

October 22, 2023



The Gathering

Communion at 2:00

We Gather.

Call to Worship "Open My Eyes, Lord"

Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see your face. Open my eyes, Lord. Help me to see.
Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear your voice. Open my ears, Lord. Help me to hear.
Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love like you. Open my heart, Lord. Help me to love.

Welcome

***Song** "Down to the River"

Refrain:

As I went down to the river to pray,
Studyin' about that good old way,
And who shall wear the starry crown,
Good Lord, show me the way.

1. Oh, sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Oh, sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray. *[Refrain]*

2. Oh, brothers...

3. Oh, sinners...

**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.

***Confession and Assurance**

Leader: Jesus told us to love God with all our heart,

People: but we often love our jobs, our homes,
and our own possessions more than we love God.

Leader: Jesus told us to love God with all our soul,

People: but we put more soul into our music,
our sports, and our hobbies than into expressing our love of God.

Leader: Jesus told us to love God with all our mind,

People: but we seldom study the Bible as much
as we study our schoolbooks or bankbooks.

Leader: Jesus told us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves,

People: but we spend hours meeting our wants and needs
and minutes finding excuses for not taking care of others.

Leader: Forgive us, Holy One.

People: Help us to remember your commands and follow your way.
We pray in Jesus' name. 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.
World without end... (without end...) Amen.

***Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

We Hear.

Scripture Matthew 22:15–22

Sermon by Nancy Benson-Nicol

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 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" (Hymnal 203)

Refrain:

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love;
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. (*Refrain*)

Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race;
neighbors are near us and far away. (*Refrain*)

These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. (*Refrain*)

Loving puts us on our knees, willing to wash others' feet;
this is the way we should live like you. (*Refrain*)

Communion

*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.

Communion Song "Never Would've Made It" (Marvin Sapp)

***Song** “He Is King of Kings” (Hymnal 273)

Refrain:

He is King of kings; he is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.
O he is . . .

He built his throne up in the air; no one works like him;
and called his saints from everywhere; no one works like him.
O he is King of kings; he is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.

He pitched his tents on Canaan ground; no one works like him;
and broke oppressive kingdoms down; no one works like him.
O he is King of kings; he is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.

I know that my Redeemer lives; no one works like him;
and by his love sweet blessing gives; no one works like him.
O he is King of kings; he is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.

***Blessing**

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Nancy Benson-Nicol

The Music Today

Beena David, vocals; Bryan Doherty, bass; Amr Fahmy, 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: “He Is King of Kings” music adapt. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen. “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” text © 1969 Hope Publishing Company; music © 1969; music arr. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company. OneLicense.net. License A-712340. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

You are invited!

October 22–28, 2023



The following pages are our invitation to you—an invitation to explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church as well as an invitation to connect with one another, our staff, and the varied resources available to you here. We hope you will spend a few minutes looking over the opportunities and identifying those that interest you!

Welcome!

We are glad to be worshipping with you today and invite you to continue 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. ✨ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation!

Joining us online

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. 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 any time after the services begin. *(For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning)* ✨ Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

Joining us in person

If you like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. ✨ 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 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. ✨ **Worship can be heard** through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids. ✨ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.

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

Let us know you're worshipping with us!

Please 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.

Worship podcasts and sermon text

During the week we make the Sunday morning **service and sermon available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at **fourthchurch.org/podcasts** ✱ You can also receive the previous Sunday morning's **sermon text** (*fourthchurch.org/sermons*) **by email** by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons.

Prayer and meditation

On Wednesdays we gather 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*). ✱ Buchanan Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** this week between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. ✱ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is offered 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.).

Resources for personal reflection

Our **daily devotions** (*fourthchurch.org/devotions*), written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available as a resource for your **personal meditation and prayer**. To receive them by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✱ Our weekly **“Rhythm and Word” video series** offers ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer for your viewing at home. This month these videos, **led by Rocky Supinger and our Gathering musicians**, invite us to **explore what it means to be one body in Christ**. A new video is released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on YouTube, where you can also view videos from previous series. To receive the videos by email, sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail; you can also **subscribe to our YouTube channel** (*www.bit.ly/fpcvideos*)

Exploring the Bible

Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. **Horizons Women's Bible Study** meets via Zoom this Wednesday, October 25 at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). ✱ **Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger** also invite you to tune in to their **“Bible Top Ten” podcast** (*www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts*). This lively, informative, and occasionally funny podcast explores the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists.

