

Easter Sunday

Gathering Music “Morning” *Clare Fischer*
“The Angel Rolled the Stone Away”. *African American spiritual*

Greeting

***Joining Our Voices** “i thank You God for most this amazing” *e.e. cummings*
(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

i thank You God for most this amazing day:
for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun’s birthday; this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any—lifted from the no
of all nothing—human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

* 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** "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

Please note

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Prayer of Confession

Very early on the first day of the week when the sun had risen,
the women went to the tomb, so that they might anoint Jesus.

We, too, anoint the death of our dreams, even before we allow them a chance to live.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb,
but when they went in, they did not find the body.

**We give up on hope so easily, giving up on the expectation
that God will do something incredible.**

While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them.

**God speaks through the strangers we encounter, but we don't hear—
we don't want to be challenged by a new word.**

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here. He is risen."

**We seek life from the death of the past. We hold to that which breathes only in our memory,
holding to mistakes long past, to hurts long inflicted, to strings attached to forgiveness.**

God of life and love and forgiveness, receive our confession.

Turn us again toward you, Living God. Awaken us to your grace, we ask in Jesus' name.

(Please hold silence.)

God Forgives and Blesses Us

In Jesus Christ, we also are raised to new life.

Turn your hearts toward Christ and receive this good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, blessed, and sent into the world! Alleluia! Amen!

***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*

We Proclaim the Story

Psalter Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Leader: Give thanks to God, who is good, whose mercy endures forever.
Let Israel now proclaim, “God’s mercy endures forever.”
God is my strength and my song and has become my salvation.
There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of God has triumphed! The right hand of God is exalted!
The right hand of God has triumphed!”

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Praise the Lord, whose love is eternal! Praise the Lord, whose love is eternal!**

Leader: I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of God.
God has punished me sorely but did not hand me over to death.
Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and praise God.
“This is the gate of God; those who are righteous may enter.”

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Praise the Lord, whose love is eternal! Praise the Lord, whose love is eternal!**

Leader: I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.
The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is God’s doing, and it is marvelous in your eyes.
This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Praise the Lord, whose love is eternal! Praise the Lord, whose love is eternal!**

Scripture Reading

Mark 16:1–8. (*New Testament, page 51*)

Sermon *Nanette Sawyer*

We Offer Ourselves

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 "Lord of the Dance" *Shaker hymn, text by Sydney Carter*

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" *Brian Wren*

We Feast Together

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 "Spirit Song" *John Wimber*

We Go Out with Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

O God of all our days, we come this afternoon with eager anticipation.

We seek to know you, to see you, to touch you.

Open our hearts, that we might experience you anew.

Open our lives, that we may be faithful witnesses to your resurrection.

**May we, with shouts of joy, proclaim your steadfast, liberating love
to all people, everywhere. Amen.**

***Closing Song** "Christ Is Alive!"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer	Associate Pastor
Rocky Supinger	Associate Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith	Senior Associate Pastor
Jean Marie Koon	Lay Liturgist

Musicians	Marcus Evans, drums Paul Bedal, piano Bryan Doherty, bass Allison Orobia, vocals
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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

Worship

Sacred Pause meditation, a time of silent reflection hosted by the Replogle Center and the Spiritual Formation Council, is held 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.

Video of this morning's 11:30 a.m. Easter service is available online at www.bit.ly/FPCworship (and also accessible at www.fourthchurch.org), where it will be viewable in the days ahead as well.

The next candlelit Taizé service—a contemplative time of meditative song, prayer, and silent reflection—will be held on Friday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, as it is on the fourth Friday of each month.

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

News and Resources

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering that is being received today 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 "One Great Hour" on a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church; or online at www.bit.ly/FPCgiving

Inquirers' Class provides opportunity to learn about Fourth Church. This one-session class—which will be offered next Sunday, April 8 and is a prerequisite for membership—meets from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Room 5G. On April 8 the class will also attend the 11:00 a.m. worship service together.

Lucy Forster-Smith will be installed as our Senior Associate Pastor for Leadership Development and Adult Education next Sunday, April 8 during the 11:00 a.m. service.

The congregational pancake breakfast to raise funds for the youth's 2018 mission trips to Cuba, Detroit, and Missouri, as well as their Montreat Youth Conference, will be Sunday, April 15 between 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. Tickets will be available at the door that day as well as in Coffee Hour next Sunday.

A Special Welcome to Visitors with Us Today!

We are grateful you have joined us for this Easter celebration! We invite you to return to worship with us again and also to explore the many opportunities for education, fellowship, volunteering, and outreach available at Fourth Church. These pages and www.fourthchurch.org list a variety of these programs and activities, all of which welcome newcomers.



News and Opportunities

Children, Youth, and Family

The Fourth Church Day School is accepting applications for its 2018–19 early childhood programs, including a tot-and-parent class, a three-morning preschool class, and an extended-day option. Space is also available for June 5–8 and June 11–14 summer programs. For details, contact Kathy Hager (khager@fourthchurch.org).

Spring Family Camp will be held Friday, May 18–Sunday, May 20 in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. For details, contact Briana at bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org

Children will be joining us in worship at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. next Sunday, April 8. They will sit with their parents until just prior to the sermon, when they will leave with their teachers for their Sunday School classrooms.

Youth meet for fellowship next Sunday, April 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. At 11:00 a.m. Junior Highs will meet in Room 4G; Confirmation in Room 5A; and Senior Highs in Bumpus.

Music and the Arts

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 this Thursday, April 5.

This week's free Friday Noonday concert will be presented by violinist Sara Su Jones at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Art by guests of the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center is on display in the Loggia through Thursday, April 12.

Enrichment

Men's Bible Study meets this Tuesday, April 3 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

"Religion within the Bounds of Mere Reason," a class led by Clare Pearson and using Immanuel Kant's 1793 work *Religion within the Limits of Reason Alone*, resumes on Sunday, April 8 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5D.

"Church and Empire: New Testament Responses to the Roman Empire," taught by Walter Hansen, begins next Sunday, April 8 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5D.

Women at Fourth's Horizons Bible study meets Wednesday noon, April 11 in Room 5H.

A meditation group hosted by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being meets Tuesdays from 7:00 to 7:45 p.m. in the Boyle Conference Room.

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 *The Secrets of Wishtide* by Kate Saunders on Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Cornerstones, a group for those fifty and over, will gather Friday, April 6 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room for dinner and a program on "The Status of Cannabis in Illinois," presented by Joseph Wright, the state's first director of medical cannabis. Register (*required*) by Wednesday, April 4 online at www.bit.ly/cfpc0418 or contact Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Fourth for Bridge will gather on Saturday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. at a member's home. For details, call Anne Ellis (312.573.3369).

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.*)

A Blue Bows Prayer Service will be held Thursday, April 5 at 9:00 a.m. Afterwards volunteers will tie blue bows outside the church as part of our Child Abuse Prevention Awareness efforts. To volunteer, contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369).

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.

“Analyzing and Understanding Systemic Racism” training will be offered Thursday through Saturday, May 24–26 here at the church. For details about the training or the Saturday, June 2 Gospel Run to support anti-racism training, email Vicky Curtiss (vcurtiss@fourthchurch.org).

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

Jazz at Four greeters for 4:00 p.m. Sunday worship

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

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 (Room 5G) or May 13 or June 10 (Page Smith Room) from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. On April 8, the class will worship together at the 11:00 service. 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 April 22 or May 27.

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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