



You belong here!

This may be your first time in worship at Fourth Presbyterian Church, or perhaps you worship here so often you call Fourth Church “home”; in either case, **we are grateful for your presence** today. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone—without exception—into the life of this congregation. No matter where you may be in your faith journey, no matter what questions or burdens you may bring to this place, we take seriously that God loves everyone, so you belong here.

Every Sunday we read the old biblical stories and sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world we live in this minute through liturgy, prayers, and sermons. **By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ’s life**, we discover hope and even joy, and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ to the city.

If you are new to us, stick around after worship. Join us for Coffee Hour, or speak to one of our pastors. We have many programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. **Give us a try; soon you too might be calling Fourth Church “home.”**

Worshiping in Person at Fourth Church

Each Sunday our worshiping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. If you like to worship with us in person, we gather at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Entering the building

A half hour prior to each Sunday service the doors open for worship, with three fully accessible entrances, without steps, that lead to the Sanctuary: on Michigan Avenue, through the glass Loggia doors (*between the courtyard and the main Sanctuary doors*) as well as at 126 E. Chestnut—where the reception desk is located—and at 115 E. Delaware.

Sound

- Worship can be heard through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids.
- Please silence electronic devices during worship.

Parking

Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours (*and \$18 for up to 12 hours*) and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, *enter from Delaware or Chestnut*) for \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from ushers.

Worshipping Online

We livestream the 9:30 a.m. service each Sunday on our YouTube channel: bit.ly/fpcvideos

Accessing the service

Worship can be viewed anytime after the service begins. For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning

Online extras

Links to make an online offering gift, view or print the worship bulletin, and more can be found in the descriptive text below the worship video (*after exiting full screen*) as well as on our website.

For those without Internet

Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

Let Us Know You're Here

We are grateful to be worshipping with you today and would welcome knowing you are here. Please take a moment to fill out an information form.

In person

Those worshipping with us in person are asked to add their names to the pads in the pews, passing the pads to the center of the row and then back again so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following worship.

Online

Those worshipping via livestream will find a link to the online form in the text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the “Welcome” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form.

Sunday Opportunities

Sunday morning fellowship

If you are worshipping with us in person, we encourage you to stop by Anderson Hall after the service for Coffee Hour, an opportunity to greet each other and learn about ways to connect with one another and Fourth Church.

Praying with a Deacon

If you would like to offer individual prayers with a Deacon today, you are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) following the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.

Organ tour

Following the 11:00 a.m. service, a tour of our pipe organ begins at the front of the Sanctuary.

Afternoon worship service

We invite you to join us for The Gathering: Communion at 2:00, a casual, intimate service. Beena David and the Gathering Ensemble lead our music; Rocky Supinger will be preaching.

Advent Lessons and Music tonight

The season of Advent begins today! As we begin this journey to Christmas, we will come together this evening 6:30 p.m. for a favorite tradition of December: the Festival of Advent Lessons and Music. Held in the Sanctuary, this special service will also be livestreamed.

Faces at the Manger next Sunday

Next Sunday, December 8 at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom, members of the Adult Education Council will read passages from the book *Faces at the Manger* by J. Barrie Shepherd, portraying characters present at Jesus' birth. We are delighted that poet, author, and pastor J. Barrie Shepherd will be joining us via Zoom! Register at bit.ly/faces122024

Children and Youth

Children are always welcome in worship! If you need to step out to comfort your child, the Hospitality Suite, on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed.

Also during morning worship, nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center for infants through two-year-olds.

Sunday school

Sunday school for three-year-olds through fifth graders takes place at 9:30 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. During the 11:00 a.m. hour, families are encouraged to bring their children to worship in the Sanctuary.

Youth gatherings

Today Junior Highs and Senior Highs are worshipping in the Sanctuary at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. respectively. Next Sunday they return to their weekly schedule of meeting in the Bumpus Room at those same times.

Joining the Fourth Church Family

Are you interested in learning more about or becoming a member of Fourth Church? Please join us for a one-session Inquirers' Class via Zoom on Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30 p.m. (register at bit.ly/inquirers12025) or in person on Sunday, February 2 at 12:15 p.m. (register at bit.ly/inquirers22025). If you would like more information, please contact Matt Helms (mhelms@fourthchurch.org; 312.573.3362). He would welcome opportunity to get to know you!

