

Fourth Presbyterian Church

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 28, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in D Minor Clara Schumann

Prelude and Fugue in G Major Felix Mendelssohn

Introit :: “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” Robert Jackson; arr. Norman J. Clayton

*Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.*

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.† Amen.

*Call to Worship

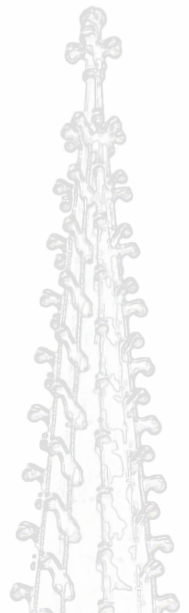
Leader: *Sing aloud to God our strength.*

People: **Shout for joy to the Lord of Life.**

Leader: *Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.*

People: **Glory to God forever.**

All: **Let us worship God!**



**Please rise in body or spirit. †Or “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”*

***Hymn 301** “Let Us Build a House”

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain: all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God’s children dare to seek to dream God’s reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God’s grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *(Refrain)*

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *(Refrain)*

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they’ve known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God’s face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *(Refrain)*

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *(Refrain)*

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

God of justice and love,
we confess that we have not always seen your image in each other.
We have spoken evil of others and pointed fingers in blame.
We have turned away from you and our community,
pursuing instead our own self-interests.
Parched for mercy, we cry out for your help.
Forgive us, God, and teach us your ways,
that we may be renewed like a garden freshly watered. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Welcome and Announcements

Anthem :: “Laudamus te” from *Gloria* Antonio Vivaldi

We praise you, we bless you, we worship and glorify you, O Lord.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 107:1–15

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:† as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson Ephesians 2:11–22

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 351**. “All Who Love And Serve Your City”

All who love and serve your city, all who bear its daily stress,
all who cry for peace and justice, all who curse and all who bless:
In your day of wealth and plenty, wasted work and wasted play,
call to mind the word of Jesus, “You must work while it is day.”
For all days are days of judgment, and the Lord is waiting still,
drawing near a world that spurns him, offering peace from Calvary’s hill.
Risen Lord, shall yet the city be the city of despair?
Come today, our judge, our glory. Be its name “The Lord is there!”

†Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem :: “Blessing” Katie Moran Bart

*May the road rise up to meet you; may the wind be always at your back;
may the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
Until we meet again, my friend, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.*

***Offertory Response** The Hymnal, 717

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

***Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

Generous and loving God, we are so grateful for the very gift of our lives.
For the blessings of each day; for the ability to work; for the capacity to serve;
for the joy of human love, we give you thanks.
As we return to you a portion of our livelihood, may these gifts increase by your Spirit
to be a blessing to all they serve. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 761** “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

Called as partners in Christ’s service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God’s chosen end.

Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring, Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God’s people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission, in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other’s burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
that surround each person’s sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

***Charge and Benediction**

Worshipers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir during the Benediction responses.

Postlude :: Prelude in F Major Fanny Mendelssohn

*We invite you to enjoy the postlude. If you need to leave prior to the end of the postlude,
please do so quietly out of respect for those who choose to stay.*



We are glad to be worshipping 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. With the COVID risk level in Chicago at “medium,” we are going a step further to **not just encourage but to recommend** (*though not require*) **that individuals wear masks while on campus**. This is consistent with city health officials recommending that—in light of the “medium risk” level—individuals wear masks indoors when they are not certain of the vaccination status of others present. As a mask-welcoming—and now recommending—campus, we also remain committed to **ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church**. ✳️ Since some populations are more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others, some programs on our campus choose to require masks. ✳️ Additionally, while we are continuing our practice of not checking vaccination status, **anyone coming on site certifies** by doing so that (a) they do not currently have COVID-19; (b) they are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) they have no reason to quarantine; and (d) they will **wear a mask and practice social distancing if they are not vaccinated** against COVID-19. ✳️ 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.

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 in Buchanan Chapel. **Next Sunday, September 4, our Jazz at Four service will be held outdoors** in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. ✨ 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. ✨ **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.



