News and Opportunities

February 12-18, 2023

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.



Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be a mask-welcoming campus, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. As a mask-welcoming campus, we remain committed to ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church.

** In the Sanctuary, the front section on the pulpit side is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, and everyone sitting in that section is required to wear a mask. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating.



For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. **** 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 10:00 a.m. Sunday service and sermon available via podcast on iTunes and Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast). ** You can also receive the previous Sunday's sermon text by email by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons ** Daily devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a resource for personal meditation and prayer. Sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions to receive them by email, or read them at fourthchurch.org/devotions ** Our "Rhythm and Word" video series is exploring the Sermon on the Mount and what it means for our daily lives. A new fifteen-minute video is released each Wednesday evening on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos); to receive it by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail

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 join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for our Jazz at Four service (with Communion) in Buchanan Chapel. ** On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. 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 to the Gratz Center. ** **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (and \$18 for up to 12 hours) 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. ** During the morning service nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. ** Worship can be heard in the Sanctuary through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids. ** Please silence electronic devices during worship.



We gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom and also at 10:00 a.m. for in-person Morning Prayer in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ** To submit a prayer request to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org ** The Chapel is open for opportunity to walk the labyrinth between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For details, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). ** A Sacred Pause time of meditation is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and also Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



We ask those worshiping with us in person to please take a moment to sign the information pads in the pews so that we might know you are here. Please pass the pad down your pew so all worshipers have opportunity to provide updated information and greet one another by name following the service. ** Those who enjoy expressing their faith through hospitality or are interested in being a welcoming presence at Coffee Hour are encouraged to sign up at app.vomo. org/project/coffeehour to be a Cookie Table Host, Server, or Hospitality Coordinator. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held today at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary and online via Zoom. The Zoom link is www.bit.ly/fpcannualmeeting2023; you can also access the meeting via the Zoom Meeting ID 853 3485 6633 and Passcode 536440. For audio only, you can dial in by phone by calling 1.312.626.6799, 853 3485 6633. The meeting will include the election of new officers; the recommended slate of officers that will be presented by the Nominating Committee is posted on our website at www.fourthchurch.org, as are the minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting and the Zoom link for today's meeting.



On Sunday, February 12, 1871—**152 years ago today—the congregation of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago was dedicated.** Today we remember and give thanks for that day and for the legacy that inspires our vision for the future. (One of the ways in which we mark this anniversary is by each year holding our Annual Meeting of the Congregation on the second Sunday of February.)



Today is also the Souper Bowl of Caring! You can help our youth score a victory in the Souper Bowl —a nationwide, grassroots campaign to address issues of hunger—through your contributions of nonperishable food items or monetary gifts, which the youth are collecting at the door. All contributions will support the work of Fourth Church Meals Ministry and the Chicago Lights Social Service Center Food Pantry. You can also **make a Souper Bowl of Caring gift online** at www.fourthchurch.org/give (designate Souper Bowl of Caring).



To support the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) in providing **emergency relief and short-term recovery in Syria and Turkey** in the aftermath of the February 6 earthquake—and in also remaining active there throughout the entire recovery process—you can give a gift online at www.bit.ly/earthquakepda



The annual Chicago Lights Gala of Hope will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Chicago (*160 E. Pearson*) on Friday, March 3, beginning at 5:30 p.m. This annual event supports the life-changing work of Chicago Lights, the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church, which includes the **Tutoring and Summer Day, Urban Farm, and Social Service Center** programs. **To reserve tickets or become an event sponsor,** visit one.bidpal.net/galaofhope2023 or stop by Coffee Hour today.

We look forward to **Fourth Church youth leading us in worship next Sunday morning,** February 19. That day we will celebrate Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday, as we move from the season of Epiphany into Lent, which begins on February 22.



Ash Wednesday services will be held at 12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 22. Both services will include Communion and the imposition of ashes. The 7:30 p.m. service will also be livestreamed on our YouTube channel. ** As part of "Ashes on the Way," pastors and members of the congregation will be present outside the Sanctuary between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. They will be available to impose ashes for those in our community who are unable to be with us for worship but who find the ashes a meaningful way to mark the beginning of this season of repentance and reflection.



