



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 11, 2024 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

“The Assumption” from *L’Orgue Mystique* Charles Tournemire

- I. Prelude to the Introit
- II. Offertory
- III. Elevation
- IV. Communion
- V. Paraphrase–Carillon

Introit

“Praise Ye the Lord” German chorale/arr. Norman Clayton

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

*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

*One: God, you are full of mercy and compassion,
 All: abounding in steadfast love.
 One: Let all your works praise you.
 All: May all peoples bless your name.*



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

***Hymn 755** “Alleluia! Laud and Blessing”

Alleluia! Laud and blessing to our God, whose Word is sure;
by whose grace we find redemption, in whose love we live secure.
Righteousness and rich compassion shall attend us all our days;
may God’s promise to be faithful echo through our songs of praise!

Alleluia! God sustains us; matchless are the gifts we share:
light in darkness, hope in conflict, answers to our deepest prayer.
Ours to give as we are given: arms to lift when others fall;
images of God’s great goodness, faithful servants to God’s call.

Alleluia! Holy Parent, all your children now reclaim;
may our lives reflect your justice, heirs to your most sacred name.
Fill our hearts with understanding, brace our weakness by your might;
awesome honor, born in wisdom; your great glory, our delight!

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Creator God, you are a gracious provider of all life’s necessities.
But rather than share your many gifts, we hoard them.
When you invite us to be generous, we do so reluctantly, not joyfully.
Take away the selfishness that keeps us from living in your image.
We are quick to judge others and claim ourselves more deserving.
But you call us to broaden our understanding of the boundless nature of your love.
So take away our bitterness. Forgive our distorted thoughts and actions.
Make within us clean and generous hearts
so that we might reflect the breadth of your love for the world. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

One: *Friends, believe the good news.*
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

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 text or email someone to let them know you are thinking of them.*

Welcome and Announcements

Please take a moment to let us know you are with us today! There are information pads in the pews for those in the Sanctuary and a digital form (use the link or QR code on screen) for those online.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem

“Let All the World” Norman Gilbert
*Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
but above all the heart must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 28:6-9

One: *The Word of God for the people of God.*
All: Thanks be to God.

***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.

Second Lesson Matthew 20:1-16

One: *The grass withers, and the flower fades,*
All: but the word of our God shall stand forever.

Sermon

The Magic Words Tom Are Jr.

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

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 36** “For the Fruit of All Creation”

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.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) Lisa Frenz

In a time before all knowing, God is, and God’s breath fills the emptiness, creating:
a universe, a world, an ecology, a biology and us, humankind.

All humankind, no exceptions, no imperfections; and all of us beloved just as we are.

In a time before all knowing, Christ Jesus watches the creating,
and steps out into creation: becoming, living, dying, and rising, all for us.

All humankind, no exceptions, no reservations; all of us just as we are, God’s beloved.

In a time before all knowing the Spirit is, and moves through every part of creation:
consoling, interceding, leading, and refreshing all the world, including us.

All humankind, no exceptions, no differentiations; all of us just as we are, God’s beloved.

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.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“The Firmament of Power” Katherine K. Davis
*O praise ye the Lord, O praise him in the firmament of power. Sing unto the Lord a new song!
For the Lord is gracious and full of compassion. His tender mercies are over all his works.*

***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**

Generous, transforming God, thank you for the blessing of honest labor
 through which you have provided these gifts for our hands to share with those in need.
We dedicate them now as an expression of your love for the world,
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 806 “I’ll Praise My Maker”**

I’ll praise my Maker while I’ve breath; and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers. My days of praise shall ne’er be past
while life and thought and being last, or immortality endures.

How happy they whose hopes rely on Israel’s God, who made the sky
and earth and seas with all their train; whose truth forever stands secure,
who saves the oppressed and feeds the poor, and none shall find God’s promise vain.

The Lord pours eyesight on the blind; the Lord supports the fainting mind
and sends the laboring conscience peace. God helps the stranger in distress,
the widowed and the parentless, and grants the prisoner sweet release.

I’ll praise my Maker while I’ve breath; and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers. My days of praise shall ne’er be past
while life and thought and being last, or immortality endures.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude :: Fanfare John Cook

Baptized today

John Russell Brummett II, child of Jordan Brummett and Abby Bristow
Frederick Dean Cotey, child of Michael and Eleanor Cotey

About Today’s Sermon

You may feel thankful today. You may not.
If not, try giving thanks to God anyway. The feeling may follow.



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.”**

Worshiping in Person at Fourth Church

Each Sunday our worshiping 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.**

Beginning September 8, our morning services will be at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Entering the building

Three fully accessible entrances, without steps, 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 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.

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 an information form.

In person

Those worshipping with us in person are asked to add their names to the pads in the pews, passing the pads to the center of the row and then back again so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following worship. Please also indicate if your contact information has changed.

Online

Those worshipping 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.

Children in Worship

Children in worship

Children are always welcome in worship! If you need to step out to comfort your child, the Hospitality Suite, on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed.

Nursery care

During the morning service nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center for infants through two-year-olds.

Sunday Opportunities

Praying with a Deacon

If you would like to pray with a Deacon, you are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) following worship.

Afternoon worship service

We invite you to join us for The Gathering: Communion at 2:00, a casual, intimate service. Bethany Hamilton-Clearfield and the Gathering Ensemble will lead our music today; Joe Morrow will be preaching.

Sunday school

Sunday school is not held during August or Labor Day weekend. Classes will resume on September 8.

Joining the Fourth Church Family

To become a member of Fourth Church, please join us for a one-session Inquirers' Class in person today 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).