Following worship, 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. ✨ We also gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** and at 10:00 a.m. for **in-person Morning Prayer** in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (*nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org*). ✨ The Chapel is also open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays; between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays; and between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. For information about the labyrinth, email Rocky Supinger (*rsupinger@fourthchurch.org*). ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing ✨ We invite you to use our **daily devotions**, written by members and staff, as a resource for **meditation and reflection**. These devotions are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions; to receive the meditation via email, simply subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✨ Our **“Rhythm and Word” video series** returns for four weeks on September Wednesdays on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) and by email (*subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail*). ✨ 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



In the pew racks you will find a **Connection Card, which we invite you to fill out** and place in the offering plate. It provides opportunity for you to let us know in what ways you would like to connect with Fourth Church, to update your contact information, and to share prayer concerns.

Those worshipping with us in person are invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** outdoors in the Michigan Avenue courtyard following the service. ✨ **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) and **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch). ✨ Events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. 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 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. ✨ To **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org



The **Prayer Shawl Ministry**, an initiative of the Caring Ministries Team and the Knitting and Crocheting group, combines the love of knitting or crocheting with reaching out to those in need of comfort and solace, providing them with a tangible expression of that caring in the form of a handcrafted shawl or lap blanket. Information about Prayer Shawl Ministry as well as basic **instructions are available** at app.vomo.org/project/prayer-shawl-ministry or by contacting Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ The **Knitting and Crocheting group** will meet on Tuesday, September 6 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B as it does on the first Tuesday of every month. ✨ **Benevolent Guild**, which has counted among its projects making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital, meets on Wednesday, September 7 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B.



Men's Bible Study meets online 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, September 14. For Zoom details for Bible studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

Today is the last day to contribute to the School Supply Drive for Chicago Lights Tutoring.

Supplies can be **purchased online and shipped to the church** using the wish list www.bit.ly/fpcschoolsSupplies22; **monetary gifts** for purchasing supplies can be made at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (select “Congregational Life” and then note “School Supplies” in the comment box).

✳️ **The Chicago Lights Social Service Center** needs men’s casual clothing, particularly pants, jeans, belts, and short sleeve shirts. Items can be dropped off at the church reception desk seven days a week between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. or shipped to the Chicago Lights Social Service Center, 126 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, IL 60611.2014.



The Officer Nominating Committee is gathering **recommendations of individuals to serve in leadership positions** opening in 2023 for Elder, Deacon, Trustee, Nominating Committee, and the Chicago Lights Board. **If you know any Fourth Church members—including yourself!**—who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry, please offer your recommendations via the online form at www.bit.ly/nominating2023 or by using the paper forms in the Narthex, at the rear of the Sanctuary.



TwentiesThirties will gather for **brunch today** at Aster Hall following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Young adults are invited to meet the group at the church reception desk or at the restaurant (*across the street, in the 900 N. Michigan building*). ✳️ **Cornerstones**, a group for those fifty and over, will meet for fellowship and a program on the **recent Fourth Church choir tour to the Middle East**. Register (*required*) for this 5:30 p.m. Friday, September 9 program at www.bit.ly/cornerstones922



Our **Friday Noonday Concert** series moves back indoors this Friday, with a concert cosponsored by Musicians Club of Women and featuring **cellist Ayoun Alexandra Kim**. We hope you will join us at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary or for the livestream on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos).



To purchase **fresh produce** and support the work of students and young adults gaining on-site job skills at the **Chicago Lights Urban Farm**, stop by their Farmstand on Fridays between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. (*444 W. Chicago Ave.*).

Sunday, September 11 is Get Connected Sunday at Fourth Church, a day when we will kick off our autumn opportunities, from Sunday School to youth gatherings to adult education and more. We hope you will mark your calendar and plan to join us!



Sunday morning **youth gatherings resume** on September 11, with Junior High at 10:00 a.m. and Senior High at 11:00 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. ✨ **Sunday School also resumes** on September 11 at 10:00 a.m. ✨ **Eighth-grade Confirmation** begins with a fall retreat at the church September 23–24 and will meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. starting October 2. If your child is interested in participating, please register at www.bit.ly/confirmation2223 by Sunday, September 18.



