

June 23, 2024



The Gathering

Communion at 2:00

We Gather.

Gathering Music

Song "Showers of Blessing"

There shall be showers of blessing:
this is the promise of love;
there shall be seasons refreshing,
sent from the Savior above.

Refrain:
Showers of blessing,
showers of blessing we need:
mercy-drops round us are falling,
but for the showers we plead.

There shall be showers of blessing:
O that today they might fall,
now as to God we're confessing,
now as on Jesus we call! (*Refrain*)

Psalm Psalm 139:1–18

**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.

Song "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" (Hymnal 65)

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,

be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.

Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises

I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

***Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Song "There Is Now a New Creation" (Hymnal 774, v. 1, 4, 5)

There is now a new creation

through the grace of Jesus Christ,

peace and reconciliation

with the God of endless life.

Come and join the celebration;

come and join this happy feast;

Jesus makes an invitation

to the greatest and the least.

There is now a new creation

through the grace of Jesus Christ.

Sing, with thanks and adoration,

to the God of endless life!

We Hear.

Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 4:7–15

Sermon Rocky Supinger

We Respond.

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 online at www.fourthchurch.org/give or via Venmo (@Fourth-Church)

Song “Now the Green Blade Rises” (Hymnal 247, v. 1 and 4)

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
love is come again like wheat arising green.

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 “Border Song” (Elton John)

***Song** “This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Ev’rywhere I go ...

Jesus gave it to me ...

***Blessing**

Worship Leaders

Nancy Benson-Nicol, Rocky Supinger

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.

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You belong here!

This may be your first time in worship at Fourth Presbyterian Church, or perhaps you worship here so often you call Fourth Church “home”; in either case, **we are grateful for your presence** today. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone—without exception—into the life of this congregation. No matter where you may be in your faith journey, no matter what questions or burdens you may bring to this place, we take seriously that God loves everyone, so you belong here.

Every Sunday we read the old biblical stories and sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world we live in this minute through liturgy, prayers, and sermons. **By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ’s life**, we discover hope and even joy, and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ to the city.

If you are new to us, stick around after worship. Join us for Coffee Hour, or speak to one of our pastors. We have many programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. **Give us a try; soon you too might be calling Fourth Church “home.”**

Worshipping in Person at Fourth Church

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. If you like to worship with us in person, **during the summer we gather on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.**

Entering the building

A half hour prior to each service the doors open for worship, with 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*) as well as at 126 E. Chestnut—where the reception desk is located—and 115 E. Delaware.

Sound

- Worship can be heard through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids.
- Please silence electronic devices during worship.

Parking

Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours (*and \$18 for up to 12 hours*) and at the Hancock garage (*875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut*) for \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from ushers.

Ensure you receive the latest updates, stories, and snapshots from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Worshipping Online

We livestream our 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services on our YouTube channel: bit.ly/fpcvideos

Accessing the services

Worship can be viewed anytime 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

Online extras

Links to make an online offering gift, view or print the worship bulletin, and more can be found in the descriptive text below the worship video (*after exiting full screen*) as well as on our website.

For those without Internet

Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 10:00 a.m.

Let Us Know You're Here

We are grateful to be worshipping with you today and would welcome knowing you are here. Please take a moment to fill out the information form.

In person

Those worshipping with us in person are asked to add their names to the information pads in the pews, passing them down their row so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following the service. If your contact information has changed, please indicate that too.

Online

Those worshipping with us via livestream will find a link to the online form 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.

Get Connected

Bible studies

Men’s Bible Study, which focuses on Sunday’s scripture readings from the pulpit, meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s *Life Together* is the focus of this summer’s monthly Women’s Bible Study, which next meets via Zoom on Wednesday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m.

For Zoom details for either study, email Nanette Sawyer (nsawyer@fourthchurch.org).

Knitting and Crocheting

Knitting and Crocheting meets via Zoom this Tuesday, June 25 at 4:00 p.m. Email Nanette Sawyer (nsawyer@fourthchurch.org) for details.

