



We Approach God

Gathering Music "Peace" Horace Silver
"O, Give Thanks unto the Lord". Judith Christie McCallister

Greeting

***Joining Our Voices**

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

Just and merciful God,
you speak through the prophets,
through the Risen Christ,
challenging us to seek peace rooted in justice.

Help us to hear your urgent call.

Loving God, in Jesus you change our lives for good,
challenging us to live the good news.

Help us to respond wholeheartedly, here and now, today! 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** “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

Please note

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We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession

**Living Spirit, your resurrection teaches us to be bold,
to have hope, to take courage.
Yet you might find us quiet and hidden
or reacting out of fear instead of out of your confidence.
Forgive us for our silence. Forgive us for doubting ourselves.
Forgive us for forgetting the power of your resurrection.
Help us to learn from and seek strength from our collective community—
those past and present prophets who embody your Risen Spirit—
so that we too may be bold. Amen.**

(Please hold silence.)

God Forgives and Blesses Us

Christ is risen! Rise up and rejoice; be witnesses to the good news!

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*

Welcome

We Proclaim the Story

Psalter Psalm 118:1–14 (*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."
Let the house of Aaron now proclaim, "God's mercy endures forever."
Let those who fear God now proclaim, "God's mercy endures forever."

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

Leader: I called to God in my distress; God answered by setting me free.
God is at my side, I will not fear; what can anyone do to me?
God is at my side to help me; I will triumph over those who hate me.
Is it better to rely on God than to put any trust in flesh.
 It is better to rely on God than to put any trust in rulers.
All the ungodly encompass me;
 in the name of God I will repel them.

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

Leader: They hem me in, they hem me in on every side;
 in the name of God I will repel them.
They swarm about me like bees;
 they blaze like a fire of thorns;
 in the name of God I will repel them.
I was pressed so hard that I almost fell,
 but God came to my help.
God is my strength and my song
 and has become my salvation.

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

Scripture Reading

Acts 4:23–31 (*New Testament, page 114*)

Sermon *Abbi Heimach-Snipes*

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 "I Just Want to Praise You" *Maurette Brown Clark*

***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 "Someday We'll All Be Free" *Donny Hathaway*

We Go Out with Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

O God of all our days, we come this day 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** “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident

Samme Orwig Lay Liturgist

Musicians
Bryan Doherty, bass
Marcus Evans, drums
Dan Murphy, piano
Allison Orobia, 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

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 as well as for those who are in need.

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.

Music and the Arts

This week's free Friday Noonday concert will be presented by the voice and piano trio Artful Song at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

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. 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.

News and Resources

Lucy Forster-Smith was installed as our Senior Associate Pastor for Leadership Development and Adult Education this morning during the 11:00 a.m. service. Please keep her in your prayers as we continue our journey of ministry together.

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

Inquirers' Class provides opportunity to learn about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class—which is also a prerequisite for membership—will be next offered on Sunday, May 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. Participants are encouraged to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. the day they attend the class.

Our 2018 spiritual pilgrimage to Ghost Ranch is currently underway in New Mexico. Please keep the nine participants in your prayers in the week ahead.

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.

From our joyous Easter celebration for all ages to a look back at our moving Holy Week journey to Easter to reminders of the many things for which we are thankful—you can find online fun pictures of the life that daily fills this place. Visit www.facebook.com/fourthchurch (which you can view even if you don't have a Facebook account) to see images of Fourth Church mission and ministry in action!



Enrichment

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

"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*, meets on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5D.

"Church and Empire: New Testament Responses to the Roman Empire," taught by Walter Hansen, meets on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5D.

Fellowship

Books by Women will discuss *The Secrets of Wishtide* by Kate Saunders this Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Men's Breakfast will meet this Saturday April 14 at 8:00 a.m. in the Parish House Dining Room for a program on China by Preston M. Torbert.

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.

Men's Bible Study next meets Tuesday, April 17 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

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 (312.640.2579; khager@fourthchurch.org).

Mindful Parenting meets with Sue Schemper next Sunday, April 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the Loft.

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

Youth meet for fellowship on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. At 11:00 a.m. Junior Highs meet in Room 4G; Confirmation in Room 5A; and Senior Highs in the Bumpus Room.

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 rehearse 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.

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

Mission and Outreach

Used bicycles, bicycle parts, helmets, and jerseys will be collected this 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 Blue Bows on the trees outside the Manse are our public witness as part of Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. To learn more, contact Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org; 312.573.3369).

“Analyzing and Understanding Systemic Racism” training will be offered May 24–26 here at the church. Contact Vicky Curtiss (vcurtiss@fourthchurch.org) to register.

The Gospel Run 5K/10K (and a half-mile walk for children) on Saturday, June 2 will provide opportunity to walk, run, or pledge to raise funds in support of anti-racism training programs at Fourth Church through the Interfaith Council Against Racism. To register or pledge, sign up online at www.raceroster.com/16612 by May 15.

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.*)

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

Tutors to work with students of the Chicago Lights Tutoring program one evening a week at the church; a new tutor orientation will be held this Tuesday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room

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.)

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

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

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, May 13, June 10, or July 8 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 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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