



We Approach God

Gathering Music

*Call to Worship

The mountaintop, the shining face, the glowing clothes,

the voice of God speaking from the cloud, the commandments etched in stone—

sometimes God shows up in ways we cannot deny, in a place we can go,

in a light we can see, a voice we can hear, a stone we can touch.

Sometimes there is the veil, the overshadowing, terrifying cloud,

the questions, the appearing and disappearing, the excitement, the wondering, the silence.

Sometimes God shows up in ways we cannot deny.

Always, God shows up. Somehow, God shows up!

And so we show up to worship God, here and now.

May God give us eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to open in joy!

* Please rise in body or spirit

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** “Come! Live in the Light!”

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)*

**God of mountaintops,
the clamor of the world can harden our hearts to your word.
We watch news, reality TV, silly shows—
yet we have trouble bearing witness to your presence in our lives.
We place our faith in those who fail us;
we give our trust to those who misplace it.**

**Forgive us, Revealer of Mystery.
You offer mercy to us, so we might hear your call to discipleship.
You whisper our names, so we might know how loved we are.
Caught by the surprise of your never-ending joy in us,
how can we not follow you, our brother and Savior, Jesus Christ,
onto the mountaintops of worship and into the valleys of sacrifice and service?
Open our hearts. Show us the path. Help us to follow you, O Christ.**

(Please hold space for silent reflection.)

God Forgives and Blesses Us

In Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.

Sung Response “God Calls You Good”

**God calls you good, beloved child.
You are a treasure deeply prized.
And you can say to every doubting voice,
“God calls you good, beloved child.”**

***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.

Community Life

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 2:1–11 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Why are the nations in an uproar?
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
and the princes plot together against the Lord and against the Lord’s anointed?
“Let us break their yoke,” they say; “let us cast off their bonds from us.”
God, whose throne is in heaven, is laughing; the Lord holds them in derision.
Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.
“As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”

ANTIPHON

Let me announce the decree of the Lord,
who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.
Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.
You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”
And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.
Submit to the Lord with fear, and with trembling bow in worship.

ANTIPHON

Scripture Matthew 17:1–9

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Nanette Sawyer*

We Offer Ourselves

Musical Reflection

Sharing of Gifts

In gratitude for the love and grace extended to us by God, we share our resources to support ministries of justice, mercy, and beauty. Please place your gifts in the plate as it passes.

Offertory Music

***Doxology** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

We Feast Together

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

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”

Prayers of the People

Light of the World,
show us the way.

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.

The Communion

We celebrate an open table. All, including children, are invited to the Lord’s Table to receive Communion. You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.

We Go Out with Gratitude

*Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

God of mountaintops and valleys,
whether our vision of you is clouded or brilliantly clear,
we faithfully add our gifts to those being given all around us.
Bless these offerings that they may be transfigured
into your presence in the world. Amen.

*Closing Song "Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

*Benediction

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer Associate Pastor

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Sarah Axmann Liturgist

The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

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.

In addition to placing gifts in the offering plate at the time of “Sharing of Gifts,” you can also make a gift through Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online via our website (www.fourthchurch.org/give-online).

Acknowledgments

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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

Joseph L. Morrow, Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults

Maggie Shreve, Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

We are glad to have you with us 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.



As we begin Lent this Wednesday, February 26, we invite you to use our **Lenten devotions** as a resource for personal meditation. This year these devotions will offer reflections on hymn texts. To receive them daily via email, sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions * **"Entering the Passion of Jesus"** is the theme of this year's Lenten series, the Path of Discipleship, which will take place on Tuesday evenings, March 3 to April 7 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. with supper and a study led by the associate pastors. For details and to register (by tomorrow, Monday, February 24), see the online Sign-Up Page noted below.



Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday. Ash Wednesday services will be held at 12:10 and 7:30 p.m. As part of **"Ashes on the Way,"** pastors and church members will also be present in the Narthex and outside the Sanctuary between 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. They will be available to impose ashes for those in our community who are unable to be with us for worship but who find the ashes a meaningful way to mark the beginning of this season of repentance and reflection. * On March 1, we begin a **Lenten sermon series on "Questions Jesus Asked."** The first question—the "Question of Longing"—is "Who are you looking for?" (John 18:1–11).



Lucy Forster-Smith will join **Women at Fourth** this Thursday, February 27, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bumpus Room to discuss the importance of community and connection in our lives. * A variety of **well-being opportunities** are available through the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, including a **SoulCollage and Poetry workshop** on Saturday, March 7 at 1:00 p.m. This workshop invites participants to a greater self-understanding and self-care. * Additionally, a **"Living Your Best Life"** support group for young women will be held on Monday evenings, beginning March 16. This group will feature an emphasis on strengths, resilience, community, and connection. See the Sign-Up Page noted below to register. * A **Chronic Illness Support Group** will begin in late March; to learn more or to express interest, please call Bill Singerman at 312.787.8425, ext. 2210.