Bible Study

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

Women's *Horizons* Bible Study

Women's *Horizons* Bible Study, which gathers via Zoom twice a month at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m., will gather on Wednesday, December 11. The theme this year is "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation." For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

"Bible Top Ten" podcast

Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to tune in to their "Bible Top Ten" podcast at fourthchurch.org/podcasts and on multiple podcast platforms as they explore the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists.

Visiting Cuba

Join us in traveling to Cuba in March 2025, when we will visit the First Presbyterian Church of Havana, continuing our twenty-four-year partnership with our sister church. The deadline for registering for this March 10–17 trip is next Sunday, December 8. Register online at bit.ly/cubatrip2025; for details, contact Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).

Mens' Clothing Needed

The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in need of new or gently used men's clothing as well as men's shoes. 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.

Advent and Christmas

Advent reflections

Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a resource for your personal meditation and prayer this season.

We invite you to receive them in your inbox (subscribe at bit.ly/fpcdevotions if you don't already receive our devotions), read them online (fourthchurch.org/devotions), or share them via Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch) or Instagram (instagram.com/fourthchurch)

Christmas Wishes for Tutoring Students

As part of our Christmas Wishes project to provide gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students, we are in need of gift cards by this Wednesday, December 4.

We are collecting gift cards (up to \$25) to Target, Amazon, Walmart, Starbucks, and McDonald's. They can be dropped off at the church (attention: Simon Crow), with the amount designated on the card(s).

We are also collecting monetary contributions for the purchase of books. Please note "Christmas Wishes" in the designation of an online gift at fourthchurch.org/give or in the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Christmas Flowers

We invite you to remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward this year's 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 at bit.ly/fpcgift and must be received by Sunday, December 8 for names to appear in the bulletin.

Cookies-and-Cocoa volunteers needed

On Sunday morning, December 15 Women at Fourth will host "Cookies and Cocoa" during Coffee Hour. In preparation, bakers are needed to make a minimum of two dozen holiday cookies each. Volunteers to set up and serve that day are also needed. If you can help with baking, setting up, or serving or would like to learn more, contact Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

Advent "Rhythm and Word" videos

On Wednesdays in Advent we will release a brief video of music, scripture, and prayer for your reflection in this season. Sign up at bit.ly/rhythmandword to have them sent to your inbox or subscribe to our YouTube channel (bit.ly/fpcvideos) to receive notice of our new videos.

Christmas with Tower Brass

Join us Saturday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m. for a Christmas with Tower Brass concert! For holiday concert details, see fourthchurch.org/concerts

Advent and Christmas worship

In addition to this evening's Festival of Advent Lessons and Music (*see p. 9*), we have some special services we hope you will put on your calendar!

The "Longest Night" Service, for those for whom Christmas celebrations are made difficult by loss, grief, or loneliness, will be held on Friday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. Buchanan Chapel.

This year's Christmas Cantata, Bach's *Magnificat*, presented by the Morning Choir and orchestra members, will be part of the Sunday morning services on December 22.

On Tuesday, December 24, we will gather for four candlelight Christmas Eve services: the Children's Pageant at 4:00 p.m.; Family Service at 6:00 p.m., and Lessons and Carols at 8:00 p.m. (also livestreamed) and 10:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, December 25, we will gather at 10:00 a.m. (in person only) for Christmas worship.

Caring for One Another

Prayer requests and pastoral care

If you would like to talk to a pastor or notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email Gloria Fleming (gfleming@fourthchurch.org). If the situation requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

Also email Gloria if you would like to submit a prayer request to our Deacon and Morning Prayer Ministries.

Stephen Ministry

For a one-to-one listening presence through life challenges, we invite you to consider being paired with a Stephen Minister. To learn more about this resource, contact Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org) or leave a confidential message for a Stephen Minister at 312.573.3365.

Counseling and well-being

To explore options for counseling and well-being, contact our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being (312.787.8425; visit reploglecenter.org).

Grief groups

Our Replogle Center also facilitates four-week grief groups via Zoom. To learn more or register for a group, contact the group facilitator, Sharon Crawford-Tucker (stucker@fourthchurch.org; 312.787.8425)

Fellowship Opportunities

Knitting and Crocheting

Knitting and Crocheting, which supplies partners in the city with handcrafted items for warmth and comfort, meets in person on Tuesday, December 3 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B.

