

Fourth Presbyterian Church

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 12, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Introit

All around the world, kids are praying to God. Children, lift your hands and voices, saying "Hear our prayer, O Lord." Jesus teaches us to have a conversation with the mighty God who made the whole creation. You can say a prayer in any situation. God is listening. God is there. This is the day that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it. Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice!

*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: Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

People: Happy are those who keep God's decrees,

who seek the Lord with their whole heart.

Leader: O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping God's statutes!

People: Then I shall not be put to shame,

having my eyes fixed on the commandments of the Lord.

Leader: Let us worship God!

^{*}Please rise in body or spirit. †Or "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

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.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Patient and nurturing God, hear our prayer as we come before you, seeking the grace of your forgiveness and the blessed assurance of your guidance.

Too often we get in the way of our own growth, cutting ourselves off from one another through resentments, pettiness, and aimless distractions.

We know better; help us to both be better and do better, for the sake of your kingdom. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Welcome and Announcements

The Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem : "My Lord, What a Morning". . . . African American spiritual/arr. Richard Lakey My Lord, what a morning when the stars begin to fall. You'll hear the trumpet sound to wake the nations. O look into my God's right hand when the stars begin to fall.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination Children age three through grade five are invited to come forward during the singing of the Gloria Patri. *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. Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers. Sermon Shannon Kershner Responding to the Word I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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 " "The Call of Wisdom"..... Will Todd

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy, walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory. Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction, entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger. I am here, I am with you. I have called; do you hear me? Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value, jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting. I am here, I am with you. I have called; do you hear me? Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom. Those who know me know my love; those who seek me find their answer. I am here, I am with you. I have called; do you hear me? God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit coeternal. Glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages. I am here, I am with you. I have called; do you hear me? I am here, I am with you.

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) O God, thank you for all you do for us. Yes, thank you. We stand in awe of your love, your peace, your stunning promise to never forsake us. As we offer these gifts of our hands, may we bring our hearts as well, sharing the love of Jesus Christ with all we encounter. For it is in his name that we pray. Amen. Bearing the Word into the World We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the light of God. We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the light of God. We are dancing in the light of God; we are dancing in the light of God. We are dancing in the light of God; we are dancing in the light of God. We are praying in the light of God; we are praying in the light of God. We are praying in the light of God; we are praying in the light of God. We are singing in the light of God; we are singing in the light of God. We are singing in the light of God; we are singing in the light of God.

*Charge and Benediction

Worshipers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir during the Benediction responses.

IV. Toccata

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

February 12-18, 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 at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons ** Daily devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a resource for personal meditation and prayer. Sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions to receive them by email, or read them at fourthchurch.org/devotions ** Our "Rhythm and Word" video series is exploring the Sermon on the Mount and what it means for our daily lives. A new fifteen-minute video is released each Wednesday evening on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos); to receive it by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail

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.



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 also Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



We ask those 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 who enjoy expressing their faith through hospitality or are interested in being a welcoming presence at Coffee Hour are encouraged to sign up at app.vomo. org/project/coffeehour to be a Cookie Table Host, Server, or Hospitality Coordinator. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held today at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary and online via Zoom. The Zoom link is www.bit.ly/fpcannualmeeting2023; you can also access the meeting via the Zoom Meeting ID 853 3485 6633 and Passcode 536440. For audio only, you can dial in by phone by calling 1.312.626.6799, 853 3485 6633. The meeting will include the election of new officers; the recommended slate of officers that will be presented by the Nominating Committee is posted on our website at www.fourthchurch.org, as are the minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting and the Zoom link for today's meeting.



On Sunday, February 12, 1871—**152 years ago today—the congregation of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago was dedicated.** Today we remember and give thanks for that day and for the legacy that inspires our vision for the future. (One of the ways in which we mark this anniversary is by each year holding our Annual Meeting of the Congregation on the second Sunday of February.)



Today is also the Souper Bowl of Caring! You can help our youth score a victory in the Souper Bowl —a nationwide, grassroots campaign to address issues of hunger—through your contributions of nonperishable food items or monetary gifts, which the youth are collecting at the door. All contributions will support the work of Fourth Church Meals Ministry and the Chicago Lights Social Service Center Food Pantry. You can also **make a Souper Bowl of Caring gift online** at www.fourthchurch.org/give (designate Souper Bowl of Caring).



To support the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) in providing **emergency relief and short-term recovery in Syria and Turkey** in the aftermath of the February 6 earthquake—and in also remaining active there throughout the entire recovery process—you can give a gift online at www.bit.ly/earthquakepda



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 or stop by Coffee Hour today.

We look forward to **Fourth Church youth leading us in worship next Sunday morning,** February 19. That day we will celebrate Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday, as we move from the season of Epiphany into Lent, which begins on February 22.



Ash Wednesday services will be held at 12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 22. Both services will include Communion and the imposition of ashes. The 7:30 p.m. service will also be livestreamed on our YouTube channel. ** As part of "Ashes on the Way," pastors and members of the congregation will be present outside the Sanctuary between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. They will be available to impose ashes for those in our community who are unable to be with us for worship but who find the ashes a meaningful way to mark the beginning of this season of repentance and reflection.



