

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 • 9:30 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Chant de Paix Jean Langlais
Rhosymedre Ralph Vaughan Williams

Introit

O Taste and See Ralph Vaughan Williams
O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the one that trusteth in him.

*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: *I will extol the Lord at all times;*
All: God's praise will always be on my lips.
One: *I will glory in the Lord;*
All: let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
One: *Glorify the Lord with me;*
All: let us exalt God's name together.

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

***Hymn #41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!**

O worship the King, all glorious above!

**O gratefully sing God's power and God's love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

**O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form;
and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.**

**The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your power has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.**

**Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.**

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world
where all will be fed and have dignity,
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.
You call us to seek justice and peace,
but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the
oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all. Forgive us, O Lord.
Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so that all may know your justice
and peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. 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.

Anthem

9:30 Morning Choir – Teach Me, O Lord Thomas Attwood
Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes, and I will keep them unto the end.

11:00 Chancel Choir – I Believe. Mark Miller
*I believe in the sun even when, even when it’s not shining. I believe in love, even when I don’t feel it
I believe in God, even when God is silent.*

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 98: 1-5

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 John 4: 7-15

Sermon Camille Cook Howe

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn #475 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

***Affirmation of Faith A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)**

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

New Members (9:30)

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

O Be Joyful. Philip Stopford
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God. It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth from generation to generation. 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.

***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**

Gracious God receive our offering. Guide those who use it, that it may bring fullness of life to those who live in need and long for our care. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn #81** Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.

God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.

On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear

for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.

Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,

safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,

well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.

Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage?

Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Seven Fold Amen. Peter Lutkin

Amen

Postlude

Tu Es Petra Henri Mulet

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Deanna Boyd, Jackie Booth, Lynette Halloway, Charity Miriuki,
Deborah Sifferlen, Brian Bayly, Amelia Chandler, Michael Sullivan,
Katie Daehler, Peter Angelos, Grace Angelos, Marla Berkow,
Dorothy Mora, Mike Boyer, Janet Boyer, Heather Haaga,
Haley Massad, Khalfani Maatuka, and Stacey Partain

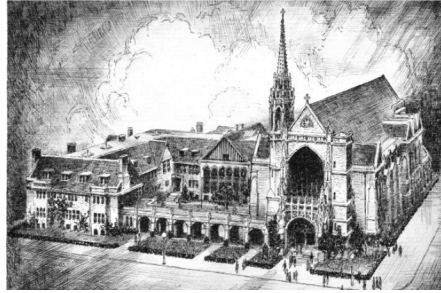
YOU BELONG HERE

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.

Community Engagements and Partnerships

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

SUPPORT THE MEALS MINISTRY SNACK DRIVE

The Meals Ministry Snack Drive continues through October 11. Help stock our Bag Lunch programs, which provide nourishment to guests in need throughout the year. Last year, we distributed more than 20,000 bag lunches.

We're seeking single-serving, individually packaged snacks. Shop our preferred-item lists from Amazon, Walmart, and Costco, with items shipped directly to



Fourth Church. Donations may also be dropped off at Reception during the week, marked Meals Ministry.

To view our shopping lists, stop by the Meals Ministry table during Coffee Hour

or scan the QR code to visit our website and look for "Food Donations".

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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 worshipers 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

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

MAKE SANDWICHES FOR SARAH'S CIRCLE

Looking for a hands-on way to serve? On the second Sunday of each month, volunteers gather at Fourth Church from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to make sandwiches for Sarah's Circle women's shelter, one of our longtime Mission community partners. New volunteers are welcome!



Sandwiches for Sarah's Circle

**Second Sunday of the month, October 11
11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.**

Parish House Kitchen
To register, scan here

HELP STOCK THE FOOD PANTRY

Volunteers are needed every Monday, 9:00–11:00 a.m., to unload food deliveries from the Greater Chicago Food Depository and restock pantry shelves. Help us keep the pantry stocked for our neighbors!



Stock the Food Pantry

Mondays | 9:00–11:00 a.m.

To sign up to volunteer, scan the QR code

For more information, contact
Theresa Thornburg, tthornburg@chicagolights.org

Connections and Belonging

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

PET BLESSING ON OCTOBER 3

Bring your beloved pets for a joyful service celebrating the love, comfort, and companionship they bring to our lives. Pastors Camille and Nancy will lead a brief service and offer a blessing for each pet in attendance. All pets are welcome but must be on a leash or in a carrier. You can also bring a photo of your pet.

Pet Blessing

Saturday, October 3 | 10:00 a.m.

Garth courtyard

ANNOUNCING THE AMEN HOUR

The Amen Hour Begins October 7

Discussion of the most recent Sunday's sermon and the Scripture it was based on to strengthen the connection of faith and life in community.



The Amen Hour

Wednesdays, October 7–November 11

5:30–7:00 p.m.

100 East Huron

Registration required

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

CONCERTS AT FOURTH

Join us for live music each Friday in our sanctuary. This week's concert on October 2 at 12:10 p.m. will feature Cora Swenson, cello.

