



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Greeting

*Joining Our Voices

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

You welcomed the children, the stranger, the widow—

God welcomes us here!

You find us in our doubts, worries, and fears—

God welcomes us here!

Although we may feel alone, overburdened, and tired,

God welcomes us here!

We give thanks to our God, who always makes room for us.

Let us praise God and give thanks!

* 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.

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We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Holy One, it can be hard to follow you,
especially when our world pits us against one another.
Messages surround us, whispering in our ears that we're not enough,
so we try to make up for it and be the best—
missing how our drive for competition can run over your children, your people.
Forgive us, O God.
Forgive us when it's easier for us to compete than collaborate for the work of your world.
Forgive us when we put ourselves before others.
Let your Word seep in our hearts as we find the courage and creativity to follow your way.

(Please hold silence.)

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 8 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Leader: O God our sovereign,
 how great is your name in all the earth!
Out of the mouths of infants and children
 your majesty is praised above the heavens.
You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries
 to quell the enemy and the avenger.

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

Leader: When I consider the heavens, the work of your fingers,
 the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
 what is humanity that you should be mindful of them?
 The children of humanity that you should seek them out?
 You have made humanity little lower than the angels;
 you adorn them with glory and honor.

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

Leader: You give them mastery over the works of your hands;
 you put all things under their feet: all sheep and oxen,
 even the wild beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
 and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
O God our sovereign,
 how great is your name in all the earth!

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

Scripture Reading

Mark 9:30–37. (*New Testament, page 42*)

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.

Minute for Discipleship

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)*

We praise you for sending us out into the world—

not to build walls, but to dismantle barriers.

Not to load on chains, but to liberate the oppressed.

Not to close our doors, but to welcome in the stranger.

Not to further fragment the body of Christ, but to reimagine it.

In gratitude we thank you for the ways you love us and the challenge you bring us, too.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Sending Song** “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Nanette Sawyer	Associate Pastor
Cathy Flaa	Lay Liturgist
Musicians	Leslie Beukelman, vocals; Bryan Doherty, bass; Marcus Evans, drums; Amr Fahmy, piano

Today's Minute for Discipleship is presented by Alison Gerlach on behalf of the Officer Nominating Committee of Fourth Presbyterian Church.

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

“Called to Be a Church Alive,” our 2019 Annual Appeal, is underway! Pledge cards are in the pew racks, and information is in the mail to members about the ways in which your pledges are vital to supporting the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights. Please plan to submit your pledge by Sunday, October 28, when we will celebrate what it means to be a loving, serving church alive!

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 next 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](https://twitter.com/FourthChicago)

Mission and Outreach

A Disaster Relief Offering is being received today to help meet the emergency needs of those affected by recent disasters such as Hurricane Florence and Super Typhoon Mangkhut. Gifts, which will be distributed through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, can be made by using the Disaster Assistance envelopes in the pew racks, by writing “Disaster Assistance” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, or online at pda.pcusa.org

The Benevolent Guild gathers on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create gifts for hospitalized children.

Knitting and Crocheting meets this Tuesday, September 25 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Room 4F for a time of fellowship, to pick up materials, and to drop off items. Items are donated to shelters, hospitals, and nursing homes.

An Interfaith Immigrant Justice Vigil will take place on Tuesday, October 2 at 5:15 p.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. For details call Vicky Curtiss (312.981.3598).

3,577 more single-serving snack items by October 1!

We have already received 1,423 snacks this month for neighbors in need: thank you! With everyone’s help we can reach our goal of 5,000, which is the quantity of individually packaged snacks (granola bars, fruit cups, chips, etc.) that will be used in October in Fourth Church Meals Ministry bag lunches. Particularly needed are fruit snacks; donations can be dropped off at the reception desk.



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.

A candlelit Taizé service will take place this Friday, September 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. A labyrinth will be available to walk beforehand in Anderson Hall between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

A Blessing of the Animals service will take place Saturday, October 6 at 10:00 a.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard (or, in the event of rain, in Buchanan Chapel). Bring your pet (on leash or in carrier) or their photo.

Brian Ellison, Executive Director of the Covenant Network, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, October 7 at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.

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

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

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 4G) at 11:00 a.m.

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

Tunes for Tots will meet next Sunday, September 30 in the Nursery at 9:00 a.m.

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

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

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

“Exploring Self-Compassion” is a course offered through the Replogle Center beginning Wednesday, September 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Boyle Conference Room. Register online at www.bit.ly/rccwsc18

Author, pastor, and civil rights activist Joseph Ellwanger will be with us on Sunday, September 30 to talk about his new book *Strength for the Struggle* at 1:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. RSVP for a 12:15 p.m. lunch to Anne Ellis by Thursday, September 27 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

A men’s discussion group on “Considering How God Speaks to Us through Scripture and Our Own Experience,” led by Tom Forster-Smith, will meet on Fridays at 7:15 a.m. from October 12 through December 14. Contact Anne Ellis to learn more. (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

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 the final session of their four-week adult education class, “In the Beginning: God and Humankind in Genesis,” next Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

“Just and Unjust Wars,” will meet for its final session next Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5E.

Fellowship

TwentiesThirties (formerly known as the Young Adults group) is hosting small groups rather than their Sunday Gathering time. “Soul and Psalms” Bible study meets on Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Another small group focusing on discernment and spirituality meets on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Both groups meet at a local coffee shop for six weeks. For details, contact Abbi Heimach-Snipes (312.640.5449).

Men’s Book Club will meet this Monday, September 24 at 7:30 a.m. in Parish Dining Room to discuss Bill Browder’s *Red Notice*.

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

Cornerstones—a group for those fifty and older—next meets on Friday, October 5 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room to hear a presentation on “The New Old Post Office” by Les Ventsch. Register online by October 3 at www.bit.ly/cfpc1018

Music and the Arts

This week’s free Friday Noonday concert will be presented by John W. W. Sherer, organ, at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

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. 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, 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 October 28 or November 25.

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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