



Due to health concerns about the transmission of COVID-19, we are not engaging in congregational singing. During hymns, worshipers are invited to hum along with the soloist if they like.

We Approach God

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Give thanks to God, for God is good!

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God gathers us from east and west, from north and south.

Praise God for God's wonderful works. Let us worship God!

* Please rise in body or spirit

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, mental health, educational background, economic situation, religious background, or documentation status.

***Opening Song** (congregation is invited to hum) “Let All Things Now Living” (verse 1)

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished,
all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.*

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Holy God, sometimes we have overestimated our role and our importance,
thinking that we could control things beyond our power.
We put ourselves into your role, thinking we know what is best.
At other times we have failed to take responsibility
for the things over which we do have power and responsibility.
We have shirked our duty to care for our world and your people.
Forgive us for all the ways we have missed the mark.
Help us to develop a wholesome and balanced perspective of our role in this life.
Shape us, guide us, use us for the common good in your world. Amen.**

God Forgives and Blesses Us

Friends, believe the good news!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Hymn (congregation is invited to hum) Let All Things Now Living” (verse 2)

*By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains, the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration, a song let us raise, till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving: to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!*

We Proclaim the Story

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 107:1–3, 23–32

ANTIPHON: *My God, in you I take refuge. Save and deliver me.*

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God’s mercy endures forever.
Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,
gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

ANTIPHON

Some went down to the sea in ships, plying their trade in deep waters.
They beheld the works of the Lord, God’s wonderful works in the deep.
Then God spoke, and a stormy wind arose, which tossed high the waves of the sea.
They mounted up to the heavens and descended to the depths;
their souls melted away in their peril.
They staggered and reeled like drunkards, and all their skill was of no avail.
Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord, and you delivered them from their distress.

ANTIPHON

You stilled the storm to a whisper and silenced the waves of the sea.
Then were they glad when it grew calm, when you guided them to the harbor they desired.
Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.
Let them exalt you in the assembly of the people;
in the council of the elders, let them sing hallelujah!

ANTIPHON

Scripture Job 38:1–13

Sermon “Normal Never Was, God Always Is” Shannon J. Kershner

We Offer Ourselves

Musical Reflection

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minute for Mission

Call for Offering

***Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

For your gracious provision responding to the pressing needs of our world, we say thanks.
For the abundance that you enable us to share, we ask your help to give it all with deep
love and care. For the good that will transform lives and heal communities, we say:
may it be so. Amen.

We Go Out with Gratitude

***Closing Song** (*congregation is invited to hum*) "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

*Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)*

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Nanette Sawyer Associate Pastor
Joseph L. Morrow Associate Pastor
Jana Vander Lee Liturgist
The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Worship Notes

Today's Minute for Mission is presented on behalf of the Nominating Committee.

Offering gifts to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in an offering box at the exit to the Chapel. They also can be given online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (or via the "To Make a Gift" button on our website: fourthchurch.org) or via Venmo (@Fourth-Church).

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God is named corporately in a variety of ways that are gender neutral. This allows for your personal expressions as you are led to name the Holy in ways meaningful to you.

Acknowledgments

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PASTORAL STAFF

Shannon J. Kershner, Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor
Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry
Joseph L. Morrow, Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Community Engagement
Nanette Sawyer, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for 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

News and Opportunities

We are glad to have you with us today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Presbyterian Church! * **Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ**, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. * **We invite you to join us** at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



On the Fourth Church campus, including in worship, **everyone is required to wear masks, fully covering the nose and mouth, regardless of vaccination status.** Anyone not vaccinated against COVID-19 is also required to practice social distancing. * For those worshipping with us in person, we are not checking vaccination status, but **by entering the Fourth Church campus you certify** that (a) you do not currently have COVID-19; (b) you are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) you have no reason to quarantine; and (d) you will practice social distancing if you are not vaccinated against COVID-19.



Our **in-person worship services** are a **10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary** and a **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel.** * Seating in the Chapel is set up for **social distancing.** In the Sanctuary, the front section is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, with seating by households. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating, with masks required wherever one sits. * Due to health guidelines, **congregational singing is not permitted;** those who would like to hum while the soloist sings are invited to do so. * **Worship can be heard** through hearing aids' "T" or "T-coil" setting. * **Please** silence electronic devices when in the Chapel.



For those who prefer to worship online or are unable to join us in person, we continue to livestream our morning worship service at 10:00 a.m. at www.bit.ly/FPCworship, Facebook Live (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). (*The prelude begins at approximately 9:45 a.m.*) The service is also available for viewing afterwards. * **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 888.916.9166 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).



