

# Fourth Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday after Epiphany January 22, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

# Gathering around the Word

#### **Prelude**

#### **Introit**

Oh Mary, Oh Martha, ring dem bells!

I hear archangels a-rocking Jerusalem,

I hear archangels a-ringing dem bells.

Church getting higher, Jerusalem gonna ringing them bells!

# \*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: We are here today to give God all that God is due:

People: Glory. Power. Splendor.

Leader: We are here today seeking what God has to give us:

People: Strength. Wonder. Peace.

We are here to worship God. Amen.

<sup>\*</sup>Please rise in body or spirit. †Or "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

#### 

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest, to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them, magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound: myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and king foretold.

Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed,
"I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do."
Then from heaven a double sign—dove-like Spirit, voice divine—hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."

Sing of God made manifest when Christ came as wedding guest and at Cana gave a sign, turning water into wine; further still was love revealed as he taught, forgave, and healed, bringing light and life to all who would listen to God's call.

Sing of God made manifest on the cloud-capped mountain's crest, where the law and prophets waned so that Christ alone remained: glimpse of glory, pledge of grace, given as Jesus set his face towards the waiting cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

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

Merciful God,

in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world.

The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas.

The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **Declaration of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### \*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:<sup>†</sup> as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

 Scripture Lesson
 John 1:29–42

 Sermon
 Nancy Benson-Nicol

# Responding to the Word

**\*Hymn 518**....."Your Only Son"

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God.

#### Refrain:

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!

O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love, we crucified; we laughed and scorned him as he died; the humble King we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God. (*Refrain*)

I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God. (*Refrain*)

#### 

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as the Lord's reconciling community.

This community, the church universal, is entrusted with the message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities

which separate people from God and from each other.

Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The church maintains continuity with the apostles

and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission.

His human life involves the church in the common life of people.

His service to humanity commits the church to work for every form of human well-being.

#### **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 "Rise Up and Shine!"...... English melody/arr. Richard Clemmitt Rise up and shine! Your light has come: God's glory breaks like dawn. For though the earth be cloaked in night and gloom shrouds everyone, yet over you the Lord will rise, with glory gleaming clear, till nations turn to seek your light and humbled kings draw near. Fling wide, both day and night; no more keep watch or guard. You will be called God's holy hill, the city of the Lord. No sound of strife will plague your land, nor harm besiege your ways; "Salvation" will name your walls, and all your portals "Praise." No more will you implore the sun to shed by day its light, nor will you need the changeful moon to glisten through the night. Your glory then will be your God, whose light will never cease. Rise up and shine! Your light has come to give you joy and peace.

### 

In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,

to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.

O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son, help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

#### \*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

God of All Being,

there is nothing we can do to surpass the grace you offer each of us and our world.

But we respond to your abundant gifts with a love that honors and values all you have made. Receive our offering with gratitude.

Let it praise your works by caring for all your beloved. Amen.

# Bearing the World into the World

### 

Wild and lone the prophet's voice echoes through the desert still,

calling us to make a choice, bidding us to do God's will:

"Turn from sin and be baptized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.

Quitting all the sins you prized, yield your life to God's control.

"Bear the fruit repentance sows: lives of justice, truth, and love.

Trust no other claim than those; set your heart on things above.

Soon the Lord will come in power, burning clean the threshing floor:

then will flames the chaff devour; wheat alone shall fill God's store."

With such preaching, stark and bold, John proclaimed salvation near,

and his timeless warnings hold words of hope to all who hear.

So we dare to journey on, led by faith through ways untrod,

till we come at last like John to behold the Lamb of God.

# \*Charge and Benediction

**Postlude ::** Festal March . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Florence B. Price

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.

# **News and Opportunities**

January 22-28, 2023

We are glad to be worshiping 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. As a mask-welcoming campus, we remain committed to ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church.

\*\* 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.



During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service and sermon available via podcast on iTunes and 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 \*\* Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom 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 Wednesday, January 25. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). \*\* 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).

**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 (with Communion) 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. \*\* During the morning service nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. \*\* Worship can be heard in the Sanctuary through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids. \*\* Please silence electronic devices during worship.



Following worship, a pipe organ tour begins at 11:15 a.m. at the front of the Sanctuary \*\* Also 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 gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom and also at 10:00 a.m. for in-person Morning Prayer in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). \*\* To submit a prayer request to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org \*\* The Chapel is 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). \*\* A Sacred Pause time of meditation is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



We ask those of you worshiping with us in person to please take a moment to sign the information pads in the pews so that we might know you are here. Please pass the pad down your pew so all worshipers have opportunity to provide updated information and greet one another by name following the service. \*\* Those worshiping in person are also invited to greet one another during Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall and the Commons 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). \*\* Events are posted on our church calendar, accessible from our website's home page and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar

This weekend Shannon Kershner is away attending the annual January meeting of the Board of Trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary, of which she is a member.



