## News and Opportunities December 11-December 17, 2022

**We are glad to be worshiping with you today** and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church!

\* Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. \* We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be a mask-welcoming campus, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. As a mask-welcoming campus, we remain committed to ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church. st In the Sanctuary, the front section on the pulpit side is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, and everyone sitting in that section is required to wear a mask. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating.



For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. **\* Those without Internet access** are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the service.



During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service and sermon available via podcast on iTunes and Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast). \*\* You can also receive the previous Sunday's sermon text by email by subscribing online at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons ₩ Available by podcast as well is an invitation to join Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger in biblical exploration as they discuss the "Bible Top Ten" in their podcast by that title (fourthchurch.org/podcast), with new episodes released every other Tuesday.

**Ensure you receive the latest updates** from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

If you would like to join us for in-person worship, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for our Jazz at Four service (with Communion) in Buchanan Chapel. \*\* On Sundays the doors open for worship a half hour prior to the service. For the morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. \*\*

Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (and \$18 for up to 12 hours) and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher. \*\* During the morning service nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. \*\* Worship can be heard in the Sanctuary and Chapel through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids.

\*\* Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.



Following worship, a pipe organ tour begins at 11:15 a.m. at the front of the Sanctuary \*\* We gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom and also at 10:00 a.m. for in-person Morning Prayer in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). \*\* To submit a prayer request to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org \*\* The Chapel is open for opportunity to walk the labyrinth between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For information about walking the labyrinth, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). \*\* A Sacred Pause time of meditation is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



We ask that those of you worshiping with us in person please take a moment to sign the pew information pads so that we might know you are here. Then please pass the pad down your pew so that all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service. \*\* Those worshiping in person this morning are also invited to greet one another during Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall and the Commons following the service. \*\* For additional ways to connect with one another and Fourth Church, whether in person or online, as well as for various resources, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org) and Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch) \*\* Events are posted on our church calendar, accessible from our website's home page and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar

Today is the last day to remember or honor a loved one with a gift toward the Christmas flowers,

wreaths, and garlands that will decorate the Sanctuary and Buchanan Chapel this Advent and Christmas. A list of those individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. **Contributions can be made online** at www.bit.ly/fpcgift and must be **received by this Sunday, December 11** for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, contact Gloria Vicente (312.252.3571; gvicente@fourthchurch.org).



Women at Fourth continues to receive contributions for our annual **Christmas Wishes project** to provide **gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students.** To support this project we are **collecting gift cards** to Best Buy, Starbuck's, McDonald's, Uber, Target, and Amazon (*giving a total of \$25 worth of cards to each student*). Gift cards can be dropped off at the church reception desk to the attention of Simon Crow by this Monday, December 12. (*Please designate the amount on the cards.*) **Monetary contributions** can also be made to support the purchase of a book for each student. Gifts can be made online at www.fourthchurch org/give-online or by writing a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church with "Christmas Wishes" designated in the memo line.



Our weekly Advent "Rhythm and Word" video series, which weaves together scripture, prayer, and music by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet, offers a resource for your Advent prayer and reflection. A new fifteen-minute video is released each Wednesday evening on YouTube (www.bit. ly/fpcvideos); to receive them by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail \*\* Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are also available as a resource for personal meditation and prayer. Sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions to receive them in your inbox, or read them online at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions



The Sunday morning adult education class, "Welcoming the Stranger," continues today at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/aestranger1222 \*\*

Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study—which offers two Zoom gathering times (12:00 and 6:30 p.m.) on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month—meets this Wednesday, December 14. For Zoom details for Bible studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

The Fourth Church **Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** service will be held tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary (and also livestreamed at www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). Come hear scripture and readings of the season, be surrounded by the music of our choirs, and join in singing Advent hymns. "Cookies and Cocoa to Go" bags will be distributed by Women at Fourth afterwards. **\*\*** We will continue our musical celebration of the season with this year's **Christmas with Tower Brass** concert, which will take place this Saturday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. There are no tickets; donations will be received at the door. **\*\*** Next Sunday, December 18 during 10:00 a.m. worship the **Christmas Cantata**: **Gloria by John Rutter** will be performed by the Morning Choir and Tower Brass.



**The "Longest Night" service,** for those experiencing grief and sadness, will be held next Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel (*in person only*). There will also be opportunity that evening to **walk the labyrinth** in Anderson Hall between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.



On Saturday, December 24 we will gather for **four Candlelight Christmas Eve services: Children's Pageant** (4:00 p.m.), **Family Service** (6:00 p.m.), and **Service of Lessons and Carols** (8:00 and 10:00 p.m.; the 8:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed). There **will not be socially distanced seating on Christmas Eve;** it will be available on Christmas Day, as it is every Sunday morning. Masks are always welcome! **\*\*** On Sunday, December 25, **Christmas Day**, we will gather for one service only, at 10:00 a.m. (in person and livestreamed). There will be no Jazz at Four service on Sundays, December 25 and January 1. After that two-week break, Jazz at Four will resume on Sunday, January 8. **\*\*** There **will not be nursery care** on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, or New Year's Day. On those days, as on every Sunday, children are invited to be with their parents in worship.



Our **New Year's Eve Taizé service** will take place on Saturday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. We invite you to join us at the turning of the year for this candlelit service that offers moving music, space for prayer, and meditative pause for reflecting on the year past and looking ahead to the year to come.

As we mark the tenth anniversary of the Sandy Hook shooting, the World Mission and Social Justice Committee invites you to **learn about Fourth Church's work on anti-violence and what you can do** to help addressess issues of gun violence. Information will be available during Coffee Hour and can also be found at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/gun-violence.html; for information about additional ways to be part of Fourth Church's work on this and other social justice and mission issues, email Joe Morrow (*jmorrow@fourthchurch.org*).



For those who are sixty and over, membership in Fourth Church's **Center for Life and Learning (CLL)** is a ticket to a grand adventure filled with new insights, experiences, and friendships. CLL members enjoy Special Topics, Events, and Member-Led Groups; receive a discount for special classes; and may select from more than twenty different classes each week of the twelve-week session. Registration for the **CLL Winter Session Membership** opens this Monday, December 12 and can be completed online at www.bit.ly/cll2023 or by calling the CLL office (312.981.3389 or 312.981.3391).



Books by Women will discuss *Miss Benson's Beetle* by Rachel Joyce in person and via Zoom this Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. For Zoom details, contact Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). \*\* The Benevolent Guild—which has counted among its projects making gifts for children in the hospital—meets this Wednesday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. \*\* On Thursday, December 15 Women at Fourth will meet for a time of holiday fellowship in the Michigan Avenue Manse at 5:30 p.m. Register at www.bit.ly/waf1222



**Fourth Church Meals Ministry is in need of volunteers** to assist in helping our neighbors who are hungry and experiencing food insecurity. To explore these volunteer needs, see our Volunteer Ministry platform, VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers) or contact Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. \*\* To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency or requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.