The church campus remains closed. * On Sundays the **doors open for worship** at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (*a half hour before each service starts*). For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue and Delaware doors. * **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garage must be picked up from an usher. * **Nursery care is not available.**

You can read more about the guidelines in place for in-person worship as well as information about continued online opportunities **at www.fourthchurch.org/reopening**

On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer** via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. For details, email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org). * For those who would appreciate a fifteen-minute midweek worship experience, we invite you to view our summer 2021 **“Rhythm and Word: Midweek Music and Prayer”** videos, which you can find on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). **New videos in this series**, weaving together scripture, prayer, and music offered by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet, launch Wednesday, October 6. Sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail to receive these new videos by email. * A **virtual Sacred Pause** time of meditation is hosted by our Replogle Center on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing * **Daily devotional meditations** for prayer and reflection are available by email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions), Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), Twitter (twitter.com/fourthchicago), and fourthchurch.org/devotions.



The **Officer Nominating Committee** is gathering recommendations of individuals to serve in positions opening in 2022 for Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Nominating Committee as well as the Chicago Lights Board. If you know any Fourth Church members—including yourself—who have demonstrated **gifts for leadership and ministry**, please offer your leadership recommendations via the online form: www.bit.ly/nominating2022



Men’s Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and **Horizons Bible Study for women** meets online on Wednesday, September 22 at 12:00 p.m. This week the Horizons Bible Study welcomes guest speaker Magdalena I. Garcia, author of the leaders guide for this year’s study on **“What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew’s Genealogy of Jesus.”** A **6:30 p.m. evening Bible study for women** is also being formed. For more information or Zoom details for Men’s or Women’s Bible studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). * TwentiesThirties Bible Study for young adults meets online on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. For details, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).



The **“Understanding Gender Identity as a Church Community”** class, led by Community Outreach staff from Lurie Children’s Hospital, meets via Zoom on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/aflgenderidentity; previous sessions can be viewed at www.fourthchurch.org/academy * The **First Tuesday Book Club** will discuss ***Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life*** by Tish Harrison Warren on Tuesday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. For details, email Lewis Hamer (lhamer@fourthchurch.org).



Our **Zoom “Reconnect, Renew, and Reawaken” gatherings** are underway! Held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. each session highlights a different area of opportunity at the church, areas in which you are invited to learn more, become engaged, get involved, and connect with one another. The complete schedule is posted on our website (www.fourthchurch.org). This week’s gatherings will focus on **Chicago Lights Tutoring and Urban Farm** on Tuesday, September 21 at 5:30 p.m. and **Meals Ministry and World Mission** on Thursday, September 23 at 5:30 p.m., both at www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21 (*the same Zoom link is used for all of the sessions*). We hope you will join us in making time to connect with friends both new and familiar this fall!

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 Zoom Small Groups, which will meet weekly for six weeks, begin the week of October 11. If you would like to **connect with five to seven other people** via Zoom for **a time of fellowship, relationship building, and spiritual formation** or want to learn more about our small-group opportunities, please email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). * **Women at Fourth** gathers via Zoom this Thursday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m. Susan Pieters from **Between Friends, an agency providing domestic violence prevention programing**, will talk about the agency's work. * **Knitting and Crocheting** gathers online on Tuesday, September 28 at 4:00 p.m. for a time to work on knitting or crocheting projects while sharing in conversation. * On Tuesday, October 12 **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. to discuss **A Room of One's Own** by Virginia Woolf. Newcomers are always welcome to join in these conversations. For Zoom details for any of the above gatherings, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Meals Ministry will resume offering limited indoor dining—in addition to the continued to-go option—for Sunday Night Supper starting on October 10. That means **additional volunteers are needed to help serve Supper guests on Sundays**. You can sign up to volunteer on Sundays or for other Meals Ministry programs using VOMO, our Volunteer Ministry sign-up platform, at www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers * Effective October 15, 2021, **all Fourth Church volunteers serving in person must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19**. If you are volunteering this fall please send a copy of your vaccination certification to vaxproof@fourthchurch.org by October 15. Your information will be received directly by our Human Resources Department and kept confidential, only used to confirm your ability to volunteer with the church. Please direct questions about to Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org). * Do you have time one evening a week to **mentor a student through Chicago Lights Tutoring**? Tutoring will take place online this fall, and the Tutoring Volunteer Application can be completed at www.bit.ly/cltutorapp21; for more information, contact Mark Dennison (mdennison@chicagolights.org).



Our **organist, John Sherer**, will present this week's **Friday Noonday Concert** at 12:10 p.m. *Masks must be worn by all in attendance*. Our concerts can also be enjoyed online live and afterwards on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms, and on Facebook Live.



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 * **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence for those experiencing life's challenges. To learn more, leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. * To explore options for teletherapy, call our **Reprogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. * If you would like to **talk to a pastor** or notify the pastoral staff of personal concerns, prayer requests, illnesses, or deaths, please call the church (312.787.4570).

