



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 24, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

O God, Thou Faithful God Johannes Brahms

Prelude and Fugue in D Major. Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit

“Lift Thine Eyes” from *Elijah*. Felix Mendelssohn

Lift thine eyes to the mountains from whence cometh help.

Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

He hath said thy foot shall not be moved. Thy keeper will never slumber.

*Doxology

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.

*Call to Worship

Leader: Restore us again, O God of our salvation.

People: Revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you.

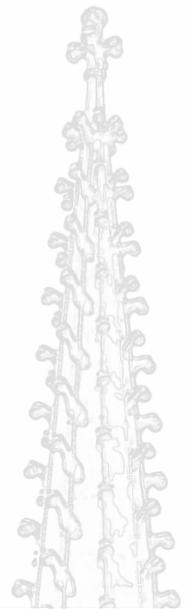
Leader: Speak peace to your people, O God,

to those who turn to you in their hearts.

People: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

*Leader: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.*

People: With all our hearts we turn toward the God of All Creation.
Let us worship God!



*Please rise in body or spirit. †Or “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”

***Hymn 805** “Come Sing to God”

Come sing to God, O living saints; sing praises to God’s name.
God’s anger is not permanent; God’s love will never wane.
Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain,
yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.

In my success I felt secure; how good you’ve been to me.
I said that this is my own work, ascribing all to me.
But when you turned aside your face, my life was filled with fears.
I begged for help; to you I cried with loud and bitter tears.

What good is gained by my disgrace, what profit in defeat?
My grave cannot confess your name, nor praise for you repeat.
Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me.
Accept my longing heart’s request and from death set me free.

You change my grief to joy-filled dance; my sorrows you destroy.
In faithfulness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy.
And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your goodness raise.
You are my God, forevermore. My life shall sing your praise.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Ever-faithful God, how often we turn away from you,
yet you remain constant to us.
We run from you, but you call us back.
In our words and our deeds we dishonor you, yet you still profess your love for us.
We cut ourselves off from you and from others, but you will not let us go.
Forgive our faithless and fickle ways and increase our gratitude,
that we might grow in faithfulness to you,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Welcome and Announcements

Anthem :: “The Road Home” Stephen Paulus

Tell me where is the road I can call my own, that I left, that I lost so long ago? All these years I have wandered, Oh, when will I know there’s a way, there’s a road that will lead me home? After wind, after rain, when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream in the gold of day, through the air there’s a calling from far away, there’s a voice I can hear that will lead me home. Rise up, follow me, come away is the call, with love in your heart as the only song; there is no such beauty as where you belong, rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 85

*Gloria Patri

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 Genesis 18:20–32

Sermon Joseph L. Morrow

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 435** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

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

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.
In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.
Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

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.

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem :: "Love Divine" Howard Goodall

*Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesu, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into
every troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find a second rest. Take away the power
of sinning, Alpha and Omega be; end of faith as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty. Come,
almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples
leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above; pray, and praise thee,
without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love. Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let
us be; let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee. Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!*

***Offertory Response** The Hymnal, 717

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

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

Gracious God, we dedicate to you not only these gifts but also ourselves,
in deep gratitude—for your steadfast love, for your call on our lives,
and for your invitation to participate in your healing and compassionate work.
Accept what we bring for your own good purposes. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 307** “God of Grace and God of Glory”

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; crown thine ancient
church’s story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! From the fears that long
have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children’s warring madness; bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton,
selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal, lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore. Let the gift of thy salvation be
our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we
adore, serving thee whom we adore.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude :: Te Deum Jean Langlais

*We invite you to enjoy the postlude. If you need to leave prior to the end of the postlude,
please do so quietly out of respect for those who choose to stay.*



We are glad to be worshipping with you today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth 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. With the COVID risk level in Chicago at “high,” 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 “high 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 choose to require masks. ✧ Additionally, while we are continuing our practice of not checking vaccination status, **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. ✧ In the Sanctuary, the **front section on the pulpit side is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, and everyone sitting in that section is required to wear a mask**. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating.



For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where 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.

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

If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for our Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel. ✨ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. For the morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the Jazz at Four 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*) and at the Hancock garage (*875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut*) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher. ✨ **Nursery care** is not available at this time. ✨ **Worship can be heard** in the Sanctuary and Chapel through the “T” or “T-coil” setting of hearing aids. ✨ Please silence **electronic devices** when in the Sanctuary or Chapel.



Following worship, Deacons are available in Stone Chapel (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) to pray with **individuals who would like to offer prayers** of praise or concern. ✨ We also gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** and at 10:00 a.m. for **in-person Morning Prayer** in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (*nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org*). ✨ The Chapel is also open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays; between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays; and between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays (*with the exception of Thursday, July 28; there will be no labyrinth walk that day*). For information about the labyrinth, email Rocky Supinger (*rsupinger@fourthchurch.org*). ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing ✨ We invite you to use our **daily devotions**, written by members and staff, as a resource for **meditation and reflection**. These devotions are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions; to receive the meditation via email, simply subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✨ During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday **service and sermon available via podcast** on iTunes as well as Spotify (*www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast*). ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday’s **sermon text by email** by subscribing online at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons



In the pew racks you will find a **Connection Card, which we invite you to fill out** and place in the offering plate. It provides opportunity for you to let us know in what ways you would like to connect with Fourth Church, to update your contact information, and to share prayer concerns.

Those worshipping with us in person are invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** outdoors in the Michigan Avenue courtyard following the service. ✨ **For additional ways to connect** with one another and Fourth Church, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources**, watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) and **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch). ✨ Events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar



Knitting and Crocheting will gather via Zoom this Tuesday, July 26 at 4:00 p.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ The **Prayer Shawl Ministry**, a new initiative of the Caring Ministries Team and the Knitting and Crocheting group, combines the love of knitting or crocheting with reaching out to those in need of comfort and solace, providing them with a tangible expression of that caring in the form of a handcrafted shawl or lap blanket. Information about Prayer Shawl Ministry as well as **basic instructions are available** via our Volunteer Ministry platform at app.vomo.org/project/prayer-shawl-ministry



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 or in-person conversations with a counselor, call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ✨ To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email 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. ✨ To **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org



Men's Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. **Women's Bible Study**—which offers two Zoom gathering times (12:00 and 6:30 p.m.) on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month—next meets on Wednesday, July 27 for a discussion about **practicing spiritual disciplines** and the way that over time prayer, Bible study, and worship shape us. For Zoom details for the Bible studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

Adults sixty and over are invited to take part in the **Center for Life and Learning's summer term.**

Learn more at www.fourthchurch.org/cll or register for this broad portfolio of **fitness classes, member-led groups, and special events** (*with most classes on Zoom*) at www.bit.ly/cllsummer22

✳ **Encore 2022**, the Center for Life and Learning's annual benefit, will take place on Saturday, August 27 with a musical theme of **Cabaret! Live!** To learn more about this evening of music followed by a reception, see www.fourthchurch.org/cll/encore.html



Women at Fourth is collecting donations for the annual **School Supply Drive.** The supplies, which will be given to students connected with Chicago Lights Summer Day and the Urban Farm, can be **purchased online and shipped to the church** using the wish list www.bit.ly/fpcschoolsSupplies22 **Monetary gifts** for purchasing supplies, can be made at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (*select "Congregational Life" and then note "School Supplies" in the comment box*). Supplies are needed by Monday, July 25 for 120 Summer Day students and by Monday, August 8 for 80 Urban Farm students. For more information contact Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Fourth Church Meals Ministry is in need of volunteers to assist in helping our neighbors who are hungry and experiencing food insecurity. To explore these volunteer needs, see our Volunteer Ministry platform, VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers). ✳ The World Mission and Social Justice Council of Fourth Church is seeking volunteers to **assist sponsored refugee families** coming from conflict areas around the world. Also needed will be items to help these families settle into a new home. **Those who are interested in helping** are asked to email refugeeproject@fourthchurch.org



Our **Music by the Fountain** series of outdoor, in-person concerts continues this Friday, July 29 with a piano and voice performance by **John and Carlisle Sherer.** We hope you will join us at 12:10 p.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard for this Friday noonday concert. While we are not livestreaming our outdoor concerts this summer, if you would prefer to enjoy music from Fourth Church online, we encourage you to explore the concert offerings on our YouTube channel: www.bit.ly/fpcvideos



To purchase **fresh produce** and support the work of students and young adults gaining on-site job skills at the **Chicago Lights Urban Farm**, stop by their Farmstand on Fridays between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. (*444 W. Chicago Ave.*).

As we return to more on-site programming, Fourth Church and Chicago Lights have implemented a new safety and security practice: **anyone present on the Fourth Church campus is 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 are being issued by some programs with regular, ongoing weekly programming, such as Chancel Choir. These reusable badges are only available from the staff of those programs, not from the reception desk. Anyone who does not bring their reusable campus badge is 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 is through the 126 E. Chestnut entrance only**, *except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals*. Our ongoing commitment to the safety and security of all on our campus undergirds this practice, which was 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. During Shannon's time away, Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor, is serving as Head of Staff.

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer, Ranjan Daniels, Matt Helms, Joseph L. Morrow

The Music Today

The Women's Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING WE WELCOME THE WOMEN'S CHOIR as they assist in musical leadership during our worship services beginning this Sunday and continuing through September 4. Today they are singing an anthem entitled "The Road Home" by Stephen Paulus (1949–2014), one of his most popular works. Best known for his operas and choral music, Paulus was a Grammy award-winning composer and composed over 450 pieces.

OFFERING GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in one of the offering plates at the time of the offering or, after the service, in one of the offering boxes at the exit from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (or via the "To Make a Gift" button at www.fourthchurch.org).



Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is based on Psalm 85. The Prayer of Confession is from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2: Trinity Sunday through Reign of Christ*. "Come Sing to God" words copyright © 1986 Fred R. Anderson. OneLicense.net. License A-712340. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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