

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 • 9:30 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Prelude in G William Harris
Carillon Leo Sowerby

Introit

Praise Ye the Lord Donald Cashmore
Praise ye the Lord. Praise, O ye servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord.

*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, let us make a joyful sound to the rock of our salvation!
All: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all the earth.
One: Let us worship and bow down before the Lord, our Maker!
All: For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture.

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

***Hymn #265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun**

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!**

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

**Eternal and merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding,
and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake.**

**Yet we have strayed from your way;
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
through what we have done and what we have left undone.**

**As we prepare to remember the gift of your grace in the waters of baptism,
O God, we praise you and give thanks that you are always ready to forgive us.**

**Help us to turn from sin, and instead to turn to the new life
you have given us in Christ, in whose holy name we pray. Amen.**

Declaration of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: 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.

Children from age three through 5th grade are invited to come forward during the passing of the peace.

Time with Children (9:30)

Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers.

Welcome

Please let us know if you are worshiping in person or online with us today. If you're in the Sanctuary, scan the QR code on page 7 of your bulletin or sign in using the pew pad. If you're worshiping online, scan the QR code displayed on your screen.

Minute for Mission

Chicago LightsTheresa Mintle, Interim Executive Director

Sacrament of Baptism (9:30)

Anthem

O for a Closer Walk with God Charles Villiers Stanford
O for a closer walk with God, A calm and heavenly frame; A light to shine upon the road That leads me to the Lamb! Return, O holy dove, return, Sweet messenger of rest; I hate the sins that made thee mourn, And drove thee from my breast. So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and serene my frame; So purer light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 103: 1-8

One: The Word of the Lord.

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 Scripture Lesson 1 Corinthians 12: 27-31

SermonCamille Cook Howe

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn #630** Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

***Affirmation of Faith** 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

I Was Glad James Biery

I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving. Our feet shall stand within your doors. We come before the Lord with song! O sing unto the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord all you people. Enter the doors with great joy and thanksgiving. Break into song! Sing out with joy! Bless God's name! Peace within these walls. I was glad, alleluia!

***Offertory Response Hymn #712 As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought**

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

Prayer of Dedication

**Holy God, your generosity is astounding. Receive now our offerings
and use them for healing, for mercy, for beauty. Receive them with
our gratitude for your grace. Amen.**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn #307 God of Grace and God of Glory**

**God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.**

**Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Seven Fold Amen. Peter Lutkin
Amen

Postlude

Deo Gracias Craig Phillips



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Fourth Church includes the Sacrament of Baptism in worship on the second Sunday of the month. Baptism is the sign and seal of God’s grace and covenant in Christ. As The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA) explains, baptism signifies the faithfulness of God, the washing away of sin, rebirth, putting on the fresh garment of Christ, and adoption into the covenant family of the church.

When we baptize infants, we witness to the truth that God’s love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The congregation, on behalf of the whole church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life, and it is for this reason that the congregation makes such a promise during the service.

As we celebrate the baptism of these children, we also remember that we too were baptized and as children of God are part of the worldwide family of faith.

Quinn Maria Sage
child of Stephanie and Lucas Sage

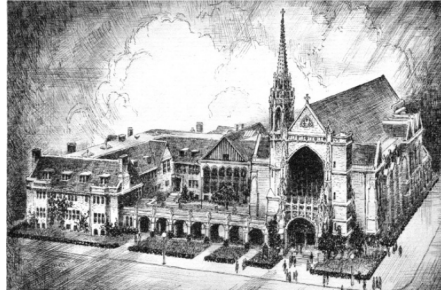
YOU BELONG HERE

Whether this is your first time worshipping at Fourth Presbyterian Church or you worship here regularly and call Fourth Church “home,” we are grateful you are here today. Inspired by the **radical hospitality of Jesus Christ**, we welcome everyone—without exception—into the life of this congregation.

Wherever you are in your faith journey, and whatever questions or burdens you carry, we affirm that God’s love is for everyone.

You belong here.

Each Sunday we gather to hear biblical stories, sing hymns of faith, and engage the world around us through prayer, worship, and preaching. As we connect the story of our lives with the story of Christ’s life, we discover



hope and joy and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ in our city as we live out our calling to love God and love one another.

Guided by our Antiracism Covenant, we seek to embrace values and practices that help us experience **Beloved Community**, where

differences are recognized as assets, celebrated, and experienced as strengths.

WORSHIPING IN PERSON AT FOURTH CHURCH



Let Us Know You’re Here!

All worshipers are invited to check in through the Church Center app (our church’s app for staying connected, exploring events, and checking in).

