



Throughout Advent we are receiving a **“Light Up a Life” offering**, which helps shine God’s light of love on those who need it most this season, including **those in need of the warmth, clothing, and nourishment** provided by our Chicago Lights Social Service Center and Fourth Church Meals Ministry programs. Gifts can be made to this offering by noting “Light Up a Life” either in the comments section when giving online via **Venmo** or the Fourth Church website (**www.fourthchurch.org/give-online**) or on the memo line of a **check** payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

We hope you will join us online in celebrating Christmas this week! On Thursday, December 24, we will have two online services: the **Children’s Pageant** at 4:00 p.m. and the **Christmas Eve service** at 8:00 p.m. (*with a choral prelude beginning at 7:30 p.m.*). The services will be available on **our website**, www.fourthchurch.org, at **www.bit.ly/FPCworship** as well as via **Facebook Live** (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **YouTube** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where they can also be viewed afterwards. Those without Internet access are invited to join the services by **listening to them via phone by calling 888.916.9166 (toll-free)** at the time of the service. * Our online **Christmas Day service** will be available via the same platforms, including by phone, at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 25.

If you missed our online **Christmas with Tower Brass concert** or **John Sherer’s organ concert of Christmas favorites**, you can still enjoy them online at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms

Devotions for the Christmas season written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. You can receive them in your inbox daily (sign up online at **www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions**) or read them online (**www.fourthchurch.org/devotions**), via Facebook (**www.facebook.com/fourthchurch**), or Twitter (**www.twitter.com/fourthchicago**).

Our online **New Year’s Eve Taizé service** will be available at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 31 on our website, www.fourthchurch.org, at **www.bit.ly/FPCworship** as well as via Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos).

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

If you would like to connect with others for a time of fellowship following worship today, please join us following the postlude for **virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom at www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship** (Zoom details are posted at www.fourthchurch.org). You can also take part in Coffee Hour **by phone**: dial 312.626.6799 and enter meeting ID number 963 5583 1751#. * Another opportunity to connect with others is in our **small groups**, which meet via Zoom once a week for four to six weeks. To express interest in joining one of the groups forming in 2021, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). * Also email Anne Ellis if you are interested in Zoom details for the **Benevolent Guild**, which has been making face masks and meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

“God in the Cubicle,” a two-week online class taught by Lois Snavely, concludes today at 9:30 a.m. It looks at what it means to be called by God to a world of “secular” service and how we can bring the sacred into the secular without isolating ourselves. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/aflcubicle * Also meeting via Zoom are **Men’s Bible Study** on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and the **Horizons Bible Study for women** on Wednesday, December 23 at 12:00 p.m. For Bible study details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

On Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. Email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for the details. * **If you have a prayer request**, Dave Handley (dhandley@fourthchurch.org) is receiving these requests as part of our Morning Prayer and Deacon Prayer Ministries. * **If you would like to talk to a pastor**, please call the church (312.787.4570). * **To explore options for teletherapy** with our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, call the Center at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. * If you would like to have a **one-time phone conversation with a Stephen Minister or arrange for ongoing talks**, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

We are looking for Fourth Church members with **gifts for compassionate listening** to become Stephen Ministers and walk alongside individuals experiencing life challenges. The next fifty-hour **training course for new Stephen Ministers** will be offered in March 2021; for information about applying for the training, see www.fourthchurch.org/caring/stephen-ministers.html

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) for additional resources and ways to connect. Online events are posted on the church calendar at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar; we also encourage you to follow us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **Instagram** (instagram.com/fourthchurch) for updates, sermon quotes, images from Fourth Church, and more.

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The Session of Fourth Church has called an **online congregational meeting** for Sunday, January 10 following 11:00 a.m. worship. The meeting will be online at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms (call in at 888.916.9166). The purpose of the meeting will be to elect an **Associate Pastor Nominating Committee** to identify and recommend a candidate to serve Fourth Presbyterian Church as **Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation**.

We encourage you to mark your calendars for two other events planned for January 2021 as well: **“Faith in Uncertain Times: Reflecting on the Past and Envisioning the Future”** is an online Michigan Avenue Forum that will be held Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 p.m. That evening Lucy Forster-Smith will moderate a panel discussion bringing together Shannon Kershner; Horace Smith, Pastor of Apostolic Faith Church; Otis Moss III, Senior Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ; David Crawford, President of McCormick Theological Seminary; and Ozzie Smith Jr., Pastor Emeritus of Covenant United Church of Christ. * On Saturday morning, January 23 at 10:00 a.m., David Hogue, Professor Emeritus of Pastoral Theology and Counseling at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary will lead a workshop on **“Loving Our Neighbor in a Time of Social Distancing.”** Watch for details about both of these events in the new year.

Also coming up in 2021 is the **Chicago Lights Gala of Hope at Home** on Friday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. The gala annually benefits the life-changing youth development and social service programs of Chicago Lights—the community outreach arm of Fourth Church—and the community support efforts of our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being.

Resuming in January will be our regular programming for all ages. **Center for Life and Learning** lectures and exercise classes for adults sixty and over begin the week of January 4; for details, see www.fourthchurch.org/cll or email Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org). * **Sunday School and family activities** also resume online. For details, email Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). * For details about **youth groups and Confirmation**, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). * **TwentiesThirties** offers online opportunities for young adults. For details, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).

For the foreseeable future we are gathering online for **livestream-only worship**. * In addition to livestreaming our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service at www.bit.ly/FPCworship (*where the service is available throughout the week*), the service is available via **Facebook Live** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **YouTube** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. * Those without Internet access are invited to **listen to the service live via phone by calling 888.916.9166 (toll-free)** at the time of the service (*the prelude typically begins around 10:45 a.m.*). * During the week we also make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify** (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast); you can also receive our sermons **by email** (www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).

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