
Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Thy Holy Wings Swedish folk tune; arr. Richard Webster
Carillon Leo Sowerby

Introit :: “Somebody’s Knocking at Your Door” African American spiritual
arr. Moses Hogan

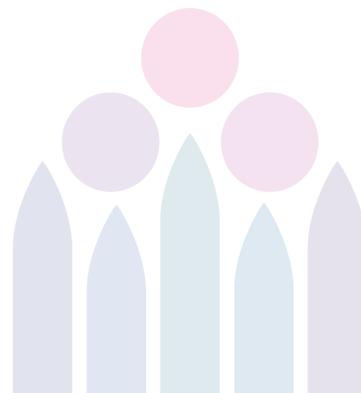
*Somebody’s knocking at your door.
O, sinner, why don’t you answer?
Can’t you hear him? Jesus calls you.*

*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 “Morning Has Broken”

Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God’s feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning,
God’s recreation of the new day!

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O Lord our God, you created us and made covenant with us, yet we have not kept covenant with you. We have not loved one another as you loved us. We have not compellingly communicated your vision to those whose eyes are closed to it. We have not often practiced what we preach about working for justice, mercy, and compassion. Our patience is running out, but our cynicism and snark are overly abundant. Forgive us, God of love. Turn us again, and make us new, that we may live not only as your disciples but also as your friends. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Solo # “A Gaelic Prayer” David M. Lowry

Deep peace of the rolling wave to you; deep peace of the flowing air to you; deep peace of the quiet earth to you; deep peace of the shining stars to you; deep peace of the gentle night to you; moon and stars pour their healing light on you; deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 5

Give ear to my words, O Lord; give heed to my sighing.
Listen to my cry for help, my king and my God, for I plead to you.
In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice;
 early in the morning I make my appeal and watch for you.
For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness,
 and evil cannot dwell with you.
Braggarts cannot stand in your sight; you hate all those who work wickedness.
You destroy those who speak lies; the bloodthirsty and deceitful, O Lord, you abhor.
But as for me, through the abundance of your steadfast love
I will go into your house; I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you.
Lead me, Lord, in your righteousness, because of those who lie in wait for me;
 make your way straight before me.
For there is no truth in their mouth; there is destruction in their heart;
 their throat is an open grave; they deceive with their tongue.
Declare them guilty, O God; let them fall, because of their schemes.
Because of their many transgressions cast them out,
 for they have rebelled against you.
But all who take refuge in you will be glad; they will sing out their joy forever.
You will shelter them, so that those who love your name may exult in you.
For you, O Lord, will bless the righteous;
 you will defend them with your favor as with a shield.

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 15:9–17

Sermon :: “To What End? Being Church in These Days” Shannon J. Kershner

Great End #2: The Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God

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

Responding to the Word

Ordination, Installation, and Commissioning of Church Officers

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 Solo :: "Irish Blessing" Bob Chilcott

*May the road rise to meet you; may the wind be ever at your back;
may the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall soft upon your fields;
and until we meet again, may God hold you ever in the palm of his hand.*

Bearing the Word into the World

Hymn "Lead Me, Guide Me"

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, along the way,
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need your strength and power
to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness your face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude :: Fanfare Richard Proulx

Officers of Fourth Presbyterian Church

Following the action of the congregation and the Session of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago, the following persons will be ordained, installed, and commissioned to church office this morning. Please keep them in your prayers as they embark on this important ministry.

Session (*the church's governing body, which meets monthly to conduct the work of the church as its spiritual leaders*): Doug Andrews, Rhonda Carlson, Bob Day, Heather Gallenbeck, Armon Haagen, Ruben Harris, Cynthia Johnson, Jean Joslyn, Marc Miller, Samme Orwig, Maddie Pieper (*youth*), Melanie Oh Pierce, Katie Reome (*youth*), Brian Satre

Board of Trustees (*those elected by the congregation to manage Fourth Church's financial and physical resources*): Jean Ban, Jeanne Bishop, Doug Grissom, Mark Hurley, Fred Schwartz, Sally Scott, Betsy Zeiger

Board of Deacons (*often described as "the heart of the church," those involved in the care of the congregation and various outreach ministries*): Anita Balodis, Connie Chang, Addie Cook (*youth*), Joanne Gaines, Michelle Hayes, Stephanie Jenks, Sameula Kosipa (*youth*), Brian Louis, Brenda Mauldin, Marcella McGuinn, Alisa Rantanen, Emmy Stanley, Kashane Taylor, Tony Vitale

Please also keep in your prayers those officers who are continuing their terms of service.