Please check in through Church Center to let us know you’re worshipping with us today. It’s an easy way to stay connected with our faith community. If you’re checking in for the first time, you can download the Church Center app from the Apple or Android app store or access it through our website homepage at FourthChurch.org

Sound

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

FIRST-TIME VISITOR



If you’re a first-time visitor at Fourth Church, we want to get to know you. Scan this QR code to complete our first-time visitor form or add your name to one of the pew pads.

WORSHIPING ONLINE

Livestream

Watch the 9:30 a.m. Service live or anytime on our YouTube channel: bit.ly/fpconline

Online Giving

Make an offering online at FourthChurch.org/giving

Phone Access (9:30 a.m.)

Listen to worship by phone for those without internet access: 888-916-9166.

Online Coffee Hour (following worship)

Join us via Zoom for conversation and connection: bit.ly/coffeehourfpc

CONNECT WITH US

Discover more opportunities to connect with us online at FourthChurch.org/online/connections

News at Fourth

Stay up to date on the latest news, events, and opportunities at Fourth Church. Subscribe to the News at Fourth weekly newsletter, delivered to your inbox every Friday. bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Follow Fourth Church

Connect with Fourth Church on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn at [@FourthChurch](https://www.facebook.com/FourthChurch) for updates, stories, and ways to engage with our community.

GUEST LECTURE: DR. ERIC BARRETO

Guest Lecture

Join Dr. Eric Barreto, Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, for a thought-provoking public lecture: *The Story Continues: The Early Church and the Power of Holy Imagination*. Together, we'll explore how the courage, creativity, and faith of the early Christians can inspire the church's mission today.



Saturday, September 19 | 11:00 a.m.

Free admission, registration required
Scan the QR code to register

Dr. Eric Barreto will also preach both worship services next Sunday, September 20.

JOIN THE FOURTH CHURCH FAMILY

If you are interested in becoming a member of Fourth Church, you are invited to attend an Inquirers' Class.

Sunday, September 13 | 12:15 p.m. (in person)

Gratz Center, Room 5E

Walk-ins welcome

Wednesday, September 16 | 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)



To register for our Zoom class, scan here

For more information, contact
Pastor Rocky Supinger,
rsupinger@FourthChurch.org

ECUMENICAL SERVICE: SEPTEMBER 30

All are welcome to attend an Ecumenical worship service, in solidarity with the International Day of Peace on **Wednesday, September 30, at 6:30 p.m.** in Buchanan Chapel.

The service will demonstrate the unity of churches and Christians for peace and justice in the face of Christian nationalism and will conclude with a peace walk and prayer in our Fourth Church courtyard.

GET CONNECTED SUNDAY

Today is Get Connected Sunday

Starting today, we return to two worship services at 9:30 and 11 a.m. It's also Get Connected Sunday, our annual celebration of community and connection at Fourth Church.

Following each worship service, join us in Anderson Hall, the Gignilliat Commons, and the Garth courtyard to discover the many ways to get connected, meet others, and find your place in the Fourth Church community.

Outside, the Garth courtyard will have lots of fun activities for kids including a bouncy house, balloon artist, live music, corn dogs, popcorn, and more.

We hope you can join us!

CHANCEL CHOIR AND HANDBELL CHOIR

Sing with Chancel Choir and Ring with Handbell Choir

Chancel Choir

Do you love to sing? The Chancel Choir welcomes new singers as rehearsals begin this fall. No prior choir experience is necessary—just bring your love of music!

Rehearsals:

Thursdays, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Buchanan Chapel

Handbell Choir

Have you ever wanted to try handbells? The Handbell Choir welcomes new ringers this fall. Come make music and discover the joy of ringing together!

First rehearsal:

Sunday, September 20 | 12:15–1:15 p.m.

Buchanan Chapel Loft

Interested in joining either group? Contact Andrew Herbruck at aherbruck@FourthChurch.org

NOMINATE A CHURCH LEADER

Know a member at Fourth Church who would make a meaningful contribution by serving as an Elder, Deacon, or Trustee? Learn how to nominate a fellow church member by scanning this QR code.



Nominations are due by October 5.

Questions? Email nominate@FourthChurch.org

Connections and Belonging

Come connect with others as we foster a welcoming and inclusive community where everyone feels supported in building meaningful relationships

CONCERTS AT FOURTH

Join us for live music each Friday in our sanctuary. This week's concert on September 18 at 12:10 p.m. will feature the Sonetrix Trio.

For a full list of upcoming concerts, please visit FourthChurch.org/concerts

An Evening of Czech Music

Join us to hear Lyric Opera Stage Artists bring the beauty and majesty of Czech composers to life.



September 23
6:00 p.m. Reception | 7:00 p.m. Concert
Sanctuary
Tickets: \$50
To purchase tickets, scan here

BOOKS GROUP

Join our Books Group every Thursday via Zoom to discuss various brief published works. Our fall class will feature *Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times* by Gregory Boyle.

