



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Prelude from Cello Suite No. 5. Johann Sebastian Bach
- Gigue from Cello Suite No. 3. J. S. Bach
- Adagio from Symphonie No. 3 Louis Vierne

Introit

“O Thou Sweetest Source of Gladness”. Louis Bourgeois/arr. Philip Ledger
*O thou sweetest source of gladness, light’s all lovely fountainhead, who alike in joy and sadness
 leavest none unvisited. Breath of Godhead, highest King, who, upholding everything, wilt uphold
 with love undying. Hear, O hear me humbly crying.*

*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 God’s people!*

People: God’s good people, of every orientation, gender, and ethnicity,
 people of peace and love.

Leader: *We are God’s people!*

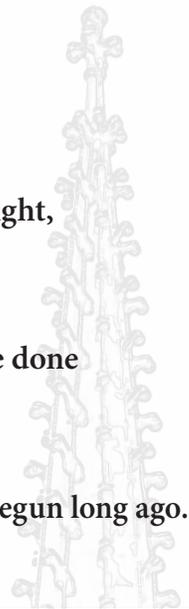
People: God’s beautiful people, brown as earth, pale as moonlight, black as night,
 red as sunset, golden as sunlight—we are God’s living rainbow.

Leader: *We are God’s people!*

People: God’s gifted people, who hear the cries of our ancestors that justice be done
 and all be welcomed to gather round the table.

Leader: *We are God’s people!*

People: God’s sacred people, celebrating the joy and struggle of a faith journey begun long ago.
 Let us rejoice and be glad!



*Please rise in body or spirit. †Or “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”

***Hymn 366** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) from the Book of Common Worship

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 pleasure we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas and air.

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.

God, 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.*

***Exchange of Peace**

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: *And also with you.*

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ,” and encourage those online to use this time to share your presence with us, using the online form.

Welcome and Announcements

Anthem

“The Lord God Is a Light” Maurice Greene
*The Lord God is a light and defense; the Lord will give grace and worship,
and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 86:1–10, 16–17

***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.

Scripture Lesson Genesis 21:8–21

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon Rocky Supinger

†Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 435** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.
For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) from A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Welcome of New Members

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

"O God, My Heart Is Ready" Simon Lindley
*O God, my heart is ready; I will sing and give praise with the best music that I have.
Awake, lute and harp, I myself will awake right early. My lips shall speak of thy praise,
when thou hast taught me thy statutes. Yea, my tongue shall sing of thy word,
for all thy commandments are righteous.*

*Offertory Response Hymn 717

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

*Prayer of Dedication *(unison)*

Holy God, who gives life, nourishment, and strength to all creation,
we thank you: for the community of faith you have built,
for your servants who have held fast to you through centuries,
for the teachings and the witness of our ancestors,
for the gospel's welcome to all in need,
for the healing that comes from your watchfulness.
Bless these gifts that all may be nurtured in truth.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 37** “Let All Things Now Living”

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us; pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration, a song let us raise,
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Final from *Symphonie No. 3* L. Vierne

News and Opportunities

June 25–July 1, 2023



We are glad to be worshipping 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.



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 via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the livestreamed service.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. ✳️ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. There are three fully accessible entrances, without steps, that lead to the Sanctuary: on Michigan Avenue (*through the glass Loggia doors located between the courtyard and the main Sanctuary doors*); at 126 E. Chestnut; and at 115 E. Delaware. ✳️ **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 for 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. ✳️ In the Sanctuary **worship can be heard** through the “T” or “T-coil” setting of hearing aids. ✳️ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.



Children are always welcome in worship! **If you need to step out to comfort your child**, the Hospitality Suite, located on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is available as a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed. During the morning service **nursery care** is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. ✳️ **Sunday School** meets at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth floor as well.

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

We ask all who are worshipping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information form.**

Those worshipping with us via livestream will find **a link to the online form—which takes only 20 seconds to complete!**—included in the descriptive text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the “Welcome and Announcements” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form. Those worshipping with us in person are asked to use the **information pads in the pews**, passing them down the pew so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following the service. ✨ Those worshipping in person are also invited to **greet one another during our Pride Coffee Hour**—sponsored by our LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome (WOW) group—in Anderson Hall and the Commons following worship.



During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday **service and sermon available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at **www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts** ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday’s **sermon text by email** by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons.



Following worship a **pipe organ tour** begins at the front of the Sanctuary. ✨ Also following the service **Deacons are available in Stone Chapel** (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) to pray with those 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 at 10:00 a.m. for **in-person Morning Prayer** in Stone Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@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 labyrinth details, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). ✨ Our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being hosts virtually a **Sacred Pause time of meditation** at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and also on Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



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 requires immediate attention, 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 ✨ **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.

This noon we are taking part in the annual Chicago Pride Parade, as we again walk with other members of the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches. Our group will begin gathering at 11:00 a.m. at lineup #67 near the intersection of W. Sunnyside and N. Sheridan. For full details about meeting up with the contingent to join in the walk, stop by the WOW information table during Coffee Hour. ✨ The **Pride flag in the courtyard along with the flag signs and rainbow ribbons** outside Fourth Church, along Michigan Avenue, are public witness to the inclusive hospitality we extend to all and to our welcome of all of God's children into the life of the church.



Today our junior high youth leave for St. Louis, where they will spend five days working with the "Amen! St. Louis" ministry of Oak Hill Presbyterian Church. Please join us in keeping these travelers, their leaders, and their partners in St. Louis in prayer as we wish them safe travels and wonderful experiences together.



Our free **Friday Noonday Concert features our Organist John Sherer** this Friday, June 30 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and livestreamed on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). ✨ Beginning next Friday, July 7, our Noonday concerts will move outdoors! Come enjoy our **Music by the Fountain series** on July and August Fridays at 12:10 p.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. Watch www.fourthchurch.org/concerts and www.facebook.com/fourthchurch for details! (*The outdoor concerts will not be livestreamed. For those looking for online concerts during the summer, we encourage you to explore videos of our previous Noonday concerts archived on our YouTube channel.*)



Our **Women's Choir** is providing music leadership for Sunday worship through July 9; the **Men's Choir** will then take on that role for the remaining Sundays of the summer. Those **interested in singing** with the choirs are encouraged to email John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org).



Knitting and Crocheting meets this Tuesday, June 27 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ The Knitting and Crocheting group is but one opportunity to build community with others through Fourth Church. For **additional ways to connect** with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources and opportunities**, watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org). ✨ Events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at fourthchurch.org/calendar

Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom, and the next **Horizons Women's Bible Study** will be on Wednesday, July 12. For summer gathering times and, for either study, Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Our **daily devotions** (fourthchurch.org/devotions) are available as a **resource for your personal meditation and prayer**. To receive them by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✨ Also available as a resource is our **weekly "Rhythm and Word" video series**, which offers ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer. **Rocky Supinger is leading the June series**, with a new video released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where you can also view previous videos in the series; sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail to receive the videos by email.



The **Center for Life and Learning (CLL) Summer Session** for adults 60 and over begins on Monday, July 10. To register for the summer session, which includes exercise classes as well as online and in person opportunities, see www.fourthchurch.org/cll ✨ **Save the date for Encore!**—the annual event to benefit the CLL. This year the event will be held at the church on Saturday, August 26, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and will feature Peter Oprisko and his jazz ensemble.



The **Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC)** is at work identifying candidates to consider for the role of Interim Pastor. That person, who will eventually be recommended by the IPNC and hired by Session, will not be our next Senior Pastor. Rather they will be someone to guide us during the year or more when we are searching for the next Pastor. You can read about the IPNC work and find the latest transition updates at fourthchurch.org/transition ✨ If you have **questions or comments about the transition**, please email them to transition@fourthchurch.org



After Labor Day we will be adding a second Sunday morning worship service. Beginning Sunday, September 10, we will be worshipping at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Also on September 10 our afternoon service, which is currently taking a summer break, will resume. Until then, and through the summer, we will continue to worship at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Samuela Kosipa, Rocky Supinger

The Music Today

Simon Updegraff, Cellist

The Women's Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

WE ARE GRATEFUL to Simon Updegraff for sharing his musical gifts this morning. Simon, who began studying cello at age four and is a student of Avi Friedlander, is a Scholarship Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago's Academy. For more than ten years the Music Institute has offered music lessons, on a variety of instruments, at Fourth Church. For more information about their program, see www.musicinst.org

OFFERING GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in one of the offering plates, which will be passed at the time of the Offering, or, after the service, in one of the offering boxes at the exit from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give

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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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014
www.fourthchurch.org www.facebook.com/fourthchurch
312.787.4570 Voicemail: 312.787.2729 Fax: 312.787.4584

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