As we look ahead to Lent, we invite you to mark your calendar for the Lenten Path of Discipleship series that will be offered via Zoom on Tuesdays, February 28 through April 4 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Hosted by the Spiritual Formation Council and led by Associate Pastors Nancy Benson-Nicol and Joe Morrow, this year's six-week series will explore Connie Fourre's eighty-seven-page book *The Spiritual Resilience Handbook*. To participate, please register at www.bit.ly/fpcpod2023 ** We also invite you to use our Lenten devotions as a resource for reflection during the upcoming season. To receive those meditations daily via email beginning on Ash Wednesday, simply subscribe online at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions (if you already receive our daily devotions, you will be sent the Lenten ones automatically). ** Also available for your reflection during the season will be a Lenten "Rhythm and Word" video series. These brief worship experiences (approximately fifteen minutes each) weave together scripture, prayer, and music and will be released on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. beginning on February 22. To receive them by email, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail



Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study—which offers two Zoom gathering times (12:00 and 6:30 p.m.) on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month—next meets on Wednesday, February 22. For Zoom details for either Bible study, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

"A Sittler Sampler: Ecology, Faith, and Much More" meets today in Room 5E (*in person only*) following the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Led by Jeff Doane, this class considers the works of Joseph Sittler, a pioneer in addressing the need to care for the ecological order from a Christian perspective. A leader in medical ethics, he also placed emphasis on how we frame our faith through language.



Come up later this month in adult education, Stephen Hauser and Michael Kazanjian will be using Eastern and Western religious art featured in the book Resurrecting Easter by John and Sarah Crossan as well to lead us in an exploration of "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ: Individual or Universal?" Meeting next Sunday, February 19 at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom, the class will study first millennium religious art that portrays Christ's resurrection as both individual and universal, Western religious art that conveys the resurrection as Christ alone, and Eastern/Orthodox art that conveys the resurrection as a universal event bringing Adam, Eve, Abel, David, Solomon, and others with Christ. To register (and to receive the Zoom link), sign up online at www.bit.ly/aeresurrection23 ₩ On Sunday, February 26, Betsy Storm and Kat Evans will be presenting "Faces at the Cross" at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room (in person only; this class will not be recorded). We know the story of the resurrection well from oft-told Bible stories, but what about hearing them from the breaking heart of Mary, whose beloved son has died brutally, or Pontius Pilate, the man who sentenced Jesus to death? How did these major characters experience Holy Week and the resurrection itself? In poetic and often riveting words, author J. Barrie Shepherd's book Faces at the Cross: A Lent and Easter Collection of Poetry and Prose regales us with clearly imagined stories in the voices of Mary, Pilate, and others. Join us as we share, aloud, several selected readings from Shepherd's well-loved book. There will also be time for small-group discussion. To register, sign up at www.bit.ly/aefaces226



Looking ahead, in March, **Tom Dozeman will teach a class on "The Ancestors in Genesis."** The ancestors in the book of Genesis are meant to provide identity both for ancient Israel and for contemporary readers. Thus this course will explore the themes of identity that emerge in the three cycles of stories about Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar; Isaac and Rebekah; and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel—stories that are complex and hardly heroic. We will also look at the aim of the biblical authors in composing the literature and different ways in which readers have found identity in the stories. The class will meet in person only on Sundays, March 5–19 in Borwell Dining Room. To register, sign up at www.bit.ly/aegenesis323

Ghost Ranch New Mexico in the spring. Finding ways to care for creation. Awakening the inner terrain of God's Spirit. Kindling connections with others from Fourth Church. If this sounds intriguing, consider joining Nancy Benson-Nicol and Lucy Forster-Smith for a Ghost Ranch Pilgrimage of Faith and Learning this May 15–19 in Abiquiu, New Mexico. A brief information session about this opportunity will be held next Sunday, February 19 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 5E. ** A Fourth Church trip to Cuba to visit the First Presbyterian Church of Havana will take place May 29–June 5. Details, including a link to the trip application, are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html; applications are due this Monday, February 13. ** Those interested in taking part in the Fourth Church Choir tour to India in February 2024 can find trip details at www.fourthchurch.org/music/india.pdf or by emailing Emily Cox (ecox@fourthchurch.org).



Books by Women will discuss *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* by Balli Kaur Jaswal this Tuesday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m. in person and via Zoom. For Zoom details, contact Simon Crow (scrow@ fourthchurch.org). ** An LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome Brunch will be held next Sunday, February 19 at a nearby restaurant (meet at the church reception desk following worship that day). ** Benevolent Guild resumes on Wednesday, February 22 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. ** For additional ways to connect with one another and Fourth Church, whether in person or online, as well as for various resources, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org). ** Events are posted on our church calendar, accessible from our website's home page and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar



The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in need of **volunteer Spanish translators.** If you can help or know someone who could, please sign up at app.vomo.org/project/spanish-translators ** We are also **in need of new or gently used adult clothing,** men's and women's. Donations of these items can be dropped off at the church reception desk (*enter at 126 E. Chestnut*) between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and Sundays.



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. ** To explore options for teletherapy or in-person conversations with a counselor, call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ** To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email caringministries@ fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency or requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.