Benevolent Guild

Benevolent Guild meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create sewn and crafted items for those in need. Sewing experience is not necessary.

Cornerstones Sing-Along

A fellowship gathering of those fifty and over, Cornerstones will gather for its Christmas sing-along and dinner on Friday evening, December 6 at 5:30 p.m. Registration—for dinner and singing or just for the sing-along—is required by Monday, December 2 at bit.ly/cornerstones122024

Books by Women

The Books by Women book group will discuss *Almond* by Won-Pyung Sohn on Tuesday, December 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Women at Fourth holiday celebration

“La La Ladies: A Women at Fourth Holiday Celebration” will be held in the Manse on Thursday, December 12 at 5:30 p.m. For details and to RSVP, register at bit.ly/waf122024

Stay Connected!

Look for information, updates, and snapshots of life at Fourth Church in our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe at bit.ly/newsfromfpc and visit our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news

Calendar for December 1–7

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|---------------|------------|--|---------------------|
| Sunday | 9:00 a.m. | Children’s Choir | Room 4G |
| December 1 | 9:30 a.m. | Worship | Sanctuary / Online |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Infants/Parents Comfort Room. | Hospitality Suite |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Nursery. | Room 4A |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School. | Fourth Floor |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Junior High Gathering. | Bumpus Room |
| | 10:15 a.m. | Cherub Choir Rehearsal | Room 4B |
| | 10:30 a.m. | A Time of Prayer | Stone Chapel |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Coffee Hour | Anderson Hall |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Family Advent Wreath Workshop | Room 5C |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Family Donut Gathering. | Room 4C |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Youth Choir | Room 4G |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship | Sanctuary |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Senior High Gathering. | Bumpus Room |
| | 12:00 p.m. | A Time of Prayer | Stone Chapel |
| | 12:00 p.m. | Coffee Hour | Anderson Hall |
| | 12:00 p.m. | PNC Meeting | Room 5A |
| | 12:15 p.m. | Handbell Choir Rehearsal | Buchanan Chapel |
| | 12:15 p.m. | Inquirers’ Class | Room 5F |
| | 12:30 p.m. | Nominating Committee Meeting. | Room 4F |
| | 2:00 p.m. | The Gathering: Communion at 2:00 | Sanctuary |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30). | Anderson Hall |
| | 4:00 p.m. | Meals Ministry Medical Service | Borwell Dining Room |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Advent Lessons and Music. | Sanctuary |

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| Monday | 9:00 a.m. | Day School Preschool. | Classroom B |
| December 2 | 9:30 a.m. | Day School Twos Program. | Classroom A |
| | 9:30 a.m. | CLL: Advanced French | Zoom |
| | 10:30 a.m. | CLL: Stronger Seniors | Zoom |
| | 10:45 a.m. | CLL: Intermediate French | Zoom |
| | 11:30 a.m. | CLL: Silver Taps | Zoom |
| | 12:00 p.m. | CLL: Beginner’s French | Zoom |
| | 1:00 p.m. | CLL: Art History | Zoom |
| | 2:30 p.m. | CLL: Yoga | Room 4G / Zoom |
| | 4:15 p.m. | Monday Night Supper | Catholic Charities |

Calendar for December 1–7

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|----------------|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Tuesday | 7:30 a.m. | Men’s Bible Study | Zoom |
| December 3 | 7:45 a.m. | Sacred Pause | Online |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Day School Preschool. | Classroom B |
| | 9:30 a.m. | CLL: Stronger Seniors | Zoom |
| | 9:30 a.m. | SSC Drop-In Program | Morse Lounge |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Knitting and Crocheting. | Room 5B |
| | 10:30 a.m. | CLL: Stage and Screen | Room 5G / Zoom |
| | 11:30 a.m. | CLL: Basic Spanish | Room 5D |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Meals Ministry Bag Lunch. | Anderson Hall |
| | 1:00 p.m. | CLL: Foreign Perspectives | Zoom |
| | 1:00 p.m. | CLL: Watercolor and Art Concepts. | Room 4F / Zoom |
| | 1:00 p.m. | English as a Second Language. | Morse Conference Room |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Labyrinth Available to Walk. | Buchanan Chapel |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Shower Ministry. | Showers |
| | 1:00 p.m. | SSC Living Room | Room 5G |
| | 2:30 p.m. | CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi. | Anderson Hall / Zoom |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Tutoring | Fifth Floor |
| | 6:00 p.m. | AA Meeting | Room 4F |