As we look ahead to Lent, we invite you to mark your calendar for the Lenten Path of Discipleship series that will be offered via Zoom on Tuesdays, February 28 through April 4 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Hosted by the Spiritual Formation Council and led by Associate Pastors Nancy Benson-Nicol and Joe Morrow, this year's six-week series will explore Connie Fourre's eighty-seven-page book *The Spiritual Resilience Handbook*. To participate, please register at www.bit.ly/fpcpod2023 ** We also invite you to use our Lenten devotions as a resource for reflection during the upcoming season. To receive those meditations daily via email beginning on Ash Wednesday, simply subscribe online at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions (if you already receive our daily devotions, you will be sent the Lenten ones automatically). ** Also available for your reflection during the season will be a Lenten "Rhythm and Word" video series. These brief worship experiences (approximately fifteen minutes each) weave together scripture, prayer, and music and will be released on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. beginning on February 22. To receive them by email, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail



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 on Wednesday, February 22. For Zoom details for either Bible study, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

"A Sittler Sampler: Ecology, Faith, and Much More" meets today in Room 5E (*in person only*) following the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Led by Jeff Doane, this class considers the works of Joseph Sittler, a pioneer in addressing the need to care for the ecological order from a Christian perspective. A leader in medical ethics, he also placed emphasis on how we frame our faith through language.



Come up later this month in adult education, Stephen Hauser and Michael Kazanjian will be using Eastern and Western religious art featured in the book Resurrecting Easter by John and Sarah Crossan as well to lead us in an exploration of "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ: Individual or Universal?" Meeting next Sunday, February 19 at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom, the class will study first millennium religious art that portrays Christ's resurrection as both individual and universal, Western religious art that conveys the resurrection as Christ alone, and Eastern/Orthodox art that conveys the resurrection as a universal event bringing Adam, Eve, Abel, David, Solomon, and others with Christ. To register (and to receive the Zoom link), sign up online at www.bit.ly/aeresurrection23 ₩ On Sunday, February 26, Betsy Storm and Kat Evans will be presenting "Faces at the Cross" at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room (in person only; this class will not be recorded). We know the story of the resurrection well from oft-told Bible stories, but what about hearing them from the breaking heart of Mary, whose beloved son has died brutally, or Pontius Pilate, the man who sentenced Jesus to death? How did these major characters experience Holy Week and the resurrection itself? In poetic and often riveting words, author J. Barrie Shepherd's book Faces at the Cross: A Lent and Easter Collection of Poetry and Prose regales us with clearly imagined stories in the voices of Mary, Pilate, and others. Join us as we share, aloud, several selected readings from Shepherd's well-loved book. There will also be time for small-group discussion. To register, sign up at www.bit.ly/aefaces226



Looking ahead, in March, **Tom Dozeman will teach a class on "The Ancestors in Genesis."** The ancestors in the book of Genesis are meant to provide identity both for ancient Israel and for contemporary readers. Thus this course will explore the themes of identity that emerge in the three cycles of stories about Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar; Isaac and Rebekah; and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel—stories that are complex and hardly heroic. We will also look at the aim of the biblical authors in composing the literature and different ways in which readers have found identity in the stories. The class will meet in person only on Sundays, March 5–19 in Borwell Dining Room. To register, sign up at www.bit.ly/aegenesis323

Ghost Ranch New Mexico in the spring. Finding ways to care for creation. Awakening the inner terrain of God's Spirit. Kindling connections with others from Fourth Church. If this sounds intriguing, consider joining Nancy Benson-Nicol and Lucy Forster-Smith for a Ghost Ranch Pilgrimage of Faith and Learning this May 15–19 in Abiquiu, New Mexico. A brief information session about this opportunity will be held next Sunday, February 19 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 5E. ** A Fourth Church trip to Cuba to visit the First Presbyterian Church of Havana will take place May 29–June 5. Details, including a link to the trip application, are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html; applications are due this Monday, February 13. ** Those interested in taking part in the Fourth Church Choir tour to India in February 2024 can find trip details at www.fourthchurch.org/music/india.pdf or by emailing Emily Cox (ecox@fourthchurch.org).



Books by Women will discuss *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* by Balli Kaur Jaswal this Tuesday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m. in person and via Zoom. For Zoom details, contact Simon Crow (scrow@ fourthchurch.org). ** An LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome Brunch will be held next Sunday, February 19 at a nearby restaurant (meet at the church reception desk following worship that day). ** Benevolent Guild resumes on Wednesday, February 22 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. ** 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



The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in need of **volunteer Spanish translators.** If you can help or know someone who could, please sign up at app.vomo.org/project/spanish-translators ** We are also **in need of new or gently used adult clothing,** men's and women's. Donations of these items can be dropped off at the church reception desk (*enter at 126 E. Chestnut*) between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and Sundays.



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

Lucy Forster-Smith, Victoria Fajardo, Joseph L. Morrow, Shannon Kershner

The Music Today

The Cherub and Children's Choirs; Katy Sinclair, Director; Hsing-Huei Huang, Pianist The Morning Choir; Gianna Barone, Soloist Michael Rees, Organ Scholar John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

BAPTIZED IN TODAY'S SERVICE IS Nya Nanjambela Uyigue Celestino, child of Esmeraldino Celestino and Latanya Uyigue.

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. In 1933 she became the first African American woman to have her music played by a major orchestra, when the Chicago Symphony Orchestra presented her *Symphony in E Minor*, one of 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

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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