



**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

## **We Approach God**

### **Gathering Music**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **\*Call to Worship**

We gather this day to worship the living God.

**Our hearts brim with anticipation!**

We come as those who know a distant land;

**we long to be brought into the presence of Christ.**

Call us home, O God, from our prodigal wandering.

**Yes, we run with joy to your open arms! Let us worship God.**

\* Please rise in body or spirit

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*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 sings while masked*) . . . . . “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

*Refrain:*

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. (*Refrain*)

Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. (*Refrain*)

When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. (*Refrain*)

## **We Tell the Truth about Ourselves**

### **Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

O God, even as we profess to follow Christ, we stray.  
Like the prodigal, we squander our time and talents;  
hollow pursuits blind us to your truth.  
Like the righteous brother, we resent mercy shown to the wayward.  
Forgive us our judgments of one another.  
Remind us that Christ walks with each of us  
and that our journey begins and ends only with you.  
Grant us wisdom and sure-footedness back to Christ and to each other. Amen.

### **God Forgives and Blesses Us**

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

### Prayer for Illumination

**Psalter** ..... Psalm 32

**Song** (*congregation sings while masked*) ..... “Have Mercy, God, upon My Life”

Have mercy, God, upon my life, and make me clean within:  
pour out your ever-faithful love and wash away my sin.

My guilt is heavy on my mind; I know what I have done:  
against your justice I have sinned, against you, God, alone.

Now teach me wisdom in my soul; I long to see your face.  
Let bones, once broken, sing with joy, and heal me by your grace.

Create in me a faithful heart, a spirit right and new.  
Sustain me with your saving love and keep me close to you.

Then I will praise you with my heart, my mind, my soul, my voice.  
You save the least and seek the lost; let all the world rejoice!

**Scripture Lesson** ..... Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

**Sermon** “Finding Our Way Home” ..... *Lucy Forster-Smith*

### Musical Reflection

## **We Feast Together**

### **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!**

#### **Sanctus** (*congregation sings while masked*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

#### **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 after Communion**

## **We Offer Ourselves**

#### **Call for Offering**

#### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Holy God, from your compassionate heart you offer us the choicest of gifts:  
life, health, and strength to love.**

**As we have freely received these gifts,**

**we freely give so all would share in what your hand has provided. Amen.**

**\*Closing Song** (*congregation sings while masked*). . . . . "Steal Away"

*Refrain:*

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!

Steal away, steal away home; I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, he calls me; he calls me by the thunder.

The trumpet sounds within my soul;

I ain't got long to stay here. (*Refrain*)

Green trees are bending; poor sinners stand a-trembling.

The trumpet sounds within my soul;

I ain't got long to stay here. (*Refrain*)

My Lord, he calls me; he calls me by the lightning.

The trumpet sounds within my soul;

I ain't got long to stay here. (*Refrain*)

**\*Benediction**

**Sending Music**

## Worship Leaders

**Lucy Forster-Smith** Senior Associate Pastor  
**Joseph L. Morrow** Associate Pastor  
**Blake Anderson** Liturgist  
**The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet**

## Worship Notes

**We are receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and Elam Davies Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (which is providing relief aid to those affected by the war in Ukraine), Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a “One Great Hour of Sharing” gift, you can use the special offering envelopes located near the offering box, designate “One Great Hour of Sharing” (OGHS) when giving at [fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://fourthchurch.org/give-online), or write that designation on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian 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

The Prayer of Confession was contributed by Holly O'Mara.

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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 and Worship  
  
**Jeffrey Doane**, Parish Associate for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation  
**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**. Anyone not wearing a mask fully covering their nose and mouth will be asked to leave, as we know that some people make the decision to worship with us in person—or participate in other in-person activities—based on the knowledge that everyone will be fully masked. This is but one of the ways we continue to live out our commitment to value the health and safety of all. \* 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. \* In the weekly News @ Fourth Church email newsletter (*see the box below to subscribe*), we shared the following note **in light of the City of Chicago lifting its mask mandate** in most settings: As Shannon Kershner wrote in her congregational email in late February, “until you hear otherwise, please assume that **we will keep doing what we are doing now—masks required, restricted campus access and hours**, etc. I thank you for your patience.” The wide range of programs, activities, and participants that are part of our Fourth Church and Chicago Lights community make how we move forward around masking complex, particularly given the number of vulnerable populations we serve—from preschoolers to older adults to those with insufficient access to health care—and given the range of staff and volunteers who work with them. So while we have not yet lifted our mask mandate, please know that we are hard at work determining what our life together will look like when we do! Please do watch our website and our email newsletter for all the latest updates on this.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday for a **10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary** and a **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel**. \* **Worshippers are invited to sing while masked**. \* **Worship in the Chapel can be heard** through hearing aids’ “T” or “T-coil” setting. \* **Please** silence electronic devices when in the Chapel. \* The **doors open for worship** on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. For the 4:00 service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. \* **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garage must be picked up from an usher. \* **For those who prefer to worship online** or are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning worship service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)). (*The prelude begins at approximately 9:45 a.m.*)

**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](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)**

During this season of self-reflection and prayer, we invite you to use our **Lenten devotions as a resource for meditation and reflection**. Subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) to receive the meditations daily via email.

✱ Also available for your reflection during the season is our **Lenten “Rhythm and Word” video series**.

These brief worship experiences, which weave together scripture, prayer, and blues music, are released on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. To receive them by email, sign up online at [www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail) ✱ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesday mornings (7:45 a.m.) and Saturday mornings (8:30 a.m. ) at [facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing](https://facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing) ✱ On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. and for **in-person Morning Prayer** at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel. The chapel is also open for opportunity to **walk the labyrinth** between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays. For Zoom details or information about walking the labyrinth or in-person Morning Prayer, email Rocky Supinger ([rsupinger@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rsupinger@fourthchurch.org)).



**For those facing life’s challenges**, Stephen Ministers provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support.

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** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org); if the situation is an emergency or requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call. ✱ If you would like to **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org).



We invite you to **remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward the Easter flowers** that will decorate the Sanctuary and Chapel. A list of those remembered and honored will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Contributions can be made online at [www.bit.ly/fpcgift](http://www.bit.ly/fpcgift) and must be received by next Sunday, April 3 for names to appear in the Easter bulletin. For more information, contact Andrea Miller ([amiller@fourthchurch.org](mailto:amiller@fourthchurch.org)).



Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to **connect with one another**. Online and in-person events are posted on **our church calendar**, accessible from our website’s home page and at [www.fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fourthchurch.org/calendar) ✱ Among them are **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome**, which gather via Zoom this Wednesday, March 30 at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship and a discussion led by Nanette Sawyer on what the Bible really says and does not say about sexual diversity. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). ✱ Charles Schaefer, Professor of History and International Studies at Valparaiso University, will present a program on **Ukraine, Russia, and Putin** at this Friday’s April 1 **Cornerstones** online gathering for those fifty and over. For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/cornerstones422](http://www.bit.ly/cornerstones422)