



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 2021

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Allegro from *Sonata No. 2 in C Minor* Johann Sebastian Bach
- Sonata in Sea: Cape Cod James Woodman
- II. Wellfleet
- III. Provincetown

Introit :: “God Be in My Head” Fraser Wilson

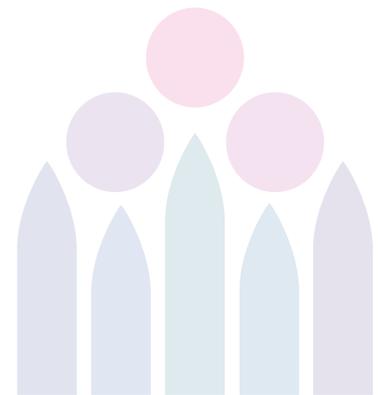
*God be in my head and in my understanding;
 God be in mine eyes and in my looking;
 God be in my mouth and in my speaking;
 God be in my heart and in my thinking;
 God be at mine end and at my departing.*

*Doxology (*sung*)

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

Welcome and Call to Worship

Prayer of Praise



†Or “praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”

Hymn “To God Be the Glory”

To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Refrain*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious Healer, in a world torn by violence and pain,
a world far from wholeness and peace,
a world waiting to be redeemed and longing to be mended,
we come to this place and this time.

We come to say what is hardest to say, out loud.

Our failings are many and our faults are great.

Gracious Healer, forgive us and forget us not.

Forgive us when we forget—

forget your love, forget your hope, forget your claim on our lives.

Forgive us when we forget—

forget to lift up the fallen and to set the captive free,
forget to love those whom the world calls unlovable,
forget to love even ourselves.

Gracious Healer, forgive us and forget us not.

And then make our memory and our courage strong;
we pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

Solo :: “God Is My Shepherd” Antonin Dvořák

God is my shepherd, I want for nothing. My rest is in the pleasant meadows; he leadeth me where quiet waters flow. My fainting soul doth he restore and guideth me in the ways of peace to glorify his name. And though in death's dark valley my steps must wander, my spirit shall not fear, for thou art by me still; thy rod and staff are with me and they shall comfort me.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 111

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
Great are your works, O Lord, pondered by all who delight in them.
Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.
You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.
You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.
You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.
The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.
They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.
You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding.
God's praise endures forever.

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 Mark 1:21–28

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

Hymn “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ, the true, the only light;
Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o’er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day’s return till thy mercy’s beams I see;
till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

New Members

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.

Minute for Mission

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

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Solo :: “Confitebor Tibi” Ned Rorem

O Lord, I will praise thee; though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away and thou comfortedst me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. For the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he is also become my salvation. Therefore, with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day shall ye say, “Praise the Lord, call upon his name; declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. Sing unto the Lord, for he hath done excellent things; this is known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion; for great is the holy one of Israel in the midst of thee.”

Bearing the Word into the World

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.**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude :: Prelude in B Major Marcel Dupré



During worship today we welcome **those received into Fourth Church membership** at a January 24 meeting with Session: John Borovicka, Mary Anne Borovicka, Elizabeth Flessor, Sharon Hamilton, and Jeffrey Koukol. If you are interested in **learning more about becoming a member** of Fourth Church, we invite you to contact Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org), Associate Pastor-Elect for Evangelism and Community Engagement. You are also invited to join us online for a **one-session Inquirers' Class** on Sunday, February 14 at 9:00 a.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 to receive Zoom details at www.bit.ly/inquirer0221

Today's **Minute for Mission** is presented by Mark Nelson and Ruth Gallagher Nelson on behalf of the **Chicago Lights Gala of Hope at Home**, which will be held online on Friday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. This gala annually benefits the life-changing youth development and social service programs of Chicago Lights—the community outreach arm of Fourth Church—and the community support efforts of our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being. For details about attending this free event or becoming an event sponsor, sign up at chicagolights.org/gala or contact Laura Woods (lwoods@chicagolights.org).

If you would like to connect with others for a time of fellowship after worship today, join us following the postlude for **virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom at www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship** (Zoom details are 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#. * To express interest in connecting with others in a **small group**, which will **meet via Zoom once a week during Lent**, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). * The **Benevolent Guild**, which has been making face masks, meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

On Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. Email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for the details. * **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). * **To explore options for teletherapy** with our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, call the Center at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. * If you would like to have a **one-time phone conversation with a Stephen Minister or arrange for ongoing talks**, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

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

The artist **Gerald Griffin** will present the program at this Friday's February 5 Zoom gathering of **Cornerstones**, a fellowship group for adults fifty and over. For Zoom details, register by Thursday, February 4 at www.bit.ly/cornerstones0121 * Our **Friday Noonday Concerts** take place at 12:10 p.m. each week at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms as well as via Facebook Live and on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). This week the online concert will be presented by our flutist Nicaulis Alliey.

