



# Fourth Presbyterian Church

*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

August 18, 2024 • 10:00 a.m.

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Communion . . . . . Alexandre Guilmant

Fantasy in G Major . . . . . Johann Sebastian Bach

### Introit

“All Is Summer” . . . . . Shaker song/arr. Susan Matsui

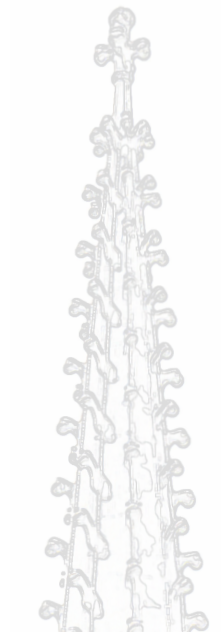
*High o’er the billows we are wafted along, angel wing carry us;  
Not one ripple to break on our song, all is peace before us.  
All is concert, all is summer, while to heaven we are going;  
but in the desert we’re leaving behind, the wint’ry winds are blowing.*

### \*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: Come into the presence of the Most High God  
with songs of praise and shouts of thanksgiving,  
All: for our Savior frees us from slavery and heals our diseases;  
our Savior is our peace.  
One: You are a holy temple in the Lord Jesus Christ.  
All: Come; let us worship God.*



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

**\*Hymn 13**. . . . . “The Mighty God with Power Speaks”

The Mighty God with power speaks, and all the world obeys;  
from dawn until the setting sun, God’s wonder earth displays.  
The perfect beauty all around from Zion’s height shines forth;  
and stars across the firmament so brightly beam their worth.

God comes not with a silent form, but riding on the winds;  
before God’s face, the raging storm its blast of thunder sends.  
All hail the Judge, in bold array, whose promise is to bless;  
who sees our sins, yet also feels our thirst for righteousness.

The heavens declare your justice, Lord, as endless as the sky;  
against the taunts of disbelief, our God will testify.  
Receive my heartfelt gift of thanks, as honor to your might;  
refresh my faith with each new day; protect me through the night.

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

Eternal God, your steadfast love endures forever.  
We confess that we act as if we are in control, as if you will bless whatever we do.  
If we think of others at all, it is with an eye toward their usefulness to us.  
If we consider your creation, it is to ponder what benefits us.  
We have failed to show your love or to do justice in obedience to you.  
Have mercy on us, God of grace. 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.*

**Anthem**

“I Lift Up My Eyes to the Hills” . . . . . Paul Bouman  
*I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved, and he who watches over you will not fall asleep. Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep; the Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand, so that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.*

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**Listening for the Word**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson** . . . . . 1 Kings 2:10–12

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** . . . . . 1 Kings 3:3–14

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

**Sermon** . . . . . Nancy Benson-Nicol

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

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## Responding to the Word

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**\*Hymn 149.** . . . . . “Hail to God’s Anointed”

All hail to God’s anointed, great David’s greater Son!

All hail, in time appointed, your reign on earth begun!

You come to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression and rule in equity.

You come with rescue speedy to those who suffer wrong,  
to help the poor and needy and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in your sight.

You shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in your path to birth.  
Before you on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go,  
and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.

All rulers bow before you, and gold and incense bring.  
All nations shall adore you; your praise all people sing.  
To you shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend.  
Your rule is still increasing; your rule is without end.

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) . . . . . Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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

“Witness”. . . . . African American Spiritual /arr. Jack Holloran and Dick Bolks  
*Who'll be a witness for my Lord? O, I'll be a witness for my Lord. There was a man of the Pharisees; his name was Nicodemus, and he didn't believe. The same came to Christ by night, wanted to be taught out of human sight. Nicodemus was a man who desired to know how a man can be born when he is old. Christ told Nicodemus as a friend, "Man, you must be born again." He said, "Marvel not, man, if you want to be wise, repent, believe and be baptized." Then you'll be a witness for my Lord; soul is a witness for my Lord. You read about Samson; from his birth he was the strongest man that ever lived on earth. Way back yonder in ancient times he killed ten thousand of the Philistines. Then old Samson went a wand'rin' about; Samson's strength was never found out 'til his wife sat upon his knee. She said, "Tell me where your strength lies, if you please!" Well, old Samson's wife, she talk so fair, Samson said, "Cut off my hair! Shave my head just as clean as your hand and my strength will 'come like a natural man." Samson was a witness for my Lord; soul is a witness for my Lord. There's another witness for my Lord! My soul is a witness for my Lord!*

### \*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**

Thank you for filling us with every spiritual grace, that we might be a blessing for others.  
Consecrate the gifts we offer for the increase of your love.  
May they bring blessing to others and praise to your glorious name. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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**\*Hymn 550** . . . . . “Give Praise to the Lord”

Give praise to the Lord, and sing a new song; amid all the saints God’s praises prolong;  
a song to your Maker and Ruler now raise, all children of Zion: rejoice and give praise.

