
Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Prayer for Peace Richard Purvis
Simple Gifts. Shaker melody; arr. Andrew Clarke
Dearest Jesus, We Are Here. Johann R. Ahle; arr. Frederick Frahm

Introit :: “The Call” Ralph Vaughan Williams

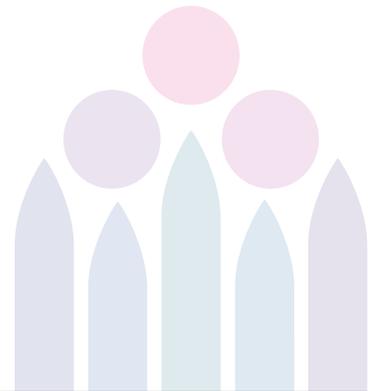
*Come, my way, my truth, my life; such a way as gives us breath,
such a truth as ends all strife, such a life as killeth death.
Come, my might, my feast, my strength; such a light as shows a feast,
such a feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes his guest.
Come, my joy, my love, my heart; such a joy as none can move,
such a love as none can part, such a heart as joys in love.*

*Doxology (*sung*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.† Amen.**

Welcome and Call to Worship

Prayer of Praise



†Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Hymn “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e’er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of mercy, hear our prayer today as we bring our lives before you.
Some of us dwell too much on what used to be.
We want to face your new day with hope and with courage,
but many times our own lives weigh us down.
We forget to forgive one another. We dwell on our own past mistakes.
We refuse to let go of dead issues and worn-out memories.
We find it hard to believe that you can truly love people like us
or that you can still be at work in a world like this one.
Free us, O God. Free us from our own limited imaginations.
Free us from our own limited grace. Free us from our assumptions about what can be.
Free us into truly hearing your promise that nothing can separate us from your love.
We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Solo # “The Pilgrim’s Psalm” Ralph Vaughan Williams

*I will put on the whole armor of light, that I may be able to stand in the evil day.
The shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the sword of the spirit:
God girdeth me with strength of war and maketh my way perfect.
Yea, I will smite mine enemies, they shall not be able to stand, but fall under my feet.
Blest be the Lord, my strength, that teacheth my hands to war and my fingers to fight;
my hope and my fortress, my castle and my deliverer, my defense in whom I trust.
I will not be afraid of the terror by night, nor the arrow that flieth by day,
for thou, Lord, art my hope; thou hast set my house of defense very high.
I will go forward valiant in fight and put to flight the armies of evil.
He that overcometh shall inherit all things.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 105:1–11

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God’s name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.
Sing to the Lord, sing praises, and speak of all God’s marvelous works.
Glory in God’s holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
Search for the strength of the Lord; continually seek God’s face.
Remember the marvels God has done,
the wonders and the judgments of God’s mouth,
O offspring of Abraham, God’s servant, O children of Jacob, God’s chosen ones.
The Lord is our God, whose judgments prevail in all the world,
who has always been mindful of the covenant,
the promise made for a thousand generations:
the covenant made with Abraham, the oath sworn to Isaac,
which God established as a statute for Jacob, an everlasting covenant for Israel,
saying, “To you will I give the land of Canaan to be your allotted inheritance.”

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 Romans 8:26–39

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

Hymn “Live into Hope”

Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God’s own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one’s daily bread, to hear God’s word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

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.

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

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Solo ♪ “Ave Maria” Mattia Battistini

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray with us sinners, now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

Hymn “May God Support You All Your Days”

May God support you all your days,
in times of gladness and in need.

May God remember you with grace
and bless your every word and deed.

May God confirm your heart’s desire
and bring to fullness all your plans.

May God’s sustaining love inspire
your shouts of praise and joyful dance.

May God be near you when you pray,
to help you with a gentle hand.

May God forever guide your way
and lead you to the promised land.

Our hope is in the Holy One.
The swift and strong will surely fall,
but you will stand with God alone,
who hears and answers when you call.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude ♪ Fanfare Ronald Arnatt



We continue to gather online for **livestream-only worship**. 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). On August 2, we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper during worship online, and so we **encourage you to have at hand next Sunday the elements for communion**, such as juice and crackers or bread.

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 a medical professional or are a provider of essential services**
- ▶ **if you are—or someone you know is—feeling isolated, lonely, anxious, or sick**
- ▶ **if you want to talk about the grief, anger, and frustration you are feeling**
- ▶ **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 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.
- ▶ **If you would like to have a phone conversation with a Stephen Minister**, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.
- ▶ **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.

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). * On Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. we gather online for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. Email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for details. * A virtual **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted by our Replogle Center on Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) and Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing

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

New virtual small groups (of six to eight members) are being formed for August. If you are interested in joining others via Zoom for a book discussion, conversation about race, or reflections on faith journeys, please email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

For information about **online Vacation Bible School** for children ages three to eleven the week of August 3–7, contact Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). * Details about **online youth group gatherings** is listed at fourthchurch.org/youth. * **TwentiesThirties** offers opportunities for young adults, including a weekly Zoom Coffee Hour on Sundays following worship and a book study. 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** summer exercise classes, virtual tours, and more. Details are available from Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org). * The World Mission and Social Justice Committee is gathering names of those who might be interested in participating in a **future mission trip to India**. To express interest, please contact Parish Associate Maggie Shreve (jailministry@fourthchurch.org). * **Noonday Concerts** are streamed on Fridays at 12:10 p.m. at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms, where they are also available later in the week. This week's concert features vocalist Wydetta Carter; pianist Stu Mindeman will perform on August 7.

As part of our commitment to caring for the most vulnerable, Fourth Church **Meals Ministry** is providing—via outdoor pickup—“to go” meals for Sunday and Monday Night Suppers and “to go” lunches for the Tuesday-through-Thursday Bag Lunch program. * Tuesday through Friday mornings the Chicago Lights **Social Service Center** offers “curbside” pickup of emergency clothing; hygiene items; and pre-assembled bags for scheduled Food Pantry appointments. * For ways to **order and ship items needed for these ministries** see www.fourthchurch.org

To purchase fresh produce and support the community, stop by the **Farmstand at the Chicago Lights Urban Farm** on Fridays between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. Guests are required to wear a face covering and practice social distancing while at the Farm (*444 W. Chicago Ave.*).

The Officer Nominating Committee is gathering recommendations of individuals to serve in the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, or Chicago Lights Board for terms beginning in 2021. If you know any Fourth Church members—including yourself!—who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry, please take a moment to offer your leadership recommendations by completing the online form at www.bit.ly/nominating2020

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

Lois Snavelly, Michelle Hayes, Matt Helms, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

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

Bill McMurray, Soloist

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 even while our expenses continue. Your generosity in this time makes a big difference! You can **give online** at 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.



Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

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

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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.