A Fourth Church trip to Cuba to visit our sister congregation the First Presbyterian Church of Havana will take place May 29–June 5. Those interested in learning more about this trip are invited to an information session this morning at 11:15 a.m. in Room 5F. Details, including a link to the online trip application, are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html \*\* An information session for those interested in taking part in the Fourth Church Choir tour to India in February 2024 will be held Sunday, February 5 at 12:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. For an outline of the trip or more details, see www.fourthchurch.org/music/india.pdf or email Emily Cox (ecox@fourthchurch.org).



Are you interested in taking part in **Deep Listening Dinners**? Groups of six to ten people each will dine together twice in home settings, spending time discovering and better understanding our differences while honoring our shared humanity and telling our life experiences. **To express interest** in this opportunity, please fill out the form at www.bit.ly/deeplistening123; for more information, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



The adult education class "Using the Enneagram as a Tool for Spiritual Growth" meets today at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. Register at www.bit.ly/enneagramjan23 for Zoom details. \*\*

A new adult education class will begin next Sunday, January 29 at 11: 15 a.m. (in person only). Led by Jeff Doane, "A Sittler Sampler: Ecology, Faith, and Much More" will consider the works of Joseph Sittler, who was a pioneering figure in addressing the deep need to care for the ecological order from a Christian perspective and who was also a leader in medical ethics and placed emphasis on how we frame our faith through language. To receive the reading materials, register at www.bit.ly/aesittler



**Daily devotions** written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer.** You can read them online at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions or receive them in your inbox by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions Also available as a resource for your prayer and reflection is our **Winter "Rhythm and Word" video series.** These fifteen-minute worship experiences are led by Lucy Forster-Smith and the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet and are released on our YouTube channel (*www.bit.ly/fpcvideos*) on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. To receive them by email, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail

Our newest Fourth Church neighbors are migrant families currently staying next door in the former Tremont Hotel, having recently arrived on buses from Texas. We have been working with these families through the Chicago Lights Social Service Center and Meals Ministry and are continuing to identify additional ways in which we might partner with others to provide welcome and support in this time of transition for these 370 individuals. As we do so, we are very much in need of assistance with Spanish translation. If you can help or know someone who could, please contact Theresa Thornburg, Director of the Social Service Center (tthornburg@chicagolights.org). For additional ways in which you might be involved and help, please watch our website and weekly email newsletter (subscribe at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc).



for our neighbors who are hungry and food insecure. To learn more or explore the various Meals Ministry volunteer needs, see our Volunteer Ministry platform, VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers). \*\* Our Chicago Lights Social Service Center program participants need a means to transport their food, clothing, housewares, blankets, and other items that they receive from the Share Shop and Food Pantry. Particularly needed are paper grocery bags, sturdy plastic bags, cloth bags, shopping bags, backpacks, suitcases, grocery carts, and push or pull carts. Donations of these items can be dropped off at the 126 E. Chestnut reception desk on weekdays and Sundays between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.



**The annual Chicago Lights Gala of Hope** will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Chicago (*160 E. Pearson*) on Friday, March 3, beginning at 5:30 p.m. This annual event supports the life-changing work of Chicago Lights, the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church, which includes the Tutoring and Summer Day, Urban Farm, and Social Service Center programs. **To reserve tickets or become an event sponsor,** visit one.bidpal.net/galaofhope2023



Adult volunteers are what make our **youth summer mission trips** possible. We are recruiting chaperones for the St. Louis (June 25–30) and Paris (July 5–11) mission trips as well as Montreat Youth Conference (July 29–August 5). If you are interested, please contact Katie Patterson (*kpatterson@fourthchurch.org*).

**Knitting and Crocheting** meets via Zoom on Tuesday, January 24 at 4:00 p.m. **\*\* Books by Women** will discuss *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* by Balli Kaur Jaswal on Tuesday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m. in person and via Zoom. For Zoom details for either gathering, contact Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*).



The **TwentiesThirties** group for young adults will gather for a **Trivia Brunch** series today following worship as well as on Sundays, January 29 and February 5 at Aster Hall (900 N. Michigan). For details, email Joe Morrow (*jmorrow@fourthchurch.org*). **\*\* Cornerstones**, a fellowship group of those fifty and over, will meet for dinner and a program on Friday, February 3 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. The program will be presented by **Debbie Frisch**, **founder of HelloBaby**, a no-cost drop-in play space for children from birth to three years old, and their caregivers, who live in underserved neighborhoods in Chicago. Registration is required by Tuesday, January 31 and can be completed online at www.bit.ly/cornerstones223



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, 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.

### **Worship Leaders**

Rocky Supinger, Sharon Williams, Joseph L. Morrow, Nancy Benson-Nicol

#### The Music Today

The Handbell Choir; Briana Belding-Peck, Director The Gospel Choir; Bryan Johnson, Director The Morning Choir Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

#### **Worship Notes**

THE COMPOSER OF THIS MORNING'S POSTLUDE, Florence B. Price, was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, and moved to Chicago in 1927. She earned degrees in organ and piano from the New England Conservatory of Music and while in Chicago studied with Leo Sowerby. She became the first African American woman to have her music played by a major orchestra when in 1933 the Chicago Symphony Orchestra presented her *Symphony in E Minor*, one of the more than 300 compositions she wrote.

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 exits from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch org/give

**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

Iohn Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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#### THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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