Women at Fourth Paint-and-Sip

Join Women at Fourth this Thursday, June 27 when they gather at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room for Paint-and-Sip, a fun-filled evening of painting with a professional artist while enjoying fellowship, snacks, and drinks. Space is limited; registration (required at bit.ly/waf62024) closes on Tuesday, July 25.

Civil rights pilgrimage

Fourth Church is cosponsoring an October 18–27 Civil Rights Trail Pilgrimage to New Orleans, Jackson, Montgomery, and Birmingham. To learn more about this opportunity, see the trip description at bit.ly/civilrightstrailinfo2024

Becoming a member of Fourth Church

To become a member of Fourth Church, please join us for a one-session Inquirers’ Class in person on Sunday, August 11 at 12:15 p.m. or via Zoom on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. For details or more information about membership, email Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

Celebrating Pride Month

The Pride flag in the courtyard and rainbow ribbons along Michigan Avenue bear 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.

Pride parade

Next Sunday, June 30 at 11:00 a.m. we will walk in the Pride Parade along with fellow members of the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches. Walking slots are limited, so if you would like to join us at the parade, please reach out to Nanette Sawyer (nsawyer@fourthchurch.org) to put your name on the list of interested walkers.

Matt Helms Sabbatical

Please join us as we hold in prayer Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries, as he begins his sabbatical tomorrow (through September 2).

While Matt is away, Briana Belding-Peck, Family Ministry Coordinator, will be serving as primary staff for Sunday School and children's ministries, and clergy colleagues will be filling in on new member activities as well as the Sunday sermon discussions on July 7 and August 4.

Walking for Peace

Our World Mission and Social Justice Council invites you to join them for this summer's Friday night Peace Walks with Saint Sabina Church in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood, as we walk to prevent violence and build community. We will be walking this Friday, June 28 as well as Fridays, July 12, August 2, and August 16. To learn more, email Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

Caring for One Another

Prayer requests and pastoral care

To submit a prayer request to our Deacon and Morning Prayer Ministries, please email Gloria Fleming (gfleming@fourthchurch.org).

Also email Gloria if you would like to talk to a pastor or notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; if the situation requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

Stephen Ministry

For those facing life's challenges, Stephen Ministers provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

Counseling and well-being

To explore options for counseling or well-being offerings, including our grief groups, call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260 or visit reploglecenter.org

Grocery Bags Needed

Reuseable and paper grocery bags are needed by the Chicago Lights Social Service Center for use by guests visiting the Food Pantry and Share Shop. Bags can be dropped off at the church reception desk (enter at 126 E. Chestnut) between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

The Social Service Center is also in need of men's clothing, of all types and all sizes.

Prayer, Reflection, and Meditation

“Rhythm and Word”

This summer we invite you to pause midweek to reflect on the theme of renewal, as explored by Rocky Supinger and the Gathering musicians in our June “Rhythm and Word” videos. These ten minutes of music, scripture, and prayer are released on Wednesdays. To receive them in your inbox, sign up at bit.ly/rhythmandword; to receive notice of them via YouTube, subscribe to our channel: bit.ly/fpcvideos

Daily devotions

We also invite you to use our daily devotions, written by Fourth Church members and staff, for your personal reflection. To receive them by email, subscribe at bit.ly/fpcdevotions; you can also find them at fourthchurch.org/devotions and on Facebook and Instagram.

Wednesday Morning Prayer

Each Wednesday we gather at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom. For details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org).

Meditation Opportunities

You are invited to a Sacred Pause time of meditation offered on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/repleglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing

The labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is open for walking on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

Podcasts

During the week the Sunday morning service and sermon are made available via podcast on multiple platforms and at fourthchurch.org/podcasts

Stay Connected

You can find details about ways to connect with one another and this congregation as well as discover various resources and opportunities on our website: fourthchurch.org

Weekly newsletter

Look for information, updates, and snapshots of life at Fourth Church in our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe at bit.ly/newsfromfpc and visit our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news



Tom Are Jr. Interim 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

Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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