
Gathering around the Word

Prelude

In Quiet Mood Florence B. Price
Amazing Grace American folk hymn; arr. Patricia Sanders Cota

Introit :: “This Touch of Love” Alfred V. Fedak

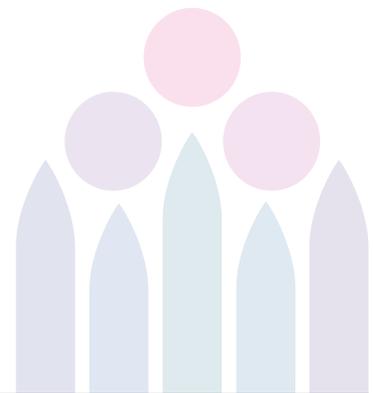
*This touch of love, this taste of peace, how can it last and still increase?
I cannot bear to have this air of wonder cease.
This happy feast, this friendly bond, how can I keep it long beyond
this fleeting hour, this surge of power, this treasure found?
This glow of joy, this glimpse of light, this momentary pure delight,
I dread to leave to fret and grieve and die in night.
This freshly washed, this flowing free, I need to know that this can be;
make me believe what I receive is meant for me.
Christ Jesus, you are what I need, the bread and wine on which I feed;
no friend so true, no life so new, I’m rich indeed.
O Savior, now my spirit raise, give new direction to my ways;
in all I view, in all I do, to give you praise.*

*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 “Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”

Refrain

Hallelujah! We sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises; all our hearts are filled with gladness.

Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread.

I am wine, I am bread: give to all who thirst and hunger.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace:

You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course.

You have promised us the abundance of all creation,

but in our greed and in our envy the world goes without.

You have promised us the bread of life itself,

but in our pride and in our arrogance the world goes hungry.

You have promised us the waters of peace and justice,

but in our violence and in our discord the world goes thirsty.

And now we are famished, too, Lord.

Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again.

As we share in this time of worship and communion, transform us.

Transform us and send us back out into your world

as living testimonies to your goodness;

by the power of your Son, our Lord. 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 Psalm 26

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.
For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.
I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.
I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.
I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,
that I may go in procession round your altar,
singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.
Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with those who thirst for blood,
whose hands are full of evil plots, and their right hands full of bribes.
As for me, I will live with integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.
I take my stand on level ground; in the full assembly I will bless the Lord.

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 18:28–38

Sermon :: “To What End? Being Church in These Days” Shannon J. Kershner
Great End #4: The Preservation of the Truth

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

Responding to the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
We lift up our hearts to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God,
for it is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer

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

Communion Solo ♪ "Lamb of God" Robin Cain; arr. Phil Kadidlo

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.
Do you know the gift he gave you? Are you well aware of the cost?
Did you think your life was yours alone? The answer is there on the cross.
The bread in your hand gives you new life. The wine that you drink of is his life.
How could he have given you more? He said, "Do this in remembrance of me."
Can you feel his love surround you? He gave up his Son for your soul.
So today your life can be renewed; today your life can be whole.
A greater love has no one than this: that a man would lay down his life for a friend,
and you are his friend.*

Psalm 23 (*unison*)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Solo ♯ “Lord, Make Me an Instrument” Jonathan Willcocks

*Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, may there be union;
where there is doubt, faith. Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;
where there is despair, let there be hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, may there be joy! Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
May we all be in peace, and only peace, and may that peace come unto each of us.*

Bearing the Word into the World

Hymn “Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread”

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread your table in our heart.

Here share with us, in love divine, your body and your blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine be our immortal food.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude ♯ Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Jamaican folk melody
arr. John A. Behnke



On this **World Communion Sunday** we celebrate our oneness in Christ with our global family. Reminding us of that unity, both the colorful cloth on the Communion Table and the stoles being worn by the pastors are from Guatemala, a frequent destination of Fourth Church service trips. ✨ This is also the day when we annually receive the **Peace and Global Witness Offering**. This offering will be directed to efforts toward peacemaking that are supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as well as local efforts to address violence in Chicago. **Gifts to this offering can be made online** at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (noting “Peace Offering” in the comments) **or by a check** made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, with “Peace Offering” in the memo line.

This morning 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.

This Sunday afternoon, October 4, at 3:00 p.m. we are holding our annual **Blessing of the Animals**. This year we will do so virtually, via Zoom, as we **gather online with our pets** to thank God for the gift of all creatures great and small in our lives. For the Zoom details, please sign up at www.bit.ly/animalblessing20

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** (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. ✨ 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).

