News and Resources

November 21–27, 2021

We are glad to be worshiping with you today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church!

** Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. ** We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



On the Fourth Church campus, including in worship, everyone is required to wear masks, fully covering the nose and mouth. Anyone not vaccinated against COVID-19 is also required to practice social distancing. ** For those worshiping with us in person, we are not checking vaccination status, but by entering the Fourth Church campus you certify that (a) you do not currently have COVID-19; (b) you are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) you have no reason to quarantine; and (d) you will practice social distancing if you are not vaccinated against COVID-19.



If you would like to join us for in-person worship, we gather for a 10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary and a 4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel. ** In the Sanctuary, the front section is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating. Seating for Jazz at Four is set up for social distancing. ** The congregation is invited to sing while masked. We encourage those who are concerned about being near those who are singing to consider the socially distanced seating section or join those who worship with us from home via livestream. ** Nursery care is not available at this time. ** Worship can be heard in the Sanctuary and Chapel through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids. ** Please silence electronic devices when in the Sanctuary or Chapel. ** On Sundays the doors open for worship at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. For the morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors. ** Sunday parking* is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher.

You can read more about the guidelines in place for in-person worship as well as information about continued online opportunities **at www.fourthchurch.org/reopening**

Following the 10:00 a.m. service, Deacons are available in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) to pray with individuals who would like to offer prayers of praise or concern. **

On Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom. For details, email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org). ** A virtual Sacred Pause time of meditation is hosted by our Replogle Center on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing



For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we continue to livestream our morning worship service at 10:00 a.m. at www.bit.ly/FPCworship and YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). (The prelude begins at approximately 9:45 a.m.) The service is also available for viewing after the service. ** Those without Internet access are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the service. ** During the week we make the service and sermon available via podcast on iTunes and Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast).



For those who are facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. 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. **

To explore options for teletherapy, call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ** If you would like **to talk to a pastor** or notify the pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please call the church (312.787.4570).** **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.



Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to connect with one another, whether in person or online. Those worshiping with us in person are invited to **greet one another in Anderson Hall or the Commons** following the service. **** Knitting and Crocheting** gathers via Zoom this Tuesday, November 23 at 4:00 p.m. for a time to work on knitting or crocheting projects while sharing in conversation. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). **** Cornerstones,** a group for adults fifty and over, will gather online for a **Christmas concert by John Sherer and Cole Seaton** on Friday, December 3 at 5:30 p.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/cornerstones1221 ****** On Thursday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. **Women at Fourth** will come together via Zoom to celebrate the festive and joyous spirit of the Christmas season with fun, games, readings, laughter, and fellowship. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/wf1221

On Thanksgiving Day we will not be gathering in person for worship. Instead we will be sharing a **Thanksgiving-themed "Rhythm and Word" video** on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on Thursday, November 25 at 8:00 a.m. (and available any time after that). We invite you to view this music-and-word worship experience whenever you or those with whom you may be gathering are looking for fifteen minutes of spiritual reflection during which to pause to give thanks on Thanksgiving Day. (This video will be our "Rhythm and Word" offering for the week; there will not be one on Wednesday, November 24.)



The season of Advent begins next Sunday, November 28! Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff will be available beginning that Sunday as a resource for personal meditation and prayer. You can receive them in your inbox (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). ** Also available as a resource for your Advent prayer and reflection will be a weekly "Rhythm and Word" Advent video series. These brief worship experiences, which weave together scripture, prayer, a meditation, and music by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet, will be released on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. beginning on December 1 (where they will also be avilable for viewing afterwards). To receive them by email, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail



"What Is Waiting to Be Born in You" is an Advent invitation to explore through movement, meditation, words, music, and visioning the sacred gifts we offer to ourselves, each other, God, and the world at this uncertain time. Sue Schemper, a Fourth Church member, licensed clinical professional counselor, and spiritual director, will lead us in this exploration during a Saturday morning Advent workshop hosted by the Spiritual Formation Council, Adult Education Committee, and the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on December 4 at 9:00 a.m. For Zoom details register online at www.bit.ly/adventworkshop21



For resources and ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org), Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and Instagram (instagram.com/fourthchurch). ** Online events are posted on our church calendar, which is accessible from the home page of our website and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar ** Those interested in becoming Fourth Church members are invited to contact Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).