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| Wednesday | 9:00 a.m. | Day School Preschool. | Classroom B |
| December 4 | 9:30 a.m. | Day School Twos Program. | Classroom A |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Benevolent Guild | Room 5B |
| | 9:30 a.m. | CLL: Tap | Zoom |
| | 9:30 a.m. | SSC Drop-In Program | Morse Lounge |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Morning Prayer via Zoom | Zoom |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer in Person | Buchanan Chapel |
| | 10:30 a.m. | CLL: Men’s “Great Ideas” | Room 5A |
| | 10:30 a.m. | CLL: Zing | Zoom |
| | 11:00 a.m. | CLL: Midweek Meditation | Room 4D |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Meals Ministry Bag Lunch. | Anderson Hall |
| | 12:00 p.m. | CLL: Current Events | Room 5G |
| | 1:00 p.m. | English as a Second Language. | Morse Conference Room |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Labyrinth Available to Walk. | Buchanan Chapel |
| | 1:00 p.m. | SSC Living Room | Room 5G |
| | 1:30 p.m. | CLL: <i>Chronicle of a Death Foretold</i> | Room 4E / Zoom |
| | 1:30 p.m. | CLL: Somatic Stress Busters | Room 4G |
| | 3:00 p.m. | CLL: Drawing Fundamentals and Beyond. | Zoom |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Tutoring | Fifth Floor |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Deacons Christmas Party | Walton Manse |
| | 6:00 p.m. | AA: LGBTQIA+. | Room 4F |

Calendar for December 1–7

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|-----------------|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Thursday | 9:00 a.m. | Meals Ministry Sandwich-Making | Borwell Dining Room |
| December 5 | 9:00 a.m. | Day School Preschool. | Classroom B |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Day School Together We Play | Classroom A |
| | 9:30 a.m. | SSC Drop-In Program | Morse Lounge |
| | 9:30 a.m. | CLL: Silver Barre | Zoom |
| | 10:00 a.m. | CLL: Intro to the Legal System | Room 4D |
| | 10:30 a.m. | CLL: Range of Motion | Zoom |
| | 11:30 a.m. | CLL: Matters of Health. | Room 4E |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Meals Ministry Bag Lunch. | Anderson Hall |
| | 12:15 p.m. | AA Meeting | Room 4F |
| | 1:00 p.m. | CLL: Music History. | Zoom |
| | 1:00 p.m. | English as a Second Language. | Morse Conference Room |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Labyrinth Available to Walk. | Buchanan Chapel |
| | 1:00 p.m. | SSC Living Room | Room 5G |
| | 1:30 p.m. | CLL: Art Days | Room 4E |
| | 2:30 p.m. | CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi. | Anderson Hall / Zoom |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal. | Buchanan Chapel |
| | 8:00 p.m. | Morning Choir Rehearsal | Buchanan Chapel |

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|---------------|------------|--|---------------------|
| Friday | 9:00 a.m. | Day School Preschool. | Classroom B |
| December 6 | 9:30 a.m. | SSC Drop-In Program | Morse Lounge |
| | 10:30 a.m. | CLL: Nia | Zoom |
| | 11:30 a.m. | SSC: Living Room. | Room 5G |
| | 12:10 p.m. | Noonday Concert | Sanctuary / Online |
| | 1:30 p.m. | CLL: Holiday Extravaganza | Borwell Dining Room |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Cornerstones: Christmas Sing-Along | Borwell Dining Room |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Lux Cantorum: Glory! Concert | Buchanan Chapel |

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|-----------------|-----------|---|--------|
| Saturday | 8:30 a.m. | Sacred Pause | Online |
| December 7 | | <i>(No other events are scheduled for Saturday)</i> | |

Preaching on Sunday, December 8
 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. • Tom Are Jr.
 2:00 p.m. • Rocky Supinger