With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim, with gladness, O God, we praise your great name;  
for now in your people good pleasure you seek; with robes of salvation you cover the meek.

In glory exult, all saints of the Lord; with song in the night high praises accord;  
go forth in God’s service and strong in God’s might to conquer all evil and stand for the right.

For this is God’s word: the saints shall not fail, but over the earth their power shall prevail;  
all kingdoms and nations shall yield to their sway. To God give the glory; sing praises for aye.

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude** :: Toccata in E Minor . . . . . Johann Pachelbel

***About Today’s Sermon***

Ancient and contemporary concerns unite, as the topic of political succession is the focus of our passage this morning from 1 Kings. Solomon prepares to ascend the throne after the iconic reign of his father, King David. Speaking to Solomon in a dream, the Lord issues him a pivotal task: “Ask what I should give you.” Solomon’s uncommon request may surprise you (it even surprised God!).

*How would you respond?*



## 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](https://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](https://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

### You're invited to a picnic today!

We're having a picnic today following morning worship! We hope you'll join us for fellowship and BBQ box lunches, with vegetarian and gluten-free options also available.

### 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. Beena David and the Gathering Ensemble lead our music; Nancy Benson-Nicol will be preaching.

## Traffic on Upcoming Sundays

Next weekend the 2024 Chicago Triathlon will take place in downtown Chicago. For details on planning your route to worship on August 25, see [triathlonmajors.com/chicago-triathlon](https://triathlonmajors.com/chicago-triathlon); Bike the Drive takes place the next Sunday, September 1.



## Get Connected

### Encore: The Art of Aging Well

The Center for Life and Learning benefit—“Encore: The Art of Aging Well”—takes place this Saturday, August 24 at 4:00 p.m. at the church. For tickets, register at [fourthchurch.org/cll/encore](http://fourthchurch.org/cll/encore)

### New art exhibition

An opening reception for art exhibition, “Chicago SummerDance Photographs by Dorothy Perry” takes place Friday, August 23 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Loggia Gallery and Anderson Hall.

### Widen Our Welcome brunch

Our LGBTQIA Widen Our Welcome (WOW) group invites you to join them for brunch at Aster Hall (900 N. Michigan) following worship next Sunday, August 25.

### Cornerstones

A fellowship group for those fifty and over, Cornerstones will meet on Friday, September 6 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room for dinner and a program on “Affordable Housing in an Art Deco Landmark.” Register (required) at [bit.ly/cornerstones92024](http://bit.ly/cornerstones92024)

### Get Connected Sunday!

Save the date for our Neighborhood Block Party / Get Connected Sunday, which will take place September 8 following 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship.

### Eighth-Grade Confirmation

Eighth graders are encouraged to register for 2024–25 Confirmation at [bit.ly/confirmation2425](http://bit.ly/confirmation2425)

### Stay connected

For additional resources and information see our website at [fourthchurch.org](http://fourthchurch.org) and our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe at [bit.ly/newsfromfpc](http://bit.ly/newsfromfpc); visit our news archive at [fourthchurch.org/news](http://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](mailto: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](http://repluglecenter.org).

## Can You Help?

### Donate shoes and clothing

The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in particular need of men’s clothing and shoes of all types and sizes. Items can be dropped off at the church reception desk (enter at 126 E. Chestnut) between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

### Tutor with Chicago Lights

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](http://chicagolights.org/tutoring).

## Calendar for August 18–24

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<b>Sunday, August 18</b>	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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<b>Monday, August 19</b>	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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<b>Tuesday, August 20</b>	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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<b>Wednesday, August 21</b>	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 18–24

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<b>Thursday, August 22</b>	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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<b>Friday, August 23</b>	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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<b>Saturday, August 24</b>	8:30 a.m. Sacred Pause . . . . .	Online
	5:00 p.m. REC Gathering . . . . .	Manse

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### Preaching on Sunday, August 25

- 10:00 a.m. • Nanette Sawyer

2:00 p.m. • Amy Pagliarella

## Worship Leaders

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Nanette Sawyer, Hope Daniels, Nancy Benson-Nicol

## The Music Today

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Women's Choir

Michael Rees, Acting Director of Music

## Worship Notes

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THIS MORNING'S FIRST ANTHEM is a setting of Psalm 121 by Paul Bouman (1918–2019), a graduate of Concordia College and Northwestern University who was the Director of Music at Grace Lutheran Church in west suburban River Forest from 1953 to 1983.

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](http://fourthchurch.org/give)

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**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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[www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org) • [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)

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