



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here. Johann Sebastian Bach
Apparition of the Eternal Church. Olivier Messiaen
Sicilienne J. S. Bach

Introit

“All Shall Be Well” John W. W. Sherer
All shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.

*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: *In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.*

People: We gather, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: *You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant,
ready to listen and respond with head, soul, strength, and mind.*

People: We listen, alive to the Word of God.

Leader: *You call us to be always watchful for your Word,
sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet,
but always dwelling among us.*

People: We watch and wait for the Word of God.



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

***Hymn 311** “Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather”

Here, O Lord, your servants gather, hand we link with hand;
looking toward our Savior’s cross, joined in love we stand.
As we seek the realm of God, we unite to pray:
Jesus, Savior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.

Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands;
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love’s demands.
While in darkness hope appears, calling age and youth:
Jesus, teacher, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.

Nature’s secrets open wide, changes never cease;
where, O where, can weary souls find the source of peace?
Unto all those sore distressed, torn by endless strife:
Jesus, healer, bring your balm, for you are the Life.

Grant, O God, an age renewed, filled with deathless love;
help us as we work and pray; send us from above
truth and courage, faith and power needed in our strife:
Jesus, Savior, be our Way; be our Truth, our Life.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride,
for we see ourselves pure when we are not,
and great when we are small.
We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.
Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Kyrie Hymn 551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

***Exchange of Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ,” and encourage those online to use this time to share your presence with us, using the online form.

Welcome and Announcements

Anthem

“Hail, the True and Only Savior” Thomas Pavlechko
*Hail, the true and only Savior, of the virgin mother born;
sacrificed for our salvation, enduring sorrow, suffering scorn.
On the cross this gentle Savior gave his life to ransom all.
Perfect lamb and full atonement, redeeming us from Adam’s fall.
Holy Jesus, blessed Jesus, Son of Mary, anointed one;
Jesus, holy Jesus, come now, blessed Jesus. Amen.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16

***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 John 14:1–14

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon :: “I Believe . . . in God, the Father Almighty” Shannon Kershner

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

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 494.** “Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of all,
from the best bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to heed thy call.
Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; thou savest those that on thee call;
to them that seek thee thou art good, to them that find thee, all in all.
We taste thee, O thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still;
we drink of thee, the fountainhead, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.
Our restless spirits yearn for thee, where'er our changeful lot is cast,
glad when thy gracious smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.
O Jesus, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright.
O chase the night of sin away; shed o'er the world thy holy light.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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 :: "Agnus Dei" Karl Jenkins

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, grant us peace.

*Offertory Response Hymn 224, verse 4

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
 love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Prayer of Dedication *(unison)*

Compassionate God,
 we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor.
Receive the offering of our lives, and feed us with your grace,
 that in the midst of death all creation might feast
 on your unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 724.** “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

***Charge and Benediction**

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

Postlude

Out of the Depths. Martin Luther/arr. Carl Phillip Emanuel Bach

News and Opportunities

March 5–11, 2023



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. 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 multiple podcast platforms and at www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts ✳️ You can also receive the previous Sunday’s **sermon text by email** by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons ✳️ Available by podcast as well is Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger’s **“Bible Top Ten,”** a lively, informative, and occasionally funny podcast about the Bible as explored through a rotating series of top ten lists.

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

We ask all those who are worshipping with us to **please fill out an information form so we might know you are here** and to ensure we have current contact information. Those worshipping with us online will find **a link to the online form** included in the descriptive text below the video (*if you are viewing full screen, you will need to briefly exit full-screen view to see the description and link*); a QR code is also displayed during the “Welcome and Announcements” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form. Those worshipping with us in person are asked to use the **information pads in the pews**, passing them down the pew so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following the service.



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. ✨ **Children** are always welcome in worship. **If you need to step out to comfort your child**, the Hospitality Suite, located on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is available as a quiet space for families where the worship service is livestreamed. During the morning service **nursery care** is also 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.



Following worship, a **pipe organ tour** begins at 11:15 a.m. at the front of the Sanctuary. ✨ Also 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 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*). ✨ 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.).

Each Sunday during Lent we are extinguishing a candle at the front of the Sanctuary. 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.



Also during Lent our worship includes the Exchange of Peace. In the Reformed tradition this follows the Declaration of Pardon and is a response to God’s forgiveness. This exchange of signs and words of unity and of Christ’s peace is an ancient greeting of siblings in Christ. It is a time when we extend to one another what we ourselves have received from God in Christ. You might simply say “The peace of Christ be with you” or “Peace be with you,” the greeting of Jesus Christ to his disciples after his resurrection. By exchanging the Peace of Christ to one another, we witness to God’s reconciling love.



Today we continue the sermon series “I believe . . .”—an opportunity for us to take **a closer look at the Apostles’ Creed**, which we use as one of our Affirmations of Faith. If you have ever wondered why we often say this ancient creed in worship, have found yourself pausing after stating “I believe,” or maybe have at times thought that perhaps you did not believe all of the phrases, we hope you will join us in worship this Lent and Eastertide as we explore what we believe together.



Those worshipping in person are invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** in Anderson Hall and the Commons 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 online at app.vomo.org/project/coffeehour to be a **Cookie Table Host, Server, or Hospitality Coordinator**. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Beginning today, **Tom Dozeman is teaching a class on “The Ancestors in Genesis,”** exploring the themes of identity that emerge—both for ancient Israel and for contemporary readers—in the three cycles of stories about Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar; Isaac and Rebekah; and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel. In looking at these stories, which are complex and hardly heroic, we will also examine the aim of the biblical authors in composing the literature and different ways in which readers have found identity in the stories. