



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

## **We Approach God**

### **Gathering Music**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

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

O God, who created us in love,

**create us anew in love as we worship you.**

O Jesus Christ, who redeemed this world in love,

**reclaim our hearts as we worship you.**

O Holy Spirit, who moves this world toward its God-appointed end,

**move within us as we worship you. Amen.**

\* 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** . . . . . "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

**We Tell the Truth about Ourselves**

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

**Spirit of God, you are the breath of creation,  
the wind of change that blows through our lives,  
opening us up to new dreams and new hopes, new life in Jesus Christ.  
Forgive us our closed minds, which barricade themselves against new ideas,  
preferring the past to what you might want to do through us tomorrow.  
Forgive our closed eyes, which fail to see the needs of your world.  
Forgive our closed hands, which clutch our gifts for our use alone.  
Forgive us our closed hearts, which limit our affections to ourselves and our own.  
Forgive us and break down the walls of our selfishness,  
that we might be open to your love and open for service in your world,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**God Forgives and Blesses Us**

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

## We Proclaim the Story

### Prayer for Illumination

**Psalter** ..... Psalm 95:1–7

**Song** ..... “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

*Refrain:* Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. (*Refrain*)

Spread the good news o’er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. (*Refrain*)

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. (*Refrain*)

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. (*Refrain*)

**Scripture Lesson** ..... Acts 11:1–18

**Sermon** ..... *Matt Helms*

### Musical Reflection

#### Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

## 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**

**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**

**Generous and loving God, you bring joy out of sorrow,  
    plenty out of want, life out of death.  
Make us thankful every day for the gifts that arise from your bounty.  
May these offerings be used to your glory  
    for the health and well-being of your people and all creation. Amen.**

# We Go Out with Gratitude

**\*Closing Song** ..... "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.

**\*Benediction**

**Sending Music**

## Worship Leaders

<b>Matt Helms</b>	Associate Pastor
<b>Lucy Forster-Smith</b>	Senior Associate Pastor
<b>Tim Calkins</b>	Liturgist
<b>The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet</b>	

## Worship Notes

**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

*Words*—The Call to Worship is from from the *Worship Sourcebook*. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

---

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Shannon J. Kershner**, Pastor  
**Lucy Forster-Smith**, Senior Associate Pastor  
**Nancy Benson-Nicol**, Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation  
**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  
  
**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.



Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be **a mask-welcoming campus**, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. Now with the COVID risk level in Chicago increased to "medium," we are going a step further to **not just encourage but to recommend** (*though not require*) **that individuals wear masks** while on campus. This is consistent with city health officials recommending that—in light of the "medium risk" level—individuals wear masks indoors when they are not certain of the vaccination status of others present. As a mask-welcoming—and now recommending—campus, we also remain committed to **ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church**. \* Since some populations are more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others, some programs on our campus still choose to require masks. \* Additionally, we are continuing our practice of not checking vaccination status, but **anyone coming on site certifies** by doing so that (a) they do not currently have COVID-19; (b) they are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) they have no reason to quarantine; and (d) they will wear a mask and practice social distancing if they are not vaccinated against COVID-19.



If you like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather on Sundays for a **10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary** and the **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel**. \* **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 a half hour before the service. 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 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (and \$18 for up to 12 hours). 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 service on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)).



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) \* For **resources** as well as additional ways to connect with the church and one another, watch our website ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)) and Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)).

**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)**

We invite you to use our **devotions for the Easter season 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. \* 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 9:45 a.m. on Wednesdays and between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. For Zoom details or information about walking the labyrinth, email Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)).



As we return to more on-site programming, Fourth Church and Chicago Lights are implementing, **effective this Monday, May 16, a new safety and security practice.**

Beginning Monday, **anyone present on the Fourth Church campus will be required to wear a campus badge while on site**, *except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals.* Anyone who does not already have a campus badge (*except for those exceptions noted above*) will be asked to **pick up a single-day badge at the 126 E. Chestnut reception desk.** Reusable badges will be issued by some programs with regular, ongoing weekly programming, such as Chancel Choir. These reusable badges will only be available from the staff of those programs, not from the reception desk. Anyone who does not bring their reusable campus badge will be able to pick up a single-day badge.

To facilitate this process—as well as for safety and security reasons—**all access to the building will be through the 126 E. Chestnut entrance only**, except for worship, concerts, and Meals Ministry. Our ongoing commitment to the safety and security of all on our campus undergirds this practice, which has been under discussion since prior to the pandemic. (*Implementation was set aside while the campus was largely closed.*)

The campus badges and single-entry access point were strongly encouraged by our safety and security consultants and advisors and are also consistent with practices at other large, spread-out, multi-use buildings with spaces and uses like ours. They enable us to know who is in the building throughout the day. (*Previous unlimited access has at times resulted in unknown individuals hiding in corners of the campus.*) They also ensure that should we ever have to evacuate the buildings, we will know who was on site and needs to be accounted for.

As a congregation, we **value radical hospitality and welcome for all**, and we believe one expression of that is our care for the well-being of those who are present with us. **This safety and security practice is but one expression of that.** For those who will be joining us on site as programming on campus continues to expand, we look forward to seeing you!



Shannon Kershner is on sabbatical and will return August 15. While she is away, Lucy Forster-Smith is acting Head of Staff, and we also look forward to welcoming **Amantha Barbee**, Senior Pastor of Oakhurst Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Georgia, as our guest preacher on Sunday morning, June 5. For more information about this sabbatical time, see [www.fourthchurch.org/about/sabbatical.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/about/sabbatical.html) \* **To learn more about Fourth Church or become a member** email [member@fourthchurch.org](mailto:member@fourthchurch.org)