September 24–October 29 | 6:00–7:00 p.m. via Zoom



To register, scan here
For more information and to request the Zoom link, email Esther Cloyd, ecloyd@FourthChurch.org

CORNERSTONES

Join Cornerstones for a presentation on Budget Busters, Immigration, and Elections: A New Look at Federalism from Illinois.

David Greising, President & CEO, Better Government Association, will discuss the issue of state versus federal rights, arguably as consequential today as it was during the peak of the Civil Rights Movement.



Friday, October 2 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.
Borwell Dining Room
Dinner and Speaker: \$30
Speaker Only: \$10
To register, scan here

WOMEN AT FOURTH PAINT & SIP

Unwind, connect, and get creative! Join Women at Fourth for a relaxing evening of painting, conversation, snacks, and sips. No painting experience necessary.



Thursday, October 8 | 5:30 p.m.
Borwell Dining Room
Cost: \$38 (includes supplies, snacks and drinks)
To register, scan the QR code

CENTER FOR LIFE & LEARNING

Fall Registration Now Open!

The Center for Life & Learning (CLL) offers engaging classes and opportunities for adults 60 and older to learn, connect, and explore new interests.



Register for the fall session today!

ARTIST TALK: SEPTEMBER 27

Join mother-daughter artists Florence Hawkins and Juarez for a conversation about art, memory, family, and caregiving. Their work, "Matrilineal," is currently on display in the Loggia through October 29..

Come hear these two artists share their stories, perspectives, and the connections that shape their work.

Sunday, September 27 | 12:30 p.m.
Borwell Dining Room

All are welcome

Faith Formation

Join us on our journey to grow spiritually through worship, educational opportunities, and programs that nurture faith across all ages

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

Children in Worship

Children are always welcome in worship. If you need a quieter space, the Hospitality Suite (2nd floor, Gratz Center) offers a place where the service is livestreamed.

Nursery Care

Nursery care is available during morning worship for infants through age two on the 4th floor of the Gratz Center.

Sunday School and Youth Kickoff Party today at 9:30 a.m.

Children age three through 5th grade begin in the Sanctuary with their parents at the 9:30 a.m. service and then depart for their classrooms on the 4th floor. Jr & Sr. High students and their parents are invited to the Youth Kickoff Party from 9:30–11:00 a.m. on the 5th floor of the Gratz Center.

Sunday School and Jr. High Volunteers Needed

Help nurture the faith of our children and youth this year.

As we prepare for a new program year, we're looking for volunteers to serve as Sunday School teachers and Jr. High Youth leaders on Sunday mornings.

Volunteers serve from September through May and are part of a supportive team of teachers and leaders.

Whether you've volunteered before or are considering it for the first time, we'd love to have you join us!

To explore this opportunity, please email Matt Helms (mhelms@FourthChurch.org) for Sunday School, or Nance Bartell (nbartell@FourthChurch.org) for Jr. High.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS

Children and Youth Choirs Resume Today

Children who love to sing are welcome to join our Children's Choir (grades K-5) at 9:00 a.m. or our Youth Choir (grades 6-12) at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

Gratz Center, Room 4G

Questions or interested in joining? Contact Katy Sinclair at ksinclair@FourthChurch.org

DAILY DEVOTIONS



Start your day with reflections written by our pastors and church members. Subscribe to receive daily devotions by email at bit.ly/fpcdevotions or scan this QR code.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDIES

To receive the Zoom link to join the Bible studies below, email Katie Patterson, kpatterson@FourthChurch.org

Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Women's Horizons Bible Study

2026–2027 Series: United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other

Join us on Zoom at noon or 6:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

This year, we'll explore Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians and consider what it means to trust in Christ's saving love—and to reflect that love in the way we live and care for one another. All are welcome.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Shame of Chicago: Unequal Neighborhoods, Unfair Property Taxes, and What We Do About It

Why does Chicago look the way it does? In this two-week series, explore how housing policy has shaped neighborhood inequality and consider ways to advocate for fairer policies and support communities affected by generations of wealth extraction.

Session 1: Church member Margy LaFreniere leads a screening and discussion of Shame of Chicago, a documentary exploring how housing policies of the 1960s extracted wealth from Black neighborhoods.

Sunday, September 13 | 11:00 a.m.

Borwell Dining Room

All are welcome

Visit FourthChurch.org/adult-education to view the full list of fall classes.

Community Engagements and Partnerships

Come alongside us as we advocate for social and community needs through programs and collaboration with our partners

AN EVENING WITH KATE BOWLER

Spend an evening with New York Times bestselling author and Duke University professor Kate Bowler (*Joyful, Anyway*), in conversation with bestselling Chicago author Shelby Van Pelt (*Remarkably Bright Creatures*).

