

## We Approach God

### Gathering Music

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

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\* 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.

**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) or online at [www.fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online) (or via the "To Make a Gift" button at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)).

**\*Opening Song** . . . . . “Here in This Place (Gather Us In)”

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young; our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:  
here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

**We Tell the Truth about Ourselves**

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

Gracious God, we confess that we do not meditate on your commands and teachings all day long.  
We do not keep your word before us always and in all things.  
Instead, we turn away from your demanding truth  
and wander toward easier options.

Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours.  
Forgive us for growing weary in following you;  
for failing to pray and work tirelessly for justice;  
for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world.

Tune our ears to the sound of your justice.  
Turn our hearts to your word of grace.  
Do not remember our sin,  
but remember your mercy forever. Amen.

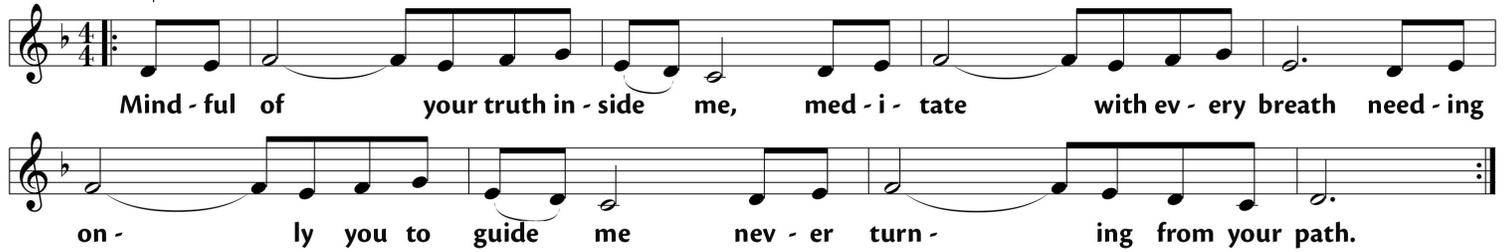
**God Forgives and Blesses Us**

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

**We Proclaim the Story**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Psalter** ..... Psalm 119:97–104



Mind - ful of your truth in - side me, med - i - tate with ev - ery breath need - ing  
 on - ly you to guide me nev - er turn - ing from your path.

**ANTIPHON**

Oh, how I love your teaching! All the day long it is in my mind.  
 Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.  
 I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my study.  
 I am wiser than the elders, because I observe your commandments.

**ANTIPHON**

I restrain my feet from every evil way, that I may keep your word.  
 I do not turn aside from your judgments, because you yourself have taught me.  
 How sweet are your words to my taste! They are sweeter than honey to my mouth.  
 Through your commandments I gain understanding; therefore I hate every lying way.

**ANTIPHON**

**Scripture Lesson** ..... Joshua 24:1–26

**Sermon** ..... Rocky Supinger

**Musical Reflection**

**Hymn** ..... *Take My Life*

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use  
every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

**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**

**God of life, we pray that our unity will be seen not only in what we believe**

**but also in how we work together to be salt and light in this world.**

**May our gifts today be a sign for each other and the world**

**that we pledge to work together in your name**

**for the healing of this broken and hurting world.**

**Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Closing Song** ..... “Standing on the Promises”

Standing on the promises of Christ my king, through eternal ages let his praises ring;  
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.

*Refrain:*

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;  
standing, standing, I’m standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,  
by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. (*Refrain*)

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love’s strong cord,  
overcoming daily with the Spirit’s sword, standing on the promises of God. (*Refrain*)

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit’s call,  
resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. (*Refrain*)

**\*Benediction**

**Sending Music**

**Worship Leaders**

- Rocky Supinger** Associate Pastor
- Nancy Benson-Nicol** Associate Pastor
- Gordon Addington** Liturgist

**The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet**

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

**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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.fourthchurch.org/devotions); to receive the devotions daily by email subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://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](http://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](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)).

**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](http://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.



**This 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](http://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; or *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](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)).



Calling all creatures great and small! We are having our annual **Blessing of the Animals** service **this 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.



**Tutors are needed** on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings to partner with Chicago Lights Tutoring students. For details, contact Mark Dennison ([mdennison@chicagolights.org](mailto:mdennison@chicagolights.org)).



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](mailto: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](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org)