Session: Steve Block, Gerry Bloomer, Monica Brown, Tim Calkins, Hope Daniels, Deb Ford, Ken Gaines, Lisa Garay, James Garner, Jeanne Griffin, Stephen Hauser, Julie James, Tracy Koogler, Jerry Latherow, Jared Light, Kelley Lynch, Craig Morrison, Enjolique Reed, Tim Schellhardt, Emma Vis, Toni Yang, Allison Youngblood, Sarah Younger

Trustees: Don Allerton, Norma Borchering, Andrew Brickman, Alex Brougham, Lynne Driver, Sam Evans, Steve Jurgens, Meg O'Hara, Jeanne Olofson, Nina Owen, Tony Ruger, Joe Sifferlen, Anne Voshel, Beverly Washington

Deacons: Matt Bardwell, Taposhi Bentley, Caryn Borg-Breen, Kathryn Burkhardt, Kay Brungs Laud, Steve Bus, Cynthia Casteel, Laureen Cleary, John Deverman, Kim Douglass, Kat Evans, Rhonda Faulkner, Cathy Flaa, Caryn Hank, Anthony Hipp, Liz Kurman, Bruce Leech, Rachel Letcher, Sally Lewis, Brian Lukens, Robin Moncrieff, Colleen Mraz, Eric Olson, Emma Richardson, Stefanie Schumann, Lisa Stracks, Elaine Tierney, Katie Truesdell, David Wilson, Nora Wiltse, Deborah Zak

Fourth Church extends a heartfelt thank-you and its sincere appreciation to those who this month complete their term of service as officers and whose many contributions we celebrate today.

Session: Joy Anderson, Michelle Becker, John Collins (*youth*), Joe Fong, Gary Graham, Christiane Knapp-Andrews, Carol Lobbes, Mark Meyer, Betsy Morgan, Howard Morgan, Clara Radtke (*youth*), Dawn Vanderveen, Jeff Weber

Trustees: Larry Braskamp, Jan Feldman, Tony Gambell, Debbie Kinzer, Janet Love, Linden Moot, Kim Reome, Seth Tuscher

Deacons: Harlean Barth, John Crim, Austin Garfield, Shelly Hennig-Keller, Jean Joslyn, Lindsey Kozlowski, Luke Meyer (*youth*), Jane Nerison, Samme Orwig, Marcela Ruiz, Sally Scott, Betsy Storm, Leslie Whittet, Sherry Woodry, Christian Yonan (*youth*)



For the foreseeable future we are gathering 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 also make the service available via **Facebook Live** (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **YouTube** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. Those without Internet access are invited to join the service by **listening to the service live via phone by calling 888.916.9166** (toll-free) at the time of the service (the prelude typically begins around 10:45 a.m.). During the week we also make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify** (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast); you can also receive our sermons **by email** (www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).

Today we continue our **sermon series “To What End? Being Church in These Days.”** This series explores the Six Great Ends of the Church, a series of statements crafted in the early twentieth century to define and guide the life and work of the Presbyterian church: who we are and what we are called to do. Last week we considered the first of the Great Ends: “The Proclamation of the Gospel for the Salvation of Humankind.” Today we look at the second: “The Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God.”

On Sunday afternoon, October 4 we will hold our annual **Blessing of the Animals**. This year we will do so virtually, via Zoom, as we gather online with pets to thank God for the gift of special creatures in our lives. For the Zoom details, please register at www.bit.ly/animalblessing20

If you would like to connect with others for a time of fellowship following worship today, please join us online following the postlude for **virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom!** We will be gathering online at www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship (Zoom details are also posted at www.fourthchurch.org). You can also take part in Coffee Hour **by phone**: dial (312) 626-6799 and enter meeting ID number 963 5583 1751#. * Another opportunity to connect with others is through our **small groups**, which meet via Zoom once a week for four weeks. To learn more or express interest in joining the new small groups that will be forming this autumn, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). * A new **Men’s Faith Discussion Group** will also be meeting via Zoom beginning October 26. Six to eight men will share life stories and discuss the Gospel of Luke on Monday mornings from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. for three months. To express interest in this group, email David Handley (dhandley@fourthchurch.org). * Women at Fourth will gather via Zoom this Thursday, September 24 at 6:00 p.m. for a presentation by Rocky Supinger and three Fourth Church youth discussing what adults need to know about being a teenager today. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

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

Wednesday, September 30 is the deadline to submit to the **Officer Nominating Committee** 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 offer your leadership recommendations by completing the form at www.bit.ly/nominating2020

Thank you to all whose generous contributions have enabled **Fourth Church Meals Ministry** to continue providing bag lunches to our hungry neighbors. We are currently **in need of additional donations to support this ministry**; details on how to **order and ship needed items** can be found at www.bit.ly/mealsdonations (*as we are presently unable to accept donations dropped off by individuals*).

