



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Greeting

*Joining Our Voices

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

Welcome to this time of shared prayer, when we encourage one another in our ministry.

We need this time for reassurance and strengthening for all we face in life.

Here we remember the faith we hold in common and find renewal and encouragement.

It is often difficult to sense God's presence in the headlines or in our daily contacts.

It is hard to see ourselves as Christ's representatives when so few seem to put faith first.

We feel alone and unappreciated, as if we were the only faithful ones left.

When everyone marches to a different drummer, it is hard to know who's out of step.

Bring us together to hear your still, small voice so we can recognize you when we're apart.

* 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** “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

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,
we confess how we are afraid to speak your truth,
especially to those within our closest community.
Our fear sometimes makes us reactive or silent, consumed or apathetic.
God, we need your help to speak to our community.
Help us work on ourselves, instead of pointing fingers to others.
Help us listen deeply and better learn how to faithfully share your good news.
Hear this silent confession.**

(Please hold silence.)

God Forgives and Blesses Us

The Holy Spirit is upon us and has given us 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

Epistle 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

ANTIPHON: Blessed are they who walk in the way of God.

Leader: Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

ANTIPHON: Blessed are they who walk in the way of God.

Leader: And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

ANTIPHON: Blessed are they who walk in the way of God.

Scripture Reading

Acts of the Apostles 17:1–9. (*New Testament, page 128*)

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

***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)*

Holy God, you call us to speak truth and engage in your work in this world.

We belong to you and we give thanks for the courage, strength, and responsibilities you nurture in us. God, help us walk on water when we need to and let us sink when we become self-righteous. In quiet confidence we face the week ahead, listening for your still, small voice that never leaves us. Amen.

***Sending Song** "We Are Marching in the Light of God"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Joseph L. Morrow	Minister for Evangelism
Jamie Murphy	Lay Liturgist
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

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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
Shawn Fiedler, Ministerial Associate for Worship
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

Fourth Church is abuzz with activity this summer!

The programs, opportunities, outreach, and services that more than fill our campus on summer weekdays—from Meals Ministry Bag Lunches to Center for Life and Learning exercise classes—depend on the generous summer giving of members and friends. Gifts can be made online at www.bit.ly/FPCgiving or placed in the offering plate. Thank you for your support!

Individuals experiencing life challenges can benefit from being paired with a Stephen Minister, who walks alongside them as a listening presence. Learn more online at www.fourthchurch.org/caring

Inquirers' Class will next be offered on Sunday, September 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room. This one-session class, a prerequisite for membership, offers opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. Class attendees are encouraged to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. that day. To register for that session, visit www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers

To recommend for the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, or Chicago Lights Board any Fourth Church members—or yourself—who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry, please use the forms available in the pew racks and also online at www.bit.ly/fpcnominating; when completed, paper forms may be placed in the offering plate, dropped off at the reception desk, or mailed to the church.

Please take a moment to sign the pew information pad—whether you are a visitor or a member, whether you have updated contact information to share or whether it is the same—so that we might know you are with us.

Be sure to “like” Fourth Church on Facebook to see photos of church life and keep up-to-date on Fourth Church news.

Follow Fourth Church on Twitter:
[@FourthChicago](https://twitter.com/FourthChicago)

Please use the recycling baskets around campus to help us care for creation.

Bookmark the Fourth Church website—
www.fourthchurch.org—for easy access to the Fourth Church calendar, information about upcoming events, photos, and more.

Fellowship

Young Adults group meets next week for their weekly Sunday Gathering at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A. Each summer Monday, they also meet at 6:30 p.m. at Oak Street Beach for a fun evening of volleyball.

Men's Bible Study next meets on Tuesday, August 21 at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369).

Men's Book Club will meet Monday, August 27 at 7:30 a.m. at a member's home. Contact Anne Ellis for details (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org)

Have you seen our photos from ancient Babylon?

This past week was filled with fun and learning as preschoolers through fifth-graders traveled to ancient Babylon for Vacation Bible School's focus on the Old Testament prophets messages for us.

Check out the VBS pictures—as well as some favorite quotes from recent sermons and devotions and Fourth Church news postings—all on Facebook: www.facebook.com/fourthchurch



Worship

“A Spirit Revolution,” our summer sermon series, continues on the Acts of the Apostles. Next week’s sermon will be on “Starting the Church in Corinth” (Acts 18:1–4 and 1 Corinthians 1:10–18).

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.

Devotions written by both 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 online at www.fourthchurch.org; and in booklets in the literature racks.

The next candlelit Taizé service—a contemplative time of meditative song, prayer, and silent reflection held on the fourth Friday of each month—will take place on Friday, August 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Children, Youth, and Family

Those who supported the youth’s summer trips to Cuba, Detroit, and Montreat are invited to hear the students share their experience. Join them following 11:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, August 26. A light lunch will be served. RSVP to Rocky Supinger at rsupinger@fourthchurch.org

Registration for eighth-grade Confirmation and the fall Confirmation retreat are due by September 1. For details and registration, go to bit.ly/8thconf

Sunday School does not meet in August. Families are encouraged to worship with their children in the Sanctuary. Sunday School will resume after Labor Day weekend, with the Children, Youth, and Family Fall Kickoff on Sunday, September 9.

Our Day School preschool program has openings for the 2018–19 school year. Contact Kathy Hager at 312.640.2579.

Music and the Arts

Artist Gerald Griffin will lead a gallery walk in the Loggia—his last discussion at Fourth Church before the exhibit closes on Labor Day—to discuss his exhibition “Paradigm Shift” on Sunday, August 26, after the 11:00 a.m. service.

Jazz singer Elaine Dame will present this Friday’s Music by the Fountain concert at 12:10 p.m. in the courtyard.

Enrichment

The Tuesday meditation group meets this Tuesday, August 14 at 7:00 p.m. in Boyle Conference Room.

An information session for the new men's discussion series on the Gospels will be offered this Wednesday, August 15 at 6:15 p.m. in the Randolph Room. The group will begin meeting on September 12. For more information, contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

For adults sixty and more, a host of exercise opportunities, classes (from French to painting to films to history), and day trips are all in store during the new program year of the Center for Life and Learning, which will kick off Monday, September 10. For details—and the ability to register online for classes and to renew CLL memberships—see www.fourthchurch.org/cll or contact Susan Quaintance (312.981.3386).

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Individually packaged salty snack items, such as chips and pretzels, for the Meals Ministry Bag Lunches

T-shirts, sizes XL and larger, for guests of the Social Service Center

Adult-sized men's and women's socks for guests of the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center

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

Ushers for the 8:00 a.m. service

Greeters for the 4:00 p.m. service

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

Fourth Church's Sunlight Project, which works to end sex trafficking, will host a training session this Wednesday, August 15 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 4G. RSVP at volunteer@selahfreedom.com

Fresh produce is available from the Chicago Lights Urban Farm's Farmstand (444 W. Chicago) on Saturdays between 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Visit bit.ly/2nDjvSL to sign up for weekly produce shares—which include eggs and fruits—through the Farm's Community Supported Agriculture program.

Voter registration will be offered next Sunday, August 19 during morning Coffee Hour for those who have not registered or whose name or address has changed. Two forms of ID will be required: one with name and current address and a second ID with name.

Knitting and Crocheting meets Tuesday, August 28 between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. in Room 4F for a time of fellowship, to drop off items made for those in need, and to pick up materials.

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 Sunday, September 9 or October 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room (register online for the class at www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers). 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.bit.ly/fpcinquirers

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 August 26 or September 23.

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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