Get connected

Knitting and Crocheting meets via Zoom this Tuesday, October 24 at 4:00 p.m. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ **Women at Fourth** will gather in person this Thursday, October 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the Manse for fellowship and **Halloween-themed trivia**. RSVP online at www.bit.ly/waf1023 ✱ Enjoy a free Halloween-themed **Friday Noonday Concert by John Sherer**, Organist and Director of Music, this Friday, October 27 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and livestreamed. ✱ The three-week class **“Stop the Shooting”** continues next Sunday morning, at 1:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom with **Arne Duncan** talking about the work of **Chicago CRED**. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/aestoptheshooting ✱ **To learn more about this congregation or become a member of Fourth Church**, we invite you to the online Inquirers’ Class on November 8 at 6:30 p.m. For details, register at www.bit.ly/inquirers1123 ✱ The **Fourth Church Choral Society** will present a **concert honoring Morgan Simmons**, former Fourth Church Organist and Choirmaster, on Friday evening, November 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and livestreamed. ✱ 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 ✱ We invite you to follow us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch), **YouTube** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), and **Instagram** (instagram.com/fourthchurch). ✱ Be sure to bookmark **our online church calendar: fourthchurch.org/calendar**

Our home. Our commitment.

“What will my pledge be in support of the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights in 2024?” Next Sunday, October 29, everyone will be invited to bring forward their answer to that question and place it—their 2024 pledge—on the Communion Table. As we do so, we will celebrate all that we are able to do together through our pledged commitment to Fourth Church and Chicago Lights—a commitment that is **our generous response to God’s blessings in our lives**. (*If you have already submitted your pledge, there will be “I pledged” cards available to bring forward.*) **You can make your pledge** on our website at www.bit.ly/fpcpledging or by using the pledge cards found in the Sanctuary pew racks, mailed to homes, and downloadable online. ✱ **The Long-Range Planning Task Force will be hosting two town halls in November** to take a more in-depth look at the long-range planning work: in person on Sunday, November 5 at 12:30 p.m. and virtually on Sunday, November 12 at 10:45 a.m. (*Email longrange@fourthchurch.org for details.*) Please plan to join us in taking the next step in developing a long-range plan for Fourth Church!

Volunteers needed

We have a waitlist of Chicago Lights Tutoring students in need of tutors on weekday evenings (for ninety minutes)—in person (*Tuesdays and Wednesdays*) or online (*Mondays*). For details or to sign up, see www.chicagolights.org/tutoring. ✱ **Meals Ministry** is looking for **doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and medical students** to assist with our medical services program for guests attending **Sunday Night Supper**. To learn more, contact Mike Usiak (musiak@fourthchurch.org).

Welcoming Our Interim Pastor!

Not only is October 29 **Commitment Sunday**, but it is also **Reformation Sunday**, the day when we recall the heritage of the Protestant tradition, a favorite observance for many that in the morning includes the annual bagpipe recessional. Tripling the reason for celebration, it is also the day that the Reverend **Tom Are Jr. joins us as our Interim Pastor**, preaching at both morning services. We hope you will be with us next Sunday morning to extend a warm Fourth Church welcome to Tom and his wife, Carol, as we look forward to our season of ministry together!

A Michigan Avenue Forum

"Understanding Antisemitism" is the topic of this year's **Michigan Avenue Forum**, to be held Thursday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and also livestreamed. A panel of Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg; Becca Lubow, community organizer at Jewish Council on Urban Affairs; and Fourth Church Associate Pastor Nanette Sawyer will discuss the history of antisemitism; the rise in violent episodes and hate crimes; and concrete strategies for dismantling antisemitism and pursuing reconciliation and healing.

Pastoral care and a listening presence

To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, 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 conversations with a counselor**, call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ✱ During **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** the **purple ribbons** along Michigan Avenue are our public witness to all affected by domestic violence.



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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