

News and Resources

March 7–March 13, 2021



Each Sunday during Lent we are extinguishing a candle. Just as we lit candles on the Advent wreath to symbolize the light coming into the world through the birth of Christ, so now our extinguishing of candles points to the Lenten progression from light to the shadows of Good Friday and the crucifixion.

Throughout the Lenten season we receive the **One Great Hour of Sharing offering**. This special offering supports the work of **Fourth Church Meals Ministry; Chicago Lights Tutoring and Elam Davies Social Service Center**; and the work of **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs**. To make a One Great Hour of Sharing gift, use the designation “OGHS Lenten Offering” when giving at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online or write it on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

If you are looking to add devotional meditations into your Lenten disciplines this year, we invite you to join the more than 4,000 people who use the daily Lenten devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff. These reflections are available by email (you can 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 Lenten path leads us to Palm/Passion Sunday and Holy Week. We will gather online for worship on **Palm/Passion Sunday** on March 28 at 11:00 a.m.; for **Maundy Thursday Tenebrae**, with Communion, on Thursday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m.; for our **Good Friday service** on Friday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m., with the pastors sharing short meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ; for the **Easter Vigil** on Saturday, April 3 at 8:00 p.m.; and our **festive Easter service**, with Communion, on Sunday, April 4 at 11:00 a.m. We hope you and those you know will mark your calendars and plan to join us in worship online as our journey takes us to the cross and eventually the empty tomb!

You can **honor or memorialize a loved one** with a contribution toward the **Easter flowers** that will decorate the Sanctuary for our online Easter service. A list of those individuals remembered will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Contributions can be made online at www.bit.ly/FPCgifts; contributions must be received by Sunday, March 28 for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, email Andrea Miller (amiller@fourthchurch.org).

Each Sunday we host a **virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom**, which begins immediately following the postlude. You can join this time of fellowship at www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship (Zoom details are also posted at www.fourthchurch.org). You can take part in Coffee Hour **by phone** as well: dial 312.626.6799 and enter meeting ID number 963 5583 1751#.

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

Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday, March 14. Be sure to set your clocks ahead an hour as we “spring forward”: we don’t want to start worship without you!

“**Pandemics, Biblical Reflections, and a Christian Call to Action**” is the topic of a new Sunday morning class beginning today at 9:30 a.m. **Walter Breuggemann’s recent book** *Virus as a Summons to Faith: Biblical Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief, and Uncertainty* will guide the conversation, which will be led by Jeannine Forrest. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/summonstofaith

✳ An “**Our Neighbors: Deepening Interfaith Relationships**” conversation will take place on Zoom this Wednesday, March 10 at 6:00 p.m. Led by Nanette Sawyer and Rabbi Todd Zinn, we will join neighbors from Chicago Sinai Congregation for a discussion of our springtime **celebrations of Passover and Easter and the shared themes of renewal**. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/interfaith031021

Men’s Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and the **Horizons Bible Study for women** meets this Wednesday, March 10 at 12:00 p.m. For Zoom details for these Bible studies, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). ✳ **A Bible study for those in their twenties and thirties** meets on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. For Zoom details, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).

Books by Women will meet via Zoom next Tuesday, March 9 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss **Whose Body by Dorothy L. Sayers**. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). ✳ On Tuesday evening, April 6, the **First Tuesday Book Club**, hosted by the Adult Education Committee, will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss **Just Faith: Reclaiming Progressive Christianity** with its author, Guthrie Graves-Fitzsimmons; for Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/firsttuesdaybooks ✳ **Cornerstones**, a fellowship group of those fifty and over, next meets via Zoom on Friday, April 9 at 5:30 p.m. The program that month will feature **Andrea Denney**, Executive Director of Operational Ministries, **talking about “Our House: Managing and Caring for Fourth Church’s Physical Spaces.”** For the Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/cornerstones0421

Sunday School and family activities meet online. For details about these children and family opportunities, email Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). ✳ For details about **youth groups and Confirmation**, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). ✳ Adults sixty and over are invited to take part in the **Center for Life and Learning**; for details, email Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org) or see www.fourthchurch.org/cll

Our **Friday Noonday Concerts** take place at 12:10 p.m. each week at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms as well as via Facebook Live and on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). This week the online concert will be presented by **pianist Mio Nakamura and organist John Sherer**.

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) and follow us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **Instagram** (instagram.com/fourthchurch) for resources and ways to connect. Online events are posted on the church calendar at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar

If you are interested in learning about **becoming a member of Fourth Church**, we invite you to join us online for a one-session Inquirers' Class on Sunday, April 11 at 9:00 a.m. To register for this class (*required for membership*) and discover more about Fourth Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA), sign up online at www.bit.ly/inquirer0421 to receive Zoom details.

We are looking for church members to serve as **adult volunteer leaders with youth ministry** (for grades 6–12) in one of three roles during the 2021–2022 program year: **Sunday Morning Leader, Zoom Small Group Leader, and Committee Member**. Those interested in learning more are invited to sign up at www.bit.ly/youthleaderinfo2021 to attend an information session.  **Sunday Night Supper** is in need of **cooks, servers, and runners** to assist with these "grab and go" meals. Those interested in helping are asked to email the Director of Volunteer Ministry, Robert Crouch (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).  **Fourth Church's Employment Network**, which works in partnership with the St. Sabina Employment Resource Center on the South Side, is **looking for volunteers** to support job-preparedness workshops and **internship to job opportunities**. For details, email employmentnetwork@fourthchurch.org  The **Benevolent Guild**, which has been making face masks, meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

For the foreseeable future we are gathering online for **livestream-only worship**. In addition to livestreaming our 11:00 a.m. 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 begins around 10:45 a.m.*).  During the week we 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).

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 .

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