Get Connected

Bible Study

This summer's monthly Women's Bible Study, focusing on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*, meets via Zoom on Wednesday, August 14 at 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. For Zoom details for either study, email Simon (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

Walking for peace

On Friday, August 16 we will participate in a Peace Walk with Saint Sabina Church in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood. For details, email Nancy (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

You're invited to a picnic!

We're having a picnic here at the church next Sunday, August 18 following worship. We hope you'll join us!

Encore: The Art of Aging Well

The Center for Life and Learning benefit—"Encore: The Art of Aging Well"—takes place on Saturday, August 24 at 4:00 p.m. at the church. For tickets, register at fourthchurch.org/cll/encore

Cornerstones

A fellowship group for those fifty and over, Cornerstones will kick off a new program year of monthly gatherings on Friday, September 6 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room for dinner and a program on "Affordable Housing in a National Landmark: Reinventing Lawson House." Register (required) at bit.ly/cornerstones92024

Stay connected

For additional resources and information see our website at fourthchurch.org and our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe at bit.ly/newsfromfpc ; visit our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news

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 and well-being — including grief groups via Zoom— contact our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260 or visit repluglecenter.org.

Volunteer with Us

In worship

You are invited to contribute to worship by reading scripture in a service, carrying the Bible as a Beadle during the procession, serving Communion, or greeting worshipers as an usher. To volunteer or learn more, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org).

With Chicago Lights Tutoring

The more volunteer mentors we have for Tutoring —which meets at the church on weeknights— the more students who can participate! For details, see chicagolights.org/tutoring.

Calendar for August 11–17

Sunday, August 11	10:00 a.m. Worship Sanctuary / Online 10:00 a.m. Infants/Parents Comfort Room Hospitality Suite 10:00 a.m. Nursery Room 4A 11:00 a.m. A Time of Prayer. Stone Chapel 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour. Anderson Hall 11:15 a.m. Inquirers' Class. Room 5F 2:00 p.m. The Gathering: Communion at 2:00 Sanctuary / Online 4:00 p.m. Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30) Anderson Hall 4:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Medical Service Borwell Dining Room
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Monday, August 12	10:30 a.m. CLL: Stronger Seniors Zoom / Room 4D 11:30 a.m. CLL: Silver Taps Zoom 1:00 p.m. CLL: Bridge Room 4J 2:30 p.m. CLL: Yoga. Zoom 4:15 p.m. Monday Night Supper Catholic Charities
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Tuesday, August 13	7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study Zoom 7:45 a.m. Sacred Pause Online 9:30 a.m. CLL: Stronger Seniors Zoom 9:30 a.m. SSC Drop-In Program. Morse Lounge 11:30 a.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunch Anderson Hall 1:00 p.m. CLL: Improv Room 4D 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Labyrinth Available to Walk Buchanan Chapel 1:00 p.m. Shower Ministry. Showers 2:30 p.m. CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi Anderson Hall / Zoom 6:00 p.m. AA Meeting. Room 4F
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Wednesday, August 14	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer Zoom 9:30 a.m. SSC Drop-In Program. Morse Lounge 9:30 a.m. CLL: Tap Too. Zoom 10:30 a.m. CLL: Zing. Zoom 11:00 a.m. CLL: Meditation Room 4F 11:30 a.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunch Anderson Hall 12:00 p.m. CLL: Current Events Room 4D 1:00 p.m. CLL: Nonfiction Book Study Group Room 4E 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Labyrinth Available to Walk Buchanan Chapel 2:00 p.m. CLL: Film Series. Room 4G 6:00 p.m. AA: LGBTQIA+ Room 4E 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study Zoom
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Calendar for August 11–17

Thursday, August 15	9:00 a.m. Meals Ministry Sandwich-Making Borwell Dining Room 9:30 a.m. SSC Drop-In Program Morse Lounge 9:30 a.m. CLL: Silver Barre Zoom 10:30 a.m. CLL: Range of Motion Zoom 11:30 a.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunch Anderson Hall 12:15 p.m. AA Meeting Room 4F 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Labyrinth Available to Walk Buchanan Chapel 2:30 p.m. CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi Anderson Hall / Zoom 3:30 p.m. Meals Ministry Steering Team Morse Conference Room 6:30 p.m. Grief Support Group Zoom 7:00 p.m. Women’s Choir Rehearsal Buchanan Chapel
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Friday, August 15	9:30 a.m. SSC Drop-In Program Morse Lounge 10:30 a.m. CLL: Nia Zoom 11:30 a.m. CLL: Grief Café Room 4D 12:10 p.m. Music by the Fountain Michigan Avenue Courtyard 5:00 p.m. Chicago Lights Career Development Borwell Dining Room 7:00 p.m. Peace Walk with St. Sabina Offsite
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Saturday, August 16	8:30 a.m. Sacred Pause Online 5:00 p.m. REC Gathering Manse
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Preaching on Sunday, August 18
 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. • Nancy Benson-Nicol

Worship Leaders

Joseph L. Morrow, Robert Crouch, Nanette Sawyer, Tom Are Jr.

The Music Today

Women's Choir

Meg Cutting, Guest Organist

Worship Notes

WE ARE PLEASED TO AGAIN WELCOME MEG CUTTING as our guest organist while Michael Rees is away. Meg holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music and Yale University and has worked at the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City and St. James Cathedral in Chicago. She has recently been appointed the next organist of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Evanston.

OFFERING GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in the plates passed during the service, or, afterwards, in an offering box at the exit from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at fourthchurch.org/give

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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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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