Congratulations to **Joe Morrow**, who last Sunday was elected **Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Community Engagement** by the congregation! We are deeply grateful to Joe for his ongoing partnership in mission and ministry here at Fourth Church. In our Presbyterian tradition, a call is a three-way call—between the minister, the congregation, and the presbytery, and so at the November 17 meeting of the Presbytery of Chicago this call will come before that body for their affirmation and approval.

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

“Putting Our Faith into Action,” our **2021 stewardship campaign**, is underway! Look for information in your mailbox about the ways in which your pledges are vital to supporting the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights. Please plan to submit your pledge—which you can make online at www.bit.ly/fpcclpledge—by Sunday, November 8, when we will celebrate all that we are able to do together through our generous response to God’s blessings in our lives.

This Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m., 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, register at www.bit.ly/taxamendment * Also this Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m., the Adult Education Committee is launching an online **First Tuesday Book Club**. The first book for discussion will be **Grace from the Rubble by Jeanne Bishop**. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/1stTues1020 * Jeanne Bishop's book will also be the topic of conversation at the October Zoom gathering of **Books by Women** on Tuesday, October 13 at 6:00 p.m. For Zoom details for that discussion, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

“The Great Divide: A Look at Inequity within Chicago Public Schools,” which meets via Zoom, concludes this Sunday, October 4 at 9:30 a.m. For the Zoom link, register online at www.bit.ly/3bTHnZd (You can watch previous sessions of this class at www.bit.ly/3jvBFj2). * **“Foundations of Faith: An Hour a Week with the Bible,”** led by Fourth Church pastoral staff, meets via Zoom on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/fpcf20 * **Men’s Bible Study** meets weekly via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

The deadline to submit names of individuals recommended for roles in church leadership—whether as Elder, Deacon, or Trustee or for Nominating Committee or Chicago Lights Board member—has been extended to Friday, October 9. Recommendations can be made by completing the **Leadership Candidate Form** at www.bit.ly/nominating2020

If you would like to connect with others for a time of fellowship following the congregational meeting today, please join us online 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#. * **New small groups**, which will meet via Zoom once a week for six weeks beginning this month, are being formed. To learn more or express interest in being part of a group, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). * A new **Men’s Faith Discussion Group** will also be meeting via Zoom beginning Monday, October 26 at 7:00 a.m. for three months. To express interest, email David Handley (dhandley@fourthchurch.org).

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Those who are interested in **becoming a member of Fourth Church** are invited to join us online for a two-session Inquirers' Class on Sunday, October 18 at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday, October 21 at 6:30 p.m. To register for this class (*required for membership*) and discover more about Fourth Church history, mission, and congregational life as well as the Presbyterian Church (USA), **sign up at www.bit.ly/inquirer1020**

Sunday School and family activities are being held online. For details, contact Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). For details about **youth groups and Confirmation**, contact Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). * **TwentiesThirties** offers 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 for adults sixty and over are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/cll; for more information, contact Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org). * **Online Noonday Concerts** are streamed on Fridays at 12:10 p.m. at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms

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**, please call the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext 2260.

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. Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org), **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch), and **Instagram** (www.instagram.com/fourthchurch) for other resources and ways to connect. Upcoming online events are posted on the church calendar at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar.

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Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Anita Balodis, Joseph L. Morrow, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Briana Belding-Peck, Director of the Handbell Choir

Carla Janzen, Soloist

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

Worship Notes

ON WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY we celebrate our oneness in Christ with our global family. The World Communion Sunday video shared today during worship was made by Christiane Knapp-Andrews, Doug Andrews, Rohit Bhal, Nidhi Bhal, Gonzalo Brum, Aaron Lawlor, Lucio Bosco, and Colleen Mraz.

FLORENCE B. PRICE (1887–1953) in 1933 became the first African American woman to have her music played by a major orchestra, when the Chicago Symphony Orchestra presented her Symphony in E Minor, one of more than three hundred compositions she wrote. Having earned degrees in organ and piano from the New England Conservatory of Music, she also studied in Chicago with Leo Sowerby, who was once Associate Organist at Fourth Church.

OFFERING GIFTS can be made 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.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism and
Community Engagement (*Associate Pastor-Elect*)

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

David Handley Interim Minister for Pastoral Care

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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A-712340.

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.