Dr. Stephen Ray Jr., President of both Chicago Theological Seminary and the Society for the Study of Black Religion, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, March 8 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

To sign up for opportunities described on these pages,
please see the Sign-Up Page: www.fourthchurch.org/sign-up

The **Morehouse College Glee Club**, whose distinguished 109-year history includes singing at the funeral of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., will present a concert on Monday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A suggested \$20 freewill donation will be received at the door. * **Fourth Church organist John Sherer** will present this Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



The **Gala of Hope** is in just under two weeks on Friday, March 6 at the Radisson Blu Aqua! Tickets are available online at bidpal.net/clgala2020. All proceeds benefit Chicago Lights—the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church—and the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being. * Chicago Lights is also in need of **tutors** to mentor children and youth one evening a week at the church. Details and a calendar of one-session orientations are posted on the Sign-Up Page noted below.



Invested adults are needed to serve as **youth trip leaders** to travel with our youth to either Detroit, Ferncliff, or Montreat for a week this summer. Please fill out an interest form at www.bit.ly/2020tripleader * You can learn about and sign up for **additional volunteer opportunities** through our volunteer management software, **VOMO**, at www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers. Opportunities include serving as **greeters** during the 4:00 jazz worship service and as grocery shoppers to purchase supplies for Fourth Church Meals Ministry. For assistance with VOMO or volunteering with Fourth Church, please contact Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).



Our Global Mission and Social Justice Committee is sponsoring a **peacemaking insight trip to Colombia** this August 1–8. Details and an online application form (due May 1) can be found on the Sign-Up Page noted below. * Our **Employment Network mission group** is looking for information about day jobs, such as painting and auto repair, to pass along to one of the refugee families we support. The group also continues to compile lists of entry-level job openings to share with the St. Sabina Employment Resource Center. Please email information about such opportunities or openings to employmentnetwork@fourthchurch.org



You are invited to bring the young children in your life to the annual **“Leap into Learning” Fourth Church Day School benefit** next Saturday, February 29 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., featuring a balloon artist, a bounce house, a photo booth, live music, and more. All are welcome to attend and there is no charge for this fun event!



To sign up for opportunities described on these pages,
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Calendar for February 23–March 1, 2020

Sunday, February 23	4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four • Nanette Sawyer preaching	Buchanan Chapel
<i>Transfiguration of Christ</i>	5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper	Anderson Hall
Monday, February 24	9:00 a.m. Day School (<i>also Tues.–Fri.</i>)	Day School Classrooms
	10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Center for Life and Learning (<i>also Tues.–Thurs.</i>)	Gratz Fifth Floor
	4:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Monday Night Supper	Catholic Charities
	5:00 p.m. Chicago Lights Tutoring (<i>also Tues.–Thurs.</i>)	Gratz Fifth Floor
Tuesday, February 25	7:45 a.m. Sacred Pause Meditation	Stone Chapel
	12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunches (<i>also Wed.–Thurs.</i>)	Anderson Hall
	4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Knitting and Crocheting	Room 4F
	7:30 p.m. Chicago Ensemble	Buchanan Chapel
Wednesday, February 26	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer	Buchanan Chapel
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	9:30 a.m. Benevolent Guild	Room 5B
	12:00 to 1:00 p.m. <i>Horizons</i> Bible Study	Room 5H
	12:10 and 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship	Sanctuary
Thursday, February 27	7:00 a.m. Men’s Faith Discussion Group	Randolph Room
	5:30 p.m. Women at Fourth	Bumpus Room
	6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, February 28	12:10 p.m. Noonday Concert: John W. W. Sherer, organ	Sanctuary
Saturday, February 29	9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Day School Benefit	Day School
Sunday, March 1	8:00 a.m. Worship • Victoria G. Curtiss preaching.	Sanctuary
	8:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft
	9:00, 10:00, 10:30 a.m. Cherub/Youth/Children’s Choir Rehearsals	Room 4F
	9:00, 10:30 a.m.; 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall / Commons
	9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Nursery	Nursery / Day School
	9:30 a.m. “A Year with the Bible”	Room 5G
	9:30 a.m. Junior High Youth Group	Bumpus Room
	9:30 a.m. TEDTalks for Parents	The Loft
	9:30 a.m. “Holy Envy”	Room 5E
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School	Gratz Fourth Floor
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship • Shannon J. Kershner preaching.	Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Time of Prayer with Deacons	Stone Chapel
	10:30 a.m. All-Youth Fellowship	Allison Library
	11:00 a.m. Confirmation	Room 4G
	11:00 a.m. Senior High Youth Group	Bumpus Room
	12:00 p.m. Sanctuary Tour	Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m. Organ Tour	Sanctuary
	4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four • Lucy Forster-Smith preaching.	Buchanan Chapel
	5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper	Anderson Hall

To sign up for opportunities described on these pages,
please see the Sign-Up Page: www.fourthchurch.org/sign-up

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to visit a prayer station to offer joys and concerns by writing them on a prayer card. The cards will be collected at the end of worship, read by the pastoral staff during the week, and then displayed in an ongoing art project.

We celebrate an open table at Communion. All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion. You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.

Worship can be heard through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids.

Please silence all electronic devices when in the Chapel.

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org/sermons and by email: subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons

If You Are New to Fourth Church

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs and is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Sunday, March 8 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 (subscribe online at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc).

If you are interested in 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 March 22.

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 Carol Allerton at 312.640.5448 (callerton@fourthchurch.org).

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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