Women at Fourth is coordinating our annual Christmas Wishes project to provide gifts for Chicago **Lights Tutoring students.** To support this project we are collecting gift cards to Amazon, Target, and Walmart. If you are dropping off **gift cards** at the church, please do so by Friday, December 3, mark them to the attention of Simon Crow, and designate the amount on the card(s). (We are giving \$30 worth of gift cards to each student.) We are also purchasing a book to give to each student and appreciate monetary contributions to support the book purchases. Monetary gifts can be made to Fourth Church, noting "Christmas Wishes" in the comments/memo line. For more details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ** Again this year we invite you to honor a loved one with a contribution toward the Christmas flowers, wreaths, and garlands that will decorate the Sanctuary. A list of those individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made online at www.bit.ly/fpcgift and must be received by Sunday, December 12 for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information about gifts toward Christmas flowers, contact Andrea Miller (amiller@fourthchurch.org). ** Throughout this season of giving we are also receiving a "Light Up a Life" offering, which extends mercy, kindness, and love to those who are most vulnerable. Gifts to this offering support the mission and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights as they provide hot meals, clothing, encouragement, and extra support. Gifts can be made to this offering by noting "Light Up a Life" in the comments section (or memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church) when giving online via Venmo or the Fourth Church website (www fourthchurch org/give-online).



As we look ahead to the Advent and Christmas seasons, we hope you will mark these special worship opportunities on your calendar: Advent Lessons and Music on Sunday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. (in person and livestreamed). ** The Longest Night service, for those experiencing grief and sadness, on Tuesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. (in person only). ** The Christmas Eve Children's Pageant, which will be online only, streamed on Friday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. ** Our Christmas Eve Family Service at 6:00 p.m. (in person only); seating will be socially distanced. ** Two Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols Services, one at 8:00 p.m. (in person and livestreamed) and one at 10:00 p.m. (in person only). There will be no socially distanced seating at either 8:00 or 10:00 p.m., so we invite those who prefer social distancing to worship with us at 6:00 p.m. For health reasons, at all three in-person services on Christmas Eve we will be using battery-operated tea lights rather than lit candles during "Silent Night" so that worshipers do not have to blow out candles. ** Our Christmas Day Service on Saturday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. (in person only; those who would like an online worship opportunity on Christmas Day are invited to watch the online Christmas Day service from last year or the Christmas Eve service).

Today at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room Lois Snavely will lead us in the final "Discerning **Vocation"** class. ** One of our most popular adult education classes has been "God in the Modern Wing," exploring spiritual and artistic expression in the work of modern abstract artists. On Sunday, December 5 at 11:00 a.m., Walter Hansen will return to lead a one-session class, "God in the Modern Wing: The Book," looking at the book that grew out of those presentations and following it with an optional walk to the Art Institute of Chicago to view some of the works. You can register for the class, which will meet in Borwell Dining Room, at www.bit.ly/modernwing1205 ****** A Muslim-Presbyterian interfaith dialogue about Maryam/Mary will take place online on Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/dialogue120721 ** Also on Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. the **First Tuesday Book Club** will discuss via Zoom IRL: Finding Realness, Meaning, and Belonging in Our Digital Lives by Chris Stedman. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/firsttuesday1221 ** On Tuesday, December 14 Books by Women will meet via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. to discuss people's favorite **Agatha Christie books.** For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ** This Friday our **Organist John Sherer** will present our weekly Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. Masks must be worn by all in attendance. Our concerts are livestreamed and available later on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) and at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms.



Sunday School (ages 3 through grade 5) meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Gratz Center. **** Eighth-grade**Confirmation meets at 9:15 a.m. on the fifth floor. **** Junior High Youth** meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, where Senior High Youth meet at 11:15 a.m. **** Youth parents** gather for fellowship at 9:15 a.m. on the fifth floor.



Our congregation is celebrating its sesquicentennial! During this 150th anniversary year we encourage you to visit the web page www.fourthchurch.org/150 to read historical accounts and view videos of pastors who formerly served at Fourth Church as they share memories of their time with our congregation. ** Commissioned to celebrate our sesquicentennial are new Ordinary Time banners. Designed by Ellie Cotey, with additional sewing done by members of the Benevolent Guild, these banners, paraments, and stoles depict Chicago and its landscape and, with rays of radiating light, evoke this congregation's call to be a light in the city. The pulpit parament incorporates a map of Chicago; the lectern paraments and stoles bring together the blue of Lake Michigan and the green of the prairies surrounding city; and the hanging banners offer images of local wildflowers.

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**