We hold in prayer all **those affected by the wildfires in the west**. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is at work in the area, helping to support feeding programs and emergency housing for displaced residents as well as working with local presbyteries to assess and address needs in their communities. **Gifts to support these efforts** can be made online through PDA. The link is posted at www.fourthchurch.org

A new program year of online activities for **children, youth, and families** is underway! For information about Sunday School and family activities, contact Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). For details about youth groups and Confirmation, contact Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). * **TwentiesThirties** offers a variety of online opportunities for young adults. For details, contact Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org). * Details about the **Center for Life and Learning** courses, lectures, and exercise classes as well as virtual tours for adults sixty and over are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/cll; for more information, contact Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org).

Two **new online adult education opportunities** begin today and continue next week. **“The Great Divide: A Look at Inequity within Chicago Public Schools”** meets via Zoom on Sundays through October 4 at 9:30 a.m. To join in this exploration of why there is a great disparity among CPS schools and what can be done for all CPS students to get a high quality education, register at www.bit.ly/3bTHnZd * **“Foundations of Faith: An Hour a Week with the Bible”** meets via Zoom on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. Each week Fourth Church Associate Pastors take turns hosting three-week thematic studies of biblical texts. To begin the series, David Handley is leading a discussion of texts around the theme “Knowing God, Loving God, Serving God” (September 20 and 27, October 4). For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/fpcff20 * **Men’s Bible Study** meets weekly via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) for other resources and additional ways to connect. Upcoming online events are posted on the church calendar at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar We also encourage you to follow us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **Instagram** (www.instagram.com/fourthchurch) for updates.

Online Noonday Concerts are streamed on Fridays at 12:10 p.m. at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms *

Cornerstones, a fellowship opportunity for those 50 and older, will gather via Zoom on Friday, October 2 at 5:30 p.m. for a program by two of Chicago’s **gifted cabaret artists—Carla Gordon and Beckie Menzie**—performing “Songs of Protest and Patriotism.” Register by Wednesday, September 30 at www.bit.ly/cfpc1020 to receive Zoom details. * Knitting and Crocheting will meet via Zoom this Tuesday, September 22 at 4:00 p.m. For details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). * The Fourth Church Legacy Society will be hosting “**Living Well into the Future,**” a free online presentation that will provide an opportunity to learn about the variety of options that are available to make planned gifts to Fourth Church, Chicago Lights, or other nonprofit organizations. For the Zoom details for this Tuesday, September 22 event at 7:00 p.m., register at www.bit.ly/3k9GD57 * On Saturday, September 26 at 10:00 a.m., the **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** will host a Zoom **SoulCollage-and-poetry workshop** led by Elise Magers and Margaret Brennan. Preregister at <http://bit.ly/rccwscp920> for Zoom details and information about obtaining the necessary materials.* The Equitable Education Committee at Fourth Church is hosting a **Zoom panel discussion on the Illinois Graduated Tax Amendment**, which will be on the general election ballot in Illinois this November. For Zoom details for this forum moderated by David Greising on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m., register at www.bit.ly/taxamendment

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! 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. * On Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. we gather online for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. Email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for details. * **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). * **If you would like to explore options for teletherapy** with our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, please call the Center at 312.787.2729, ext 2260.

We are grateful to all who have made gifts in support of our mission and ministry. Thank you! This monthly generosity report summarizes contributions to Fourth Church as of August 31, 2020.

| Fourth Presbyterian Church Generosity Report — Contributions as of August 31, 2020 | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <i>YTD = Year-to-Date</i> | YTD Actual | YTD Budgeted | YTD Variance | 2020 Budget |
| Pledged contributions | \$1,923,803 | \$1,961,901 | (\$38,098) | \$3,111,000 |
| General contributions | \$1,071,458 | \$1,232,029 | (\$160,571) | \$2,270,929 |
| Restricted contributions | \$305,495 | \$320,968 | (\$15,473) | \$573,100 |
| Total contributions | \$3,300,756 | \$3,514,898 | (\$214,142) | \$5,955,029 |

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Kat Evans, Lucy Forster-Smith, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Gretchen Adams, Soloist

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

Worship Notes

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN GOSPEL HYMN “LEAD ME, GUIDE ME” was written and composed by Doris Akers in 1953. The *Glory to God* hymnal states that this hymn “can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the ‘enemies’ of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the ‘I’ here is understood to express a shared communal experience.”

YOUR GIFTS TO FOURTH CHURCH are as critical to our mission and ministry as they have ever been, for it is through the generosity of each of us that we are able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those God calls us to love and serve as a light in the city. 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

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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.