



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Greeting

*Joining Our Voices

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

The glory of God shines forth through creation;

the glory of God is life, abundant life.

The glory of Christ shines forth through justice;

the glory of Christ is love made visible.

The glory of the Holy Spirit shines forth through community;

the glory of the Spirit is power and grace poured out.

Let us worship this God of glory.

Let us worship together with joy.

* 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 God, doing the right thing is hard.
Sometimes we don't know what is best,
and so we become paralyzed by uncertainty,
letting things slide until we have let important things go undone.
Sometimes we know what is right and fair,
but we are afraid to let go of those things we hope will protect us.
We fail to be generous.
Sometimes we know what is right and we try to do what is best,
but we encounter obstacles and we don't persevere until the end.
Help us, God of grace. Forgive us for our failures and our missteps.
Make us strong and brave and persistent.
Help us to let go and trust that you will be with us, no matter what.**

(Please hold silence.)

Amen.

God Forgives and Blesses Us

Hear the good news:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**We hear the good news,
we believe the good news,
we will live out the good news.
Thanks be to God. 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 19 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies are the work of God's hands.
One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
Although they have no words or language and their voices are not heard,
their sound has gone out into all lands and their message to the ends of the world.
In the deep, God has set a pavilion for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Leader: The law of God is perfect and renews life;
the testimony of God is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
The statutes of God are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of God is clear and gives light to the eyes.
The fear of God is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of God are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Leader: By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can tell how often he offends? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound and innocent of a great offense.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O God, my strength and my redeemer.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Scripture Reading

Mark 8:27–38. (*New Testament, page 41*)

Sermon *Nanette Sawyer*

We Offer Ourselves

Poem and Musical Reflection

Poem: "Blessing in the Round" by Jan L. Richardson

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.**

Commissioning of Musicians

Sharing of Gifts (*Please place gifts and pledges 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

Closing Prayer *(unison)*

**God of all creation, when we are empty, you fill us;
when we are alone, you offer us communion at table;
when we feel lost, you find us every time.
Let us carry your steady love into all the world. Amen.**

***Sending Song** "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer	Associate Pastor
Joseph L. Morrow	Minister for Evangelism
Ken Gaines	Lay Liturgist
Musicians	Leslie Beukelman, 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

This week we are honored to host Chicago Sinai Congregation as they again hold Yom Kippur services in the Sanctuary.

Nominating forms for the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Chicago Lights Board are available in the pew racks and also online (at www.bit.ly/fpcnominating). These recommendations for church leadership are due by Sunday, September 30.

Inquirers' Class, which offers opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian church history and beliefs, next meets Sunday, October 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room. To register for this one-session class that is also a prerequisite for membership, visit www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers

Individuals experiencing life challenges can benefit from being paired with a Stephen Minister. For more information visit www.fourthchurch.org/caring

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

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

Fellowship

Men's Book Club will meet Monday, September 24 in Parish House Dining Room to discuss Bill Browder's *Red Notice*.

Women at Fourth will next meet on Thursday, September 27 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bumpus Room with Judy Watt presenting "Are You Listening?"—a discussion on how to improve relationships.

TwentiesThirties retreat registration is due this Thursday, September 20. The retreat will take place in Michigan from October 19–21; fill out the registration form online at www.bit.ly/2030retreat1018.

TwentiesThirties (formerly known as the Young Adults group) will be hosting small groups. "Soul and Psalms Bible Study" will meet on Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. beginning September 16. Another small group focusing on discernment and spirituality will meet on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. beginning September 19. Both groups will meet at a local coffee shop for six weeks. For details, email Abbi Heimach-Snipes (aheimach-snipes@fourthchurch.org).

***Strength for the Struggle* by Joseph Ellwanger**

Author, pastor, and civil rights activist Joseph Ellwanger will be with us on Sunday, September 30 to talk about his new book, which shares his insights into the civil rights movement and urban ministry. His 1:00 p.m. presentation in Buchanan Chapel will be preceded by a lunch hosted by the Fourth Church Racial Equity Council. (RSVP for lunch to Anne Ellis: 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 as a time to join staff in prayer for Fourth Church members and those in need.

A candlelit Taizé service with meditative song, silent reflection, and prayer will be held on Friday, September 28 at 7:30 p.m., as it is on the fourth Friday of each month.

A Blessing of the Animals service will take place on Saturday, October 6 at 10:00 a.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard.

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

Children, Youth, and Family

Youth gather on Sundays with Junior High (grades 6–8) at 9:30 a.m. in Bumpus; a time of fellowship for all youth at 10:30 a.m. in Allison Library; and Senior High (in Bumpus) and Confirmation gatherings (Room 5G) at 11:00 a.m.

Registration for the Confirmation retreat (September 21–23) can be completed online at www.bit.ly/8thconf

The Day School will offer complimentary introductory classes of its new toddler program “Together We Play” September 18 as well as on October 2 and 9. Open to any parent and child 18 months to 2 years. For more information or to register, email Josie Phelps (jphelps@fourthchurch.org).

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Ushers for the 8:00 a.m. service

Book Nook volunteers for the 12:00 p.m. Sunday Coffee Hour

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

Volunteer to unload Meals Ministry food truck once a month—around 3 hours; must be able to lift 50 pounds

Tutors to mentor Chicago Lights Tutoring students one evening a week at the church; sign up for a one-session orientation at www.bit.ly/CLtutoring2018

Pianist to play in Children’s Chapel from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. three Sundays a month

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).

News and Opportunities

Enrichment

Men's Bible Study will meet at 7:30 a.m. this Tuesday, September 18 in the Loop. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369).

A meditation group of the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being meets on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Boyle Room.

A men's discussion series on the Gospels continues Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. in the Randolph Room. Register (*required*) with Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org; 312.573.3369).

John Buchanan and Tom Dozeman are teaching a four-week adult education class, "In the Beginning: God and Humankind in Genesis," on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

"Just and Unjust Wars," a four-week course taught by Richard Hoskins, also takes place on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5E.

A men's discussion group on "Considering How God Speaks to us through Scripture and Our Own Experience" will be led by Tom Forster-Smith on Fridays at 7:15 p.m. from October 12 through December 14. For details attend an informational meeting on Sunday, September 30 at 12:00 p.m. in Room 5D or email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Music and the Arts

This week's free Friday Noonday concert will be presented by Constellation (bass clarinet, marimba, violin) at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Those interested in singing with the Fourth Church Choral Society for its November 9 concert commemorating the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I are invited to the first rehearsal this Thursday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Mission and Outreach

Meals Ministry has a goal of collecting 5,000 individually packaged snack items in September. Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk.

The Benevolent Guild gathers on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create handmade stuffed animals for children in hospitals and shelters and taggies for infants in the NICU at Lurie Children's Hospital. (*No sewing experience necessary.*)

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.

Knitting and Crocheting next meets on Tuesday, September 25 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Room 4F. Items are donated to shelters, hospitals, and nursing homes.

Chicago Shares voucher booklets—a way to give to those in need on the streets while knowing the \$1 gift will be redeemed at a participating grocery store or restaurant—are available by contacting Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to use the prayer card, available from the ushers, 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.

Worshippers 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, October 14 or November 11 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 (member@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 considering baptism or becoming a member of Fourth Church during the 4:00 p.m. service, 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 September 23 or October 28.

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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