



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

* 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** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient Church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
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 the 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 your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret, forgive us;
for the things we have failed to do that we regret, forgive us;
for all the times we have acted without love, forgive us;
for all the times we have reacted without thought, forgive us;
for all the times we have withdrawn care, forgive us;
for all the times we have failed to forgive, forgive us.

For hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid,
for unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes,
God of all time, forgive us and help us
to lay down our burden of regret. Amen.

God Forgives and Blesses Us

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

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 66:1–12



We walk through fire and wa - ter



while you lead us in - to life.

ANTIPHON

For God alone I wait in silence; from God comes my salvation.
God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.
How long will all of you assail me to crush me as if I were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?
They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor; they take pleasure in lies.
They bless with their lips, but in their hearts they curse.

ANTIPHON

For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.
God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.
In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.
Put your trust in God always, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

ANTIPHON

Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted.
Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.
Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.
Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

ANTIPHON

Scripture Lesson Exodus 19:3–7; 20:1–17

Sermon *Nancy Benson-Nicol*

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

Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise:
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.

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.

The Communion

Prayer after Communion

We Offer Ourselves

Call for Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Blessed are you, God of all creation;
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God forever. Amen.

We Go Out with Gratitude

***Closing Song** "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you, may the Shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet.
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
unseen wings, protecting, hide you, daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. *[Refrain]*

God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you, put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again. *[Refrain]*

God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you, smite death's threat'ning wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again. *[Refrain]*

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nancy Benson-Nicol Associate Pastor

Paula Addington 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. 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.**



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 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).



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 information. * 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 details, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). * We invite you to use our **daily devotions as a resource for personal reflection**. They can be found at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions; to receive the devotions daily by email subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions * For additional biblical exploration, listen in as Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger discuss the **"Bible Top Ten"** in their **podcast** by that title (fourthchurch.org/podcast), with new episodes released every other Tuesday.



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).

Our 2023 stewardship campaign invites all of us to pledge our support for the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights in the year ahead. Please plan to submit your 2023 pledge—which you can make at www.bit.ly/fpcclpledge—by Commitment Sunday, October 30, when we will celebrate all we are able to do together through our generous response to God’s blessings in our lives. * Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is **delivering aid to those impacted by recent hurricanes**; these outreach efforts will continue, providing emotional and spiritual care as well as long-term recovery assistance. To support the work of PDA in responding to the damage caused by Hurricanes Fiona and Ian and in remaining engaged during the hurricane season, you can make a gift to PDA at www.bit.ly/pdahurricane



On Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. we will host the Michigan Avenue Forum **“The 1619 Project Revisited: Race, History, and the Future.”** The conversation will feature Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and author of the *New York Times’ 1619 Project*, **Nikole Hannah-Jones**, together with WBEZ’s **Natalie Moore** exploring and reflecting on the reactions to and examining developments since the publication of *The 1619 Project*. They will also discuss the importance of playing a leadership role in creating awareness and dismantling systems of oppression to rebuild a new transparent and equitable order. The event, which will take place in the Sanctuary, will also be livestreamed on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). * New **Zoom Small Groups** begin this month. Groups will be looking at *The 1619 Project* by Nikole Hannah-Jones, *Hospitality: The Sacred Art* by Nanette Sawyer, *Silencing White Noise: Six Practices to Overcome our Inaction on Race* by Willie Dwayne Francois III, history and current issues facing Indigenous peoples of the United States, and *So You Want To Talk about Race* by Ijeoma Oluo. If you would like to **connect with five to seven other people** via Zoom for a time of fellowship, relationship building, and spiritual formation, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Calling all creatures great and small! We’re having our annual **Blessing of the Animals** service on Saturday, October 22 at 10:00 a.m. outdoors in the Michigan Avenue courtyard (*or in Buchanan Chapel if there’s rain*). All pets on leashes or in carriers are welcome. If you’d rather not bring your pet, you are invited to bring your pet’s photo to be blessed instead.



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 **Reprogle 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 Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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