



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Let us celebrate the bountiful love of God our Creator,
who prepares a feast for the lonely, lost, and least.

Let us rejoice in the love of God our Redeemer,
who welcomes home those who were far away.

Let us take comfort in the power of God our Sustainer,
who through small acts of faithfulness does mighty deeds of love.

* 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** “While We Are Waiting, Come”

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.

Refrain: Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come. (*Refrain*)

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come. (*Refrain*)

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Patient God, you walk us through life in a way of beauty and love,
but we confess that we foolishly rush onto paths that crush the soul.
We have upheld our own interests first, to the detriment of others.
We have failed to lift up the downtrodden and abandoned efforts to bring about justice.
These sins weigh heavily upon our hearts, and we feel helpless to escape them.
Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
Direct us back on your way so that we might live more faithfully as your servants
and declare your power and grace to others. Amen.**

God Forgives and Blesses Us

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

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 14

Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."
They are corrupt, every deed is vile; there is no one who does any good.
The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all,
to see if there is anyone who is wise, who seeks after God.
They have all proved faithless; all alike have turned bad;
there is none who does good; no, not one.

ANTIPHON

Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers
who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon the Lord?
See how they tremble with fear,
because God is in the company of the righteous.
Your aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, but the Lord is their refuge.
Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion!
When the Lord restores the fortunes of the people,
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

ANTIPHON

Scripture Lesson Luke 15:1–10

Sermon *Shannon J. Kershner*

Musical Reflection

Gloria

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

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

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives.

Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity, and our reluctance.

Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known

that our lives might show forth your glory.

For we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

We Go Out with Gratitude

***Closing Song** "Guide My Feet"

Guide my feet while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race; (yes, my Lord!)

guide my feet while I run this race,

for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Hold my hand . . .

Stand by me . . .

I'm your child . . .

Search my heart . . .

Guide my feet . . .

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Joseph L. Morrow Associate Pastor
Brian Satre Liturgist

The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Leslie Beukelman, vocal
Bryan Doherty, bass
Marcus Evans, percussion
Amr Fahmy, piano

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.

Offering gifts to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in the offering plate at the time of the offering or in the offering box at the Chapel exit. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church; see QR code at right) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (or via the “To Make a Gift” button at www.fourthchurch.org).



Acknowledgments

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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
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. With the COVID risk level in Chicago at "medium," we **not just encourage but 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 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 would 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 each 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).



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

A new video in our autumn “**Rhythm and Word**” series—which includes the music of the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet—will be released on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) each Wednesday evening in September; the videos are also available weekly by email (*subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail*). * Also 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. Email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org) for Zoom details. * The chapel is also open for opportunity to **walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For labyrinth information, 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 as a resource for personal reflection**. They can be found online at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions; to receive the devotions daily by email subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions



For those facing life’s challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. To arrange conversation with a Stephen Minister, leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. * To explore options 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, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency, 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



The Officer Nominating Committee is gathering **recommendations of individuals to serve in leadership positions** opening in 2023 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 recommendations via the online form at www.bit.ly/nominating2023 or by using the paper forms by the chapel door.



Our Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in need of blankets, sleeping bags, comforters, and sheets; towels and washcloths; adult-size backpacks; grocery push carts; athletic shoes in men’s sizes 9–13 and women’s sizes 8–12; men’s casual pants, jeans, or khakis; and men’s sweaters, hoodies, and coats in sizes L, XL, XXL, and XXXL. Items can be dropped off at the church reception desk seven days a week between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. or shipped to the Chicago Lights Social Service Center, 126 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, IL 60611.2014.