



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Passacaglia and Fugue in C Minor Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit : “Zion’s Walls” American folk song; arr. Aaron Copland

Come fathers and mothers, come sisters and brothers, come join us in singing the praises of Zion. O children, don’t you feel determined to meet within the walls of Zion? We’ll shout and go ’round the walls of Zion.

*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

Hymn “Sing a New Song unto the Lord”

Refrain

Sing a new song unto the Lord; let your song be sung from mountain’s high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing hallelujah!

Shout with gladness! Dance with joy! O come before the Lord.

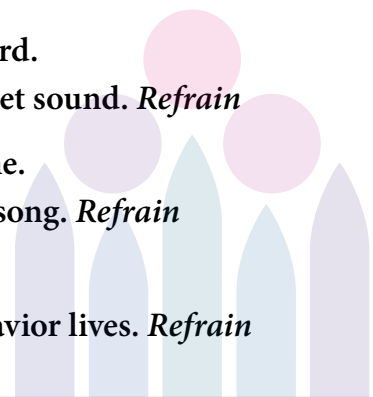
And play for God on glad tambourines, and let your trumpet sound. *Refrain*

Rise, O children, from your sleep; your Savior now has come.

He has turned your sorrow to joy and filled your soul with song. *Refrain*

Glad my soul for I have seen the glory of the Lord.

The trumpet sounds; the dead shall be raised. I know my Savior lives. *Refrain*



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

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

We carry our fears around with us, O God,
when you would rather take them and toss them aside, spent and useless.
You invite us to sit and remember we are in your presence,
to breathe and remember you fill us with your courage,
but we are busy running errands or ordering online.
You give us a simple command—to love,
and we complicate it with rules, worries, and doubts.

Forgive us, Vine Grower.

You have planted those seeds of mercy, of hope, of grace deep within us
so we might bear rich and nourishing fruit for others.

May we not get in the way of your Gardener,
Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior,
who will use the Holy Spirit to bring forth an abundant crop. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Anthem # “Most Glorious Lord of Life” William H. Harris

*Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy triumph over death and sin,
and having harrowed hell, didst bring away captivity thence captive, us to win.
This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin, and grant that we for whom thou didst die,
being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin, may live forever in felicity.
And that thy love, we weighing worthily, may likewise love thee for the same again;
and for thy sake, that all like dear didst buy, with love may one another entertain.
So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought; love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 22:25–31

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied.
Let those who seek the Lord give praise!
May your hearts live forever!
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.
For dominion belongs to the Lord,
who rules over the nations.
Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,
shall kneel before the Lord.
Their descendants shall serve the Lord,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.
They shall proclaim God's deliverance
to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

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 15:1–8

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

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

Responding to the Word

Hymn “Be Thou My Vision”

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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 :: “The Lord Is My Shepherd” Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
arr. Richard Maxwell and Fred Feibel

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want; he maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
beside the still waters; he restoreth my soul. He leadeth in paths of righteousness for his name’s
sake. 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; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Bearing the Word into the World

Hymn “The Day of Resurrection!”

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin’s dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**

**Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own “All hail!” and hearing, may raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude :: A Light in the City Laura Bottei

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*): Kristina Bonesteel, Marilyn Ezri, Jeannine Forrest, Jenny Giblin, Jacob Grissom (*youth*), Marsha Heizer, Anthony Hipp, Jerry Johnson, Jane Nerison, Kent Stevens, Anneke Stracks (*youth*), Devlin Su, Katie Truesdell, Cornell Wilson III

Board of Trustees (*those elected by the congregation to manage Fourth Church's financial and physical resources*): John Borovicka IV, Tiffany Cunningham, Kerry Grady, Chris Horsman, Diane Meister, Don Nelson, Gretchen Van Natta

Board of Deacons (*often described as "the heart of the church," those involved in the care of the congregation and various outreach ministries*): Margo Anderson, Nicholette Andrews-Maggio, Samantha Borow, Carol Carpenter, Esmeraldino Celestino, Robin Erickson, Gregory Geuther, Dawn Kulich, Suzi Mills, Justin Myers, Kaylyn Patterson, Sam Psimoulis, Karen Sabine, Rob Sinclair, Justin Smith, Carrie Stern

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

Session: Doug Andrews, Steve Block, Monica Brown, Tim Calkins, Rhonda Carlson, Robert Day, Ken Gaines, Heather Gallenbeck, Lisa Garay, Jeanne Griffin, Armon Haagen, Ruben Harris, Cynthia Johnson, Jean Joslyn, Tracy Koogler, Ji Inn Lee, Kelley Lynch, Marc Miller, Craig Morrison, Samme Orwig, Melanie Oh Pierce, Brian Satre, Tim Schellhardt, Emma Vis, Toni Yang, Allison Youngblood

Trustees: Jean Ban, Jeanne Bishop, Lynne Driver, Sam Evans, Doug Grissom, Mark Hurley, Jeanne Olofson, Tony Ruger, Fred Schwartz, Sally Scott, Joe Sifferlin, Anne Voshel, Beverly Washington, Betsy Zeiger

Deacons: Taposhi Bentley, Caryn Borg-Breen, Rhonda Faulkner, Cathy Flaa, Caryn Hank, Liz Kurman, Bruce Leech, Robin Moncrieff, Colleen Mraz, Stefanie Schumann, Lisa Stracks, Elaine Tierney, David Wilson, Nora Wiltse, Charlie Calkins (*youth*), Natalie Ruhana (*youth*), Anita Balodis, Beth Stone Bentley, Connie Chang, Joanne Gaines, Michelle Hayes, Stephanie Jenks, Brian Louis, Brenda Mauldin, Marcella McGuinn, Kathleen O'Connor, Alisa Rantanen, Emmy Stanley, Kashane Taylor, Tony Vitale

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: Gerry Bloomer, Hope Daniels, Deb Ford, James Garner, Stephen Hauser, Julie James, Jerry Latherow, Jared Light, Maddie Pieper (*youth*), Enjolique Reed, Katie Reome (*youth*), Sarah Younger

Trustees: Don Allerton, Norma Borcharding, Andrew Brickman, Alexander Brougham, Steve Jurgens, Meg O'Hara, Nina Owen

Deacons: Matt Bardwell, Kathryn Burkhardt, Kay Brungs Laud, Steve Bus, Cynthia Casteel, Lauren Cleary, Addie Cook (*youth*), John Deverman, Kim Douglass, Kat Evans, Anthony Hipp, Samuela Kosipa (*youth*), Rachel Letcher, Sally Lewis, Brian Lukens, Eric Olson, Emma Richardson, Katie Truesdell, Deborah Zac



A time of **online fellowship takes place each Sunday** following the postlude. All are invited to join us for this **virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom** at www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship (Zoom details are also posted at www.fourthchurch.org). You can take part in Coffee Hour **by phone** as well: dial 312.626.6799 and enter meeting ID number 963 5583 1751#.

“The Bible as a Weapon: Disarming the Clobber Passages” is the latest three-week theme of the **“Foundations of Faith: An Hour a Week with the Bible”** Zoom class that meets on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. Nanette Sawyer is leading this look at reading the Bible from within its own historical context and addressing how Christians today can use the Bible as a tool for justice, not a weapon of oppression. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/fpcf20 * **“His Truth Is Marching On: The Life of John Lewis,”** an adult education class led by Jeff Doane and drawing on Jon Meacham’s *His Truth Is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope*, continues today and next Sunday at 9:30 a.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/truthmarching0421

Rethinking Incarceration: Advocating for Justice that Restores is the topic of the **First Tuesday Book Club** conversation with author Dominique Gilliard this Tuesday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. For the Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/firsttuesdaybooks * **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, May 11 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss ***Elinor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*** by Gail Honeyman. Email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org) for Zoom details.

The **“Generosity as a Spiritual Practice”** series concludes this Tuesday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m. with **Joe Morrow** leading a discussion of **community and investing social capital** as we continue to consider the ways in which living generously can enrich our lives and deepen our faith. For details, including the Zoom link, register at www.bit.ly/generosity0421

Men’s Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and **Horizons Bible Study for women** next meets online on Wednesday, May 12 at 12:00 p.m. Email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org) for Zoom details. * **TwentiesThirties Bible Study** for young adults meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. For Zoom details, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).

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

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

Harpist Autumn Selover will present this month's program during **Cornerstones'** online gathering for those fifty and over, which takes place this Friday, May 7 at 5:30 p.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/cornerstones0521 * **Our online Friday Noonday Concerts** take place at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms at 12:10 p.m. as well as on Facebook Live and our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). This week the concert features **soprano Olivia Doig**.

The **Benevolent Guild**, which has been making face masks, meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. For details, contact Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

If you are looking for **devotional meditations for your personal time of prayer and reflection**, 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 (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) as well as online (www.fourthchurch.org/devotions), via Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and Twitter (twitter.com/fourthchicago). * On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. Email Carol (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for details.

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. * **To explore options for teletherapy**, call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. * **If you would like to talk to a pastor**, please call the church (312.787.4570). * **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.

For the foreseeable future we are gathering online for **livestream-only worship**. We stream our service at 11:00 a.m. at www.bit.ly/FPCworship (*where the service is available throughout the week*) as well as via **Facebook Live** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **YouTube** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). * 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. * During the week we make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify** (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast).

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

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

Nanette Sawyer, Justin Myers, Lucy Forster-Smith, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Members of the Morning Choir

Kathryn Cole, Bill McMurray, Laura Perkett, and Marshall Rollings

Sean Stanton, Soloist

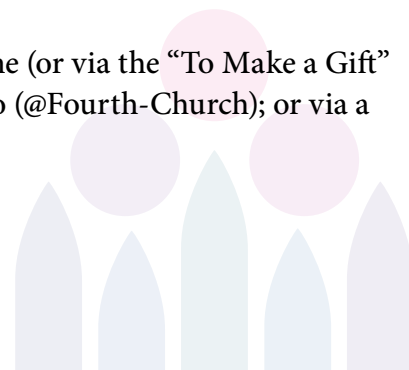
Laura Bottei, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

TODAY IS ORGAN SCHOLAR LAURA BOTTEI'S final Sunday sharing her musical gifts at Fourth Church. Laura is graduating this spring from Loyola University with degrees in music and psychology. In the fall she will begin studying at Indiana University, pursuing a master's degree in organ. As a parting gift to the Fourth Church community Laura has composed the postlude for this morning, "A Light in the City." We send Laura off with all our gratitude, blessings, and good wishes.

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 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

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The Prayer of Confession is adapted from liturgy written by the Reverend Thom Shuman.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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