Together, they'll explore joy that doesn't require us to pretend everything is fine. Expect laughter, honesty, and a refreshing reminder that we can't always be happy—but we can be joyful, anyway.

Thursday, November 5 | 7:00–8:00 p.m.

Fourth Church Sanctuary | 126 East Chestnut Street



Tickets: \$25 includes one ticket + signed copy of *Joyful, Anyway*
\$35 includes two tickets + signed copy of *Joyful, Anyway*

Hosted by Fourth Presbyterian Church with support from The Presbyterian Outlook.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Coffee Hour Hosts

Following Sunday worship, Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall offers a time for connection and community. Hosts help prepare and serve refreshments, welcome guests, and assist with light setup and cleanup. We are especially in need of additional volunteers this fall.

Ushers

We are in need of more ushers for our 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services this fall. Ushers greet and seat worshippers each Sunday.

You do not need to be a member of Fourth Church to volunteer and serve—all are welcome. To learn more or sign up, please contact Robert Crouch, Director, Volunteer Ministry, at rcrouch@FourthChurch.org or 312-981-3382.

Bulletin Printing

We are in need of volunteers to help print the worship bulletins on Thursdays from 1:00–4:00 p.m. Please register on VOMO, our volunteer platform, or contact Nancy Davis, ndavis@FourthChurch.org

Stop by the Volunteer Ministry table today following worship to pick up a copy of our Get Connected Guide and learn about all the ways to volunteer at Fourth Church and Chicago Lights.

CHICAGO LIGHTS TUTORS NEEDED

Help a Student Shine: Become a Volunteer Tutor

Chicago Lights Tutoring is looking for caring volunteers to support students one night a week through one-to-one tutoring, mentoring, homework help, and academic skill-building. Choose between virtual tutoring on Monday evenings or join us in person on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, with opportunities to participate in enrichment activities before tutoring. Ready to help a student shine? Scan here to sign up.



Beginning September 28, 2026
Mondays: Virtual, 6:00–7:30 p.m.
Tuesdays & Wednesdays: In person, 6:00–7:30 p.m.
Fourth Presbyterian Church
126 East Chestnut Street

For more information, contact Mark Dennison, tutor@chicagolights.org

VOLUNTEERS FOR MAG MILE ARTS FESTIVAL

Help Fourth Church offer hospitality during *The Magnificent Mile Arts Festival* by inviting festival attendees in for a cool drink and a look around the sanctuary.



Magnificent Mile Arts Festival Greeters
Saturday, September 19
9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 20
1:00–4:00 p.m.

Scan here to sign up to volunteer. For more information, contact Rocky Supinger, rsupinger@FourthChurch.org

AUTHOR TALK: SEPTEMBER 23

Bestselling author and scholar of religion, Robert P. Jones will speak about the dangers of Christian nationalism, the importance of democratic practice, and what these challenges mean for people of deep Christian faith. Join members of Fourth Church's Mission and Justice Committee for an evening of reflection and conversation on the vital connections between faith, democracy, and our common life.

Wednesday, September 23 | 7:00 p.m.
Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church

Worship Leaders

Camille Cook Howe, Nancy Benson-Nicol, Matt Helms, Joe Morrow, Rocky Supinger

Beadle: Sarah Pierce (9:30), Tim Schellhardt (11:00)

Liturgist: Sarah Orwig (9:30), Deanna Boyd (11:00)

The Music Today

Andrew Herbruck, Organist and Director of Music

The Morning Choir

Fourth Church Calendar



Stay up to date with worship services, programs, and special events by visiting the full Fourth Church online calendar. Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view upcoming events.

FourthChurch.org/calendar

Giving to Support the Ministry of Fourth Church



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

Camille Cook Howe Pastor

Rocky Supinger Senior Associate Pastor

Nancy Benson-Nicol Associate Pastor

Matt Helms Associate Pastor

Joseph L. Morrow Associate Pastor

Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

126 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611

FourthChurch.org | facebook.com/FourthChurch

312-787-4570 | Voicemail 312-787-2729

SOURCES AND CREDITS: OneLicense.net License A-712340
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Photography Notice Those attending a Fourth Church worship service in person are entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur on behalf of Fourth Church. By entering the worship service, you consent to the non-commercial use of the resulting visual and audio records; you waive all rights you may have to any claims of compensation for the use of these records; you release Fourth Church from any liability for the use of these records; and you waive the right to inspect or approve any of these records.



Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton; online payment only*) for \$11 for up to 6 hours between 7:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. when using the Metropolis Parking app (iPhone) or metropolis.io/join (Android). Scan the discount QR code at left no more than 10 minutes before leaving the garage. The code is also available on cards from the ushers; you might leave a card in your car for future Sunday use.

Sunday parking is available at the Hancock garage (*enter from Delaware or Chestnut*) for \$10 between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. by using a validation ticket from the ushers.