Adult education classes begin again on Sunday, September 11 as well, with two four-week classes launching that morning in Borwell Dining Room: **“Ukraine and the Orthodox Church”** taught by **Dr. Bruce Rigdon** at 9:00 a.m. and at 11:15 a.m. **“Sound of the Genuine”** taught by the Reverend **Carol Allen**, looking at the power of narratives, as seen in the stories of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Howard Thurman, and a panel of writers from Fourth Church. You can **register online for these classes** at www.bit.ly/ukrainechurch922 and www.bit.ly/genuine922 ✨ The **First Tuesday Book Club** invites you to join them via Zoom on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m. for a conversation about ***Father Abraham’s Many Children*** by Tyler D. Mayfield. In reframing religious diversity through the stories of Cain, Ishmael, and Esau, this book invites us to explore what that reframing might mean for Christians living in a world of religious difference today. To join the conversation, register at www.bit.ly/firsttuesday922 ✨ **Books by Women** invites those who are interested in discussing ***Finding The Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest*** by Suzanne Simard to join them for their monthly gathering on Tuesday, September 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room



Opportunities to make music with Fourth Church resume in September, with **Chancel Choir** beginning rehearsals on Thursday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday, September 11 rehearsals resume for **Cherub and Children’s Choir** (9:30 a.m.); **Youth Choir** (10:45 a.m.); **Handbell Choir** (11:15 a.m.); and **Gospel Choir** (1:30 p.m.). The **Choral Society** will begin rehearsals on Thursday evenings in October in preparation for performing **Gustav Mahler’s Second Symphony “Resurrection”** with **organist David Briggs** on Friday, November 18. To learn more about these volunteer ensembles, see www.fourthchurch.org/music/choirs or contact John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org).

As we continue to return to more on-site programming, Fourth Church and Chicago Lights earlier this summer implemented a new safety and security practice: **anyone present on the Fourth Church campus is required to wear a campus badge while on site**, *except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals*. Anyone who does not already have a campus badge (*except for those exceptions noted above*) will be asked to pick up a single-day badge at the 126 E. Chestnut reception desk.

Reusable badges are being issued by some programs with regular, ongoing weekly programming, such as Chancel Choir. These reusable badges are only available from the staff of those programs, not from the reception desk. Anyone who does not bring their reusable campus badge is able to pick up a single-day badge.

To facilitate this process—as well as for safety and security reasons—**all access to the building is through the 126 E. Chestnut entrance only**, *except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals*. Our ongoing commitment to the safety and security of all on our campus undergirds this practice, which was been under discussion since prior to the pandemic. (*Implementation was set aside while the campus was largely closed.*)

The campus badges and single-entry access point were strongly encouraged by our safety and security consultants and advisors and are also consistent with practices at other large, spread-out, multi-use buildings with spaces and uses like ours. They enable us to know who is in the building throughout the day. (*Previous unlimited access has at times resulted in unknown individuals hiding in corners of the campus.*) They also ensure that should we ever have to evacuate the buildings, we will know who was on site and needs to be accounted for.

As a congregation, **we value radical hospitality and welcome for all**, and we believe one expression of that is our care for the well-being of those who are present with us. **This safety and security practice is but one expression of that**. For those who will be joining us on site as programming on campus continues to expand, we look forward to seeing you!



Beginning this week, **scaffolding will be erected** over the Chestnut Street sidewalk to facilitate tuckpointing and maintenance and repair work on the parapets and dormers of Parish House. The following week scaffolding will be erected over the Delaware entrance to the Gratz Center (*which will remain accessible, except on the day of installation*) to enable tuckpointing and repairs to the stonework of the chimney and surrounding areas. The scaffolding will likely be in place throughout September.

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer, Clarissa Galaviz, Lucy Forster-Smith, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Women's Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE WOMEN'S CHOIR for their musical leadership in today's worship service.

There are many opportunities to get involved in making music at Fourth Church: the Choral Society, Chancel Choir, and Gospel Choir; the Cherub, Children's, and Youth Choirs for ages four and up; and the Handbell Choir and Drum Circle. For more information contact John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org).

OFFERING GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in one of the offering plates at the time of the offering or, after the service, in one of the offering boxes at the exit from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (or via the "To Make a Gift" button at www.fourthchurch.org).



Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor
Associate Pastors
Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation
Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry
Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement
Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship
John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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