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

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.

Scan the QR code to register by September 30.



Thursday, October 8 | 5:30 p.m.

Borwell Dining Room

Cost: \$38 (includes supplies, snacks and drinks)

Registration closes September 30

CENTER FOR LIFE & LEARNING

Aging in Place

Join us for an evening of wine, refreshments, and practical guidance on planning for the future. Experts will discuss estate planning, long-term care insurance, and home care options to help you prepare for future needs and maintain your independence.



Aging in Place

Thursday, October 1 | 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Anderson Hall

Admission is free

Scan the QR code to register

For more information, contact Annette Mileski, amileski@FourthChurch.org

ARTIST TALK TODAY

Join mother-daughter artists Florence and Juarez Hawkins 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.

Today: 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

SANCTUARY TOUR TODAY – 12:15 P.M.

Today, following worship, discover the rich history and architecture of Fourth Church's sanctuary with church member Ken Hazlett, who will lead a 15-minute presentation followed by a guided tour. To join, meet in the rear of the sanctuary following today's service. Future tours will take place on Sunday, October 18 and 25.

Sanctuary Tour
September 27 | 12:15 p.m.
Sanctuary

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 Groups meet 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 Youth Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. on the 5th floor of the Gratz Center.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS

Children and Youth Choirs

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

BIBLE TOP 10 PODCAST

Bible Top 10 Podcast

Pastors Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger are back with a new season of Bible Top 10, bringing curiosity, humor, and thoughtful conversation to the Bible.

New podcast episodes are released every other Tuesday.

Now Available:

Top 10 Worst Biblical Roommates

Coming Up

September 29: **Top 10 Hymns in the Bible**



You can listen to the Bible Top 10 podcast wherever you get your podcasts. Scan here to explore all Fourth Church podcasts.

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

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.

TWENTIES & THIRTIES

Join our Young Adults group, Twenties & Thirties, for these events:

Bible Study

Sundays 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Gratz Center, Room 5E

Coffee with Questions

Today: Sunday, September 27 | 12:15 p.m.

Gratz Center, Room 4F

Picnic at Foster Avenue Beach

Sunday, September 27 | 2:00–5:00 p.m.

Foster & DuSable Lake Shore Drive

Meet at the Beach Concession Stand

For more information, contact Nance Bartell,

nbartell@FourthChurch.org

DAILY DEVOTIONS

This fall, our Daily Devotions return to the “Bible in 100 Passages” series – covering the 27 books of the New Testament. Featuring weekly overviews and written reflections by members and pastors, this series is an excellent way to learn more about the Bible and how it continues to speak to us today.



Subscribe to receive Daily Devotions by email at bit.ly/fpcdevotions or scan this QR code.

Pastor Matt Helms will also teach a monthly Bible study for this series. The

first Bible study gathering will take place on Tuesday, October 6, from 6:00–7:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY RETREAT

The Ministry of Presence: The Transforming Power of Christian Service

Join the Volunteer Ministry on October 24 for a half-day retreat to explore how seeing, listening and serving transform our relationships and lives. Speakers will feature Antonio (Tony) Daniels, Associate Director of Volunteer & Church Engagement at Breakthrough Urban Ministries, and Amy Pagliarella, Parish Associate for Caring Ministries, Fourth Church.



Saturday, October 24

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Borwell Dining Room

Refreshments served at 8:30 a.m.

Please register in advance using the QR code

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Freedom Struggles by China’s Christian Rights Lawyers

As President of the Global Faculty Initiative, a special focus of Terry Halliday’s work has been around struggles for political liberalism in China – and in 2008, he was surprised to discover that a disproportionate number of human rights lawyers were Protestant Christians and that their Christian beliefs strongly influenced their legal practices. However, in 2015, a nationwide crackdown on over 300 human rights lawyers sought to crush their movement. In this class, Halliday will discuss the current state of the struggle and his involvement in it.

Today: Sunday, September 27 | 11:00 a.m.

Borwell Dining Room and livestreamed

All are welcome, no registration required

From Havana to Chicago: A Conversation with our Cuban Partners

Join us as we welcome Rev. Alison Infante, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Havana, Cuba, and his wife, Sarahi, for a conversation about the ministry, challenges, and opportunities facing Christian communities in Cuba today. This class will reflect on Fourth Church’s 25-year relationship with First Presbyterian Havana and the blessing this partnership has been to our church, as well as the wider Chicago Presbytery.

From Havana to Chicago: A Conversation with our Cuban Partners

Sunday, October 4 | 11:00 a.m.

Borwell Dining Room and livestreamed

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

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.

Worship Leaders

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

Beadle: Reb Banker (9:30), Benia Davis (11:00)

Liturgist: Kevin Reome (9:30), James Young (11:00)

The Music Today

Andrew Herbruck, Organist and Director of Music

The Morning Choir

The Chancel Choir (11:00)

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](https://www.venmo.com/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

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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.