Again this year the Spiritual Formation Council will host a **Lenten "Path of Discipleship"** series, which will meet for six Tuesday evenings via Zoom. The pastoral staff will lead a study grounded in the book **Entering the Passion of Jesus by Amy Jill-Levine**, and there will also be time for small-group discussion. Space is limited, so please register by Monday, February 15 at www.bit.ly/fpcpod2021 * The adult education class led by Carol Allen, **"On Restoring God's Beloved Community: Looking for Guidance in Scripture,"** continues via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays through February 28. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/restoring21

"End Times: A New Look" is a new three-week theme within the "Foundations of Faith: An Hour a Week with the Bible" Zoom class. Beginning today at 12:30 p.m., Lucy Forster-Smith will lead us in an exploration of apocalyptic thinking as seen through the lens of Jesus' teaching, Paul's writings, and the Book of Revelation. For Zoom details, register at [www bit ly/fpcff20](http://www.bit.ly/fpcff20)

* **Men's Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and the **Horizons Bible Study for women** next meets on Wednesday, February 10 at 12:00 p.m. For Zoom details for Bible studies, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). * A **new online Bible study for those in their twenties and thirties** begins on Wednesday, February 3 at 7:30 p.m. For Zoom details and more information, sign up at www.bit.ly/2Yq3znE

During the 11:00 a.m. online service on Sunday, February 14 we will kick off our celebration of the **150th anniversary of the founding of Fourth Presbyterian Church**. We encourage you to watch for details about our observances throughout the year. * Also that Sunday, February 14 we will gather for the **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**. The meeting will be held online at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms (call in at 888.916.9166) following the 11:00 a.m. service and will include the election of officers.

Fourth Church Youth invite you to donate to their **virtual food drive for the Souper Bowl of Caring**—a national grassroots, faith-based campaign against hunger. All proceeds will support **Fourth Church Meals Ministry** and the **food pantry of our Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center**. Gifts can be made online at www.bit.ly/fpcsouperbowl21

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The First Tuesday Book Club, hosted by the Adult Education Committee, will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation* by Kristin Kobes De Mez. For Zoom details for this conversation led by Jim Garner, register online at [www bit ly/firsttuesdaybooks](http://www.bit.ly/firsttuesdaybooks) * **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss *Madame Fourcade's Secret War* by Lynne Olson. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Sunday School and family activities meet online. For details, email Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). * For details about **youth groups and Confirmation**, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). * Adults sixty and over are invited to take part in the **Center for Life and Learning**, which offers online lectures and exercise classes; for details, email Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org) or see www.fourthchurch.org/cll

Hanging above our Sanctuary entrance is a banner with an image of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the words **"Moving the Dream Forward."** It is a continued expression of our commitment to embrace racial equity by purposely including all people, striving for radical hospitality, and modeling an antiracist approach in all areas.

We are looking for Fourth Church members with **gifts for compassionate listening** to become Stephen Ministers and walk alongside individuals experiencing life challenges. The next fifty-hour **training course for new Stephen Ministers** will be offered in March 2021; for information about applying for the training, see www.fourthchurch.org/caring/stephen-ministers.html

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*), the service is 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 **listen to the service live via phone by calling 888.916.9166** (*toll-free*) at the time of the service (*the prelude begins around 10:45 a.m.*). * During the week we 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).

If you are looking to add devotional meditations into your daily routine this year, we invite you to join the more than 4,000 people who use the daily devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff. These reflections are available by email (you can sign up online at **www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions**) or read them online (**www.fourthchurch.org/devotions**), via Facebook (**www.facebook.com/fourthchurch**), or Twitter (**www.twitter.com/fourthchicago**).

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) for additional resources and ways to connect. Online events are posted on the church calendar at **www.fourthchurch.org/calendar**; we also encourage you to follow us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **Instagram** (instagram.com/fourthchurch) for updates, sermon quotes, images from Fourth Church, and more.

Worship Leaders

Jeff Doane, Mario Jobbe, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Members of the Morning Choir

Jeanne Bishop, CeCe Hastreiter, Laura Kubelka, Craig Palmer, Les Ventsch

Laura Perkett, Soloist

Laura Bottei, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

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.

THE TEXT OF THE HYMN AFTER THE SERMON, “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky,” was written by Charles Wesley in 1740. The first verse celebrates daylight as an image of Christ, who is the true light; the second verse ponders life without the light of Christ; and the third verse is a prayer to bring the light of Christ within each of us.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Joseph L. Morrow Associate Pastor-Elect for Evangelism
and Community Engagement

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

David Handley Interim Minister for Caring Ministries

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus



THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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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.