
Gathering around the Word

Prelude ♯ Sonata Pathetique. Ludwig van Beethoven
Adagio

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: *We are God’s household, crafted by the architect of creation—*

People: our hearts a shelter for the outcast; our hands open to the stranger.

Leader: *We are God’s people, created in the divine image—*

People: to tell others of God’s love, to offer mercy as freely as we have received it.

Leader: *We are God’s children, called to give of ourselves—*

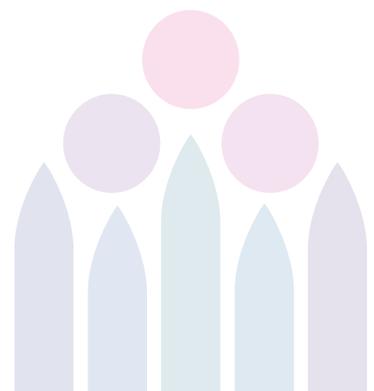
People: chosen to serve the lost and lonely, gifted to minister to a hurting world.

Prayer of Praise

Hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.



Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Compassionate and gentle God,
 you have created us in love to be your people.
 You have called us in love to be your light.
 You have promised us in love that you are our home.
 But in this space of honesty, we confess we have often lost sight of these divine gifts.
 And we also confess that sometimes we have forgotten what it means
 to fully live as your people, to shine as your light, and to trust in your presence.
 Forgive us. Forgive us and send your Spirit anew—
 your Spirit of renewal and transformation;
 your Spirit who upends our lives; your Spirit that calls us back to you.
 And then remake us in your image once again
 so this congregation may move into your future with confidence and hope.
 We pray these things in the name of the One who rose from the grave. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*
 All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*) Psalm 66:8–20

Leader: *Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.*
 People: Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.
 Leader: *For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.*
 People: You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
 Leader: *You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
 but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.*
 People: I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—
 Leader: *those that I promised with my lips
 and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.*

People: I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

Leader: *Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.*

People: I called out to God with my mouth and praised the Lord with my tongue.

Leader: *If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;*

People: but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

Leader: *Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me.*

Gloria Patri (*unison*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:[†]
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson John 15:15–27

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

Hymn “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine’s blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.

[†]Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

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.

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Anthem ♯ “Simple Gifts” Shaker melody; arr. Joseph Brakett Jr.

Bearing the Word into the World

Charge and Benediction

Hymn “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

Postlude ♯ Sonatina in D Major Muzio Clementi

Rondo



In addition to livestreaming our 11:00 a.m. service at www.bit.ly/FPCworship, where the service is available throughout the week, we make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify: www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast**; we also invite you to sign up to receive our sermons **by email: www.bit.ly/fpcsermons**

As a connectional community committed to living out our care for one another and remaining together while apart, **we very much we want to hear from you!** Our pastors, Deacons, Stephen Ministers, and other volunteers are available to connect with you by phone and email. Please let us know by contacting our Pastoral Care Office (callerton@fourthchurch.org)—

- ▶ **if you are—or someone you know is—feeling isolated, lonely, anxious, or sick**
- ▶ **if you are a medical professional or are a provider of essential services**, as we want to care for you as well in what we know are difficult days for you and your colleagues
- ▶ **if you have a prayer request**; Dave Handley (dhandley@fourthchurch.org) is receiving these requests as part of our Morning Prayer and Deacon Prayer Ministries
- ▶ **if you would like to talk to a pastor**, please call the church (312.787.4570) and your request will be forwarded to someone on the pastoral staff.
- ▶ **if you would like to explore options for teletherapy** with our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, the Center invites you to call them at 312.787.2729, ext 2260.

Stephen Ministry is here to help you in this difficult time. If you would like to have a **phone conversation with a Stephen Minister**, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

Our daily devotions are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. You can receive them in your inbox (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) or read them online (www.fourthchurch.org/devotions), via Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch), or on Twitter (www.twitter.com/fourthchicago). ✨ Opportunities to join in a virtual **Sacred Pause time of meditation** are offered by our Replogle Center on Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) and Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing

As part of our commitment to caring for the most vulnerable, Fourth Church **Meals Ministry** is providing “to go” packaged meals for Sunday and Monday Night Suppers and “to go” lunches for the Tuesday-through-Thursday Bag Lunch program. These are being served outside, so as to limit lines and in-person gatherings. ✨ The Chicago Lights **Social Service Center** is also providing essential services on Tuesdays (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) and Wednesdays through Fridays (10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) by offering “curbside” pickup of emergency clothing; hygiene items; and pre-assembled bags for scheduled Food Pantry appointments. ✨ For ways you can **order and ship items particularly needed for these ministries** see www.fourthchurch.org

Today is Dedication Commemoration Sunday at Fourth Church, declared by Pastor John Timothy Stone in 1914 to be observed on the third Sunday of each May. On Sunday, May 10, 1914, the Fourth Church congregation worshiped in the Michigan Avenue Sanctuary for the first time, having moved from its smaller facility on Rush at Superior. A series of dedicatory services were held the remainder of that week. ✨ The generations that have gone before us left a vibrant legacy, not only in the bricks and mortar of the Sanctuary and Parish House buildings but also in the financial foundation from which we carry forth our ministry. It was the \$25,000 that remained after the completion of the 1914 building project that began the Fourth Church endowment fund. Just as we carry on the work of the church today, so too we are committed to **passing on the legacy** of that ministry for future generations. If you have planned or are considering a legacy gift to Fourth Church or Chicago Lights as part of your will, we invite you to contact Stuart Barnes Jamieson (sjamieson@fourthchurch.org) for Legacy Society details.

Next Sunday, May 24, **Vicky Curtiss will preach during our worship service** on what will be her final Sunday leading worship as our Associate Pastor for Mission as she will be retiring June 1. We invite you to send messages of gratitude and well wishes to her at vcurtiss@fourthchurch.org

On Sunday, May 31 Jeff Doane will begin a three-week **online Academy for Faith and Life class** on **Jon Meacham's book** *The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels*. For the Zoom details and the course syllabus, simply register online at www.bit.ly/soulamerica

This Monday, May 18 we will be cohosting a **virtual Iftar dinner** with our Muslim neighbors and friends and St. Raymond Catholic Church of Mt. Prospect. Nanette Sawyer will be among the presenters that evening, which begins at 7:00 p.m. on YouTube at www.bit.ly/interfaithiftar20

In this time while we are not in the same place, we remain connected as community and church in a variety of ways. ✨ **TwentiesThirties** opportunities for young adults include a weekly Zoom Coffee Hour following worship, a time of fifteen-minute Examen prayer on Thursdays, and monthly trivia gatherings. Details are available from Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ Adults sixty and over are invited to take part in online **Center for Life and Learning** courses and gatherings—ranging from exercise classes to lectures to Book Club. Details are available from Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org). ✨ **Sunday School lessons and crafts** to do at home are posted at www.bit.ly/fpcsundayschool. ✨ Information about **online youth group** and **home-from-college gatherings** is listed at fourthchurch.org/youth. ✨ **Noonday Concerts** are streamed on Fridays at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms, where they are also available to enjoy later.

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) for additional resources and ways to connect. We also encourage you to follow us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **Instagram** (www.instagram.com/fourthchurch) for updates and glimpses of our life together while apart.

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

Worship Leaders

Jeff Doane, Rocky Supinger, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Gretchen Adams and Gabriel Di Gennaro, Soloists and Guitarists

Worship Notes

YOUR GIFTS TO FOURTH CHURCH MATTER NOW MORE THAN EVER! When we do not pass a plate, it is easy for our offering to decrease. But our expenses continue as we remain committed to feeding our hungry neighbors and to paying our staff. Your generosity in this time makes a big difference! You can **give online** at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (or via the “**To Make a Gift**” button on our website: www.fourthchurch.org); **via Venmo** (@Fourth-Church); or via a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church and mailed to 126 E. Chestnut, Chicago, IL 60611.2014.

On Wednesday mornings we gather online at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. If you would like to join staff in this time of praying for Fourth Church members and those in need, please email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for the Zoom information.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

David Handley Interim Minister for Pastoral Care

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is adapted from Thom Schuman (www.lectionaryliturgies.com). All rights reserved.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014

www.fourthchurch.org www.facebook.com/fourthchurch

312.787.4570 Voicemail: 312.787.2729 Fax: 312.787.4584

TO NOTIFY PASTORAL STAFF of personal concerns, illness, hospitalization, or deaths or to request prayer, contact David Handley (dhandley@fourthchurch.org; 312.573.3360). (Please note: hospitals do not inform churches when a member is admitted.) Those experiencing difficult times are invited to consider meeting with a Stephen Minister: leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.