

September 10, 2023



The Gathering

Communion at 2:00

We Gather.

Call to Worship “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” (Hymnal 291)

Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness, calling and free.
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

Welcome

***Song** “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” (Hymnal 835)

I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Refrain:

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?

Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

[Refrain]

**Please rise in body or spirit.*



FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
A Light in the City

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.

***Prayer of Confession** *(responsively)*

Leader: *God of grace, deliver us.*

People: From evil, even when it masquerades as good,

Leader: *God of grace, deliver us.*

People: From selfishness and vain desires,

Leader: *God of grace, deliver us.*

People: From irresponsible behaviors, quarreling, and jealousy,

Leader: *God of grace, deliver us.*

People: From hurtful disagreements and irreconcilable differences,

Leader: *God of grace, deliver us.*

People: Turn us away from the death sin inflicts.

Lead us into the abundant life Christ brings.

Forgive us, we pray, and teach us to forgive, through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***Response** "Glory to God" (Hymnal 582)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,

and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,

and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We Hear.

Scripture Matthew 18:15–20

Sermon by Rocky Supinger

Offering

The gifts we share to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in the offering plate or, upon leaving today, in the offering boxes at the Sanctuary exits. Gifts also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give

Song "For the Fruit of All Creation" (Hymnal 36)

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.

In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.

In our worldwide task of caring, for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Communion "One Bread, One Body" (John B. Foley)

Communion will be served by intinction (dipping the bread into the juice).

Gluten-free bread is available.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

***Song** “Soon and Very Soon” (Hymnal 384)

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re going to see the King!

No more crying there...

No more dying there...

Soon and very soon...

***Blessing**

Worship Leaders

Nancy Benson-Nicol, Rocky Supinger

The Music Today

Beena David, vocals; Bryan Doherty, bass; Kent Wehman, piano; Neal Wehman, drums

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.

Acknowledgments: “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” text © 1978 James K. Manley; music © 1978 James K. Manley. The Prayer of Confession was written by Molly Spangler © *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2023. “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” text adap. © 2008 Paul M. Vasile; music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile. “For the Fruit of All Creation” text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company. “Soon and Very Soon” text © 1976 Crouch Music and Bud John Songs (admin. EMICMG Publishing.com); music © 1976 Crouch Music and Bud John Songs (admin. EMICMG Publishing.com). OneLicense.net. License A-712340. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

News and Opportunities

September 10–16, 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 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where they can be viewed at any time after the services begin. *(For tips on how to watch, from the beginning, a service in progress, see www.fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning)* ✱ **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 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. ✱ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to each 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, for the morning only, 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 garage must be picked up from an usher. ✱ **Worship can be heard** through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids. ✱ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.



We ask all who are worshipping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information card** found in your bulletin. 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” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form.

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 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 Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@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 Saturdays (8:30 a.m.). ✱ Buchanan Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursday.



Our **daily devotions** (fourthchurch.org/devotions) are available by email as a resource for your **personal reflection and prayer**: subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✱ Also available by email (*subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail*) is our weekly **“Rhythm and Word” video series**, which in September is **led by Matt Helms** and offers **ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer**. New and previous videos can be viewed on our YouTube channel: www.bit.ly/fpcvideos



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



The new **Veterans’ Support Group** will meet for the first time next Sunday, September 17 at 12:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room and via Zoom. Led by Chaplain Mark Schimmelpfennig—a leader of the Road Home project at Rush Medical Center and a veteran who served in the U.S. Army—the group will provide a safe, confidential space for veterans, their families, and friends to share their experiences. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ✱ A four-week **Grief Support Group** hosted by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being begins Wednesday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. To register (*required*), email Sharon Crawford Tucker (stucker@fourthchurch.org) or all the Center at 312.787.8425.



To **become a member of or learn more about Fourth Church**, please join us for a one-session in-person Inquirers’ Class on Sunday, October 15 at 11:15 a.m. (*register at www.bit.ly/inquirers1023*).

Sunday Adult Education class offerings are held at 11:00 a.m. The first class of this new program year is **“Celtic Spirituality”** taught by **Vicky Curtiss**, which meets on Sundays, September 10–24 at 11:00 a.m., both in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. It offers opportunity to explore the Celtic life-affirming theology of creation, daily life and work, incarnation, friendship, pilgrimage, blessing, social justice, and prayer. For the Zoom link, register at www.bit.ly/aeceltic923; a recording will also be available on our YouTube channel in the days ahead. ✱ **Men’s Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. **Horizons Women’s Bible Study** is offered via Zoom this Wednesday, September 13 at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ **Sunday School** meets at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. Youth gatherings also take place on Sundays, with eighth-grade **Confirmation** at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5G; **Junior High** (grades 6 and 7) at 9:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room; and **Senior High** at 11:00 a.m. also in the Bumpus Room.



The Autumn Session of the Center for Life and Learning, for adults sixty and over, **begins this Monday, September 11**. See www.fourthchurch.org/cll to learn about the classes and become a member of the CLL. ✱ **Books by Women** will discuss ***The Secret Life of Sunflowers*** by Marta Molnar on Tuesday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. ✱ **Benevolent Guild**, which has counted among its projects making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital, meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. No sewing experience is necessary. ✱ **A Deep Listening Dinner at the Chicago Lights Urban Farm** (444 W. Chicago) will take place this Saturday, September 16 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. An optional farm tour will begin at 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in taking part in this opportunity to get to know one another better over a shared meal, RSVP at www.bit.ly/deeplisting923 ✱ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets in person next Sunday, September 17 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. ✱ Also next Sunday, September 17 **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome** (WOW) gathers for brunch at 12:00 p.m. Those who would like to join in this time of fellowship are invited to meet at the reception desk to walk together to a nearby restaurant ✱ **Zoom Small Groups** will begin at the end of September. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



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 online on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website’s home page and at fourthchurch.org/calendar ✱ We invite you to follow us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) for updates, photos, and favorite quotes from recent devotions, sermons, and prayers. You can also find us on **Instagram** (instagram.com/fourthchurch) and **Threads** (www.threads.net/@fourthchurch)

The Officer Nominating Committee is in need of recommendations of individuals to serve in leadership positions opening in 2024 for Elder, Deacon, Trustee, Nominating Committee, and the Chicago Lights Board. If you know any Fourth Church members—including yourself!—who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry, please offer your recommendations via the online form at www.bit.ly/nominating2024



“Cheers to 40 Years!” will **celebrate the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center this Tuesday**, September 12 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Columbia Yacht Club. Advance tickets are required; register at www.bit.ly/40yearscheers ✱ The **Chicago Lights Social Service Center** is in **need of men’s casual clothing** (*gently worn or new*) in all sizes. ✱ **Fourth Church Shower Ministry** is in need of unused, hotel-sized toiletries. Items can be dropped off at the church reception desk seven days a week between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Please mark them “Attn. Shower Ministry” or “Attn. Social Service Center.” ✱ **Food items for Fourth Church Meals Ministry** are also needed and can be ordered and shipped to the church using the links on www.fourthchurch.org/meals ✱ **Tutors are needed** on weekday evenings, beginning in October, to partner with **Chicago Lights Tutoring** students. For details or to sign up, see www.chicagolights.org/youth-programs/#tutoring



“**Beyond Words: From Mere Welcome to True Belonging**” is an event **sponsored by the Covenant Network of Presbyterians and the Chicago Presbytery** and hosted at Fourth Church on Saturday, September 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The program, which will include worship, will explore how Christians can show true hospitality to anyone who walks through our church doors, especially members of the LGBTQIA+ community. To register to attend, see www.bit.ly/covenant923



Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

Matt Helms Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries

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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