



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Greeting

*Joining Our Voices

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

God the Creator is Father of us all, Mother of each one.
Give thanks for God's love for us from the beginning of time.

God formed us when we were in our mother's wombs;

God knit us together lovingly;

God's devotion to us has not failed;

God's care has followed us our whole life long.

All we are and all we have, we owe to God;

and so on this day, in this house devoted to God's glory,
we give honor to God with our hearts and hands and voices.

Praise God—Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer!

Praise God—Ever-present power of transformation!

Praise God—Bringer of life from death in the Resurrected Christ!

* 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. For details on the licenses, permission to reprint, and copyright information for the musical pieces not included here, please see the “Acknowledgments” page later in this bulletin.

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

**Holy One, you have shone the light of knowledge into our hearts,
and yet we claim that our wisdom is all from us.
You have walked with us every step of our lives,
yet we sometimes think that we have
lived each day by our own power.
When we reach our limits we are shocked
by the truth of our mortality and our capacity to fail.
Heal us from affliction.
Protect us from despair.
Let us not believe that we are forsaken.
Save us from destruction, and let the life of Jesus Christ
flourish in our very bodies.**

(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.

Welcome

We Proclaim the Story

Psalter Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Leader: God, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You trace my journeying and my resting
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Indeed, there is not a word on my lips
but you, O God, know it altogether.
You press upon me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is a mystery I cannot fathom.

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

Leader: For you created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you because I am wonderfully and fearfully made;
your works are wonderful. I know it well.
My body was not hidden from you,
while I was made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my limbs, unfinished in the womb; they were written in your book;
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
How great is the sum of them!
I count them, but they number like sand;
my life span would need to be like yours to count them.

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

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 4:5–12 (*New Testament, page 157*)

Sermon "Treasure in Clay Jars" *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

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

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 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

The Communion

Communion Music

We Go Out with Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

**God of all creation, we give you thanks for your abundant love
and for the many opportunities you give us to share that love.
Help us to receive your gifts and carry them out into the world—
your grace, love, forgiveness, and hope.
Let us become a blessing to your world in need. Amen.**

***Closing Song** “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

***Benediction**
Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer	Associate Pastor
Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Musicians	Allison Orobia, 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

Words—Joining Our Voices is adapted from Carol Penner (carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship).

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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
Joseph L. Morrow, Minister for Evangelism
Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

This morning new Stephen Ministers were commissioned at the 11:00 a.m. service: Rebecca Binks, Connie Chang, Cary Donham, Dawn Kulich, and Colleen Mraz. Through one-to-one relationships that are confidential, Stephen Ministers—who first complete fifty hours of training—extend the pastoral care of Fourth Church clergy staff by providing regular spiritual support for those who are facing one or more of life’s many challenges or transitions. We are grateful to the Stephen Ministers for the ongoing pastoral care they provide! To learn more or to request a meeting with a Stephen Minister visit www.fourthchurch.org/caring

Encore, a benefit for our Center for Life and Learning, will be held on Saturday, June 1 at 5:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. CSO concertmaster Robert Chen, his family, clarinetist Steve Williamson, and pianist Kuanghao Huang will perform. For further details and tickets visit www.fourthchurch.org/cll

Enrichment

“Race: The Power of an Illusion,” an adult education class with Vicky Curtiss and Robert Crouch, meets Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5D.

Men’s Bible Study meets this Tuesday, May 15 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

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 and offers a time to join staff in praying for Fourth Church members and those in need.

The next candlelit Taizé service—a contemplative time of meditative song, prayer, and silent reflection—will be held on Friday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, as it is on the fourth Friday of each month.

Devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available daily via email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); at facebook.com/fourthchurch, [@FourthChicago](https://twitter.com/FourthChicago), as well as online at www.fourthchurch.org; and in booklets in the literature racks.

Become a Shareholder in Youth Mission!

This summer our Fourth Church youth will be taking part in the “Lift Every Voice” Montreat Youth Conference in North Carolina as well as traveling on mission trips to Detroit and Cuba. You can support the youth’s summer 2018 mission work by becoming a shareholder in youth mission! Shareholders will be invited to the Sunday, August 26 shareholders meeting. Shareholder stocks are available online at www.bit.ly/fpcyouthstock18



Volunteers/Donations Needed

Administrative volunteer for the Urban Farm to help two to three hours weekly

Coffee Hour Hospitality Team members to serve at Coffee Hour once a month

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

Ushers for the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services

Chicago Lights Urban Farm volunteers; all volunteers must preregister, and new volunteers must attend an orientation; to sign up or for details, visit www.bit.ly/1aNY3AQ/

Chicago Lights Summer Day volunteers to help with this six-week academic, arts, and enrichment program for students, learn more at new volunteer orientation on Thursday, June 14 at 3:00 p.m. or Thursday, June 21 at 6:00 p.m.; register online: at www.bit.ly/2w9B96e

Clothes donations, particularly men's, for guests of the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center

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

Mission and Outreach

Today is the final day of the 10,000 items snack drive for the Meals Ministry Bag Lunch program. Individually packaged snack items can be dropped off at the church reception desk (labeled “Meals Ministry”). Thank you to all who continue to help us meet this ongoing need for 5,000 snack items each month to include in our sack lunches as we keep serving those in need in our community!

Fresh plant starts will be available at the Chicago Lights Urban Farm Plant Sale on Saturday, May 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (*444 W. Chicago Ave.*).

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

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.*)

Knitting and Crocheting meets next Tuesday, May 22 between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. in Room 4F.

“Analyzing and Understanding Systemic Racism” training will be offered May 24–26 here at the church. Contact Vicky Curtiss (312.981.3598 ; vcurtiss@fourthchurch.org) for more information and to register.

A free screening of *Milwaukee 53206: The Epidemic of Vanishing Black Men* will be hosted by the Interfaith Coalition Against Racism, of which Fourth Church is a member, on Saturday, June 2 at 6:30 p.m. at University Church (*57th Street and University Avenue*).

Children, Youth, and Family

The last day for regular Sunday School, Tunes for Tots, and youth programming for this school year was this morning. Sunday School is on break until Sunday, June 3 when Summer Sunday School will begin, with classes at 9:30 a.m. only.

Next Sunday is Confirmation Sunday, a day when eighth graders will profess their faith during the 11:00 a.m. service.

The Fourth Church Day School is accepting applications for its various 2018–19 early childhood programs as well as its June weeks. For details, contact Kathy Hager (312.640.2579; khager@fourthchurch.org).

Vacation Bible School will be Monday, August 6–Friday, August 10 here at Fourth Church. Register at www.fourthchurch.org/children/vbs

Fellowship

Women at Fourth will gather for a book swap and ice cream social on Thursday, May 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

A new men's discussion group, "How to Hear God Speaking Personally through the Gospels," will meet for three months on Fridays from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. in the Randolph Room beginning June 1. To register (*required*), email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Music and the Arts

This Friday the Fourth Church Choral Society will present their spring concert featuring Baroque music from the Bolivian rainforest at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A freewill donation will be received at the door.

A new art exhibit by Gerald Griffin is on display in the Loggia through Labor Day.

This Friday's free Noonday Concert is presented by Michelle Wynton, piano; Keiko Alexander, violin; and Bill Cernota, cello, at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

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, June 10, July 8, or August 12 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 Joe Morrow (jmorrow@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 Joe Morrow (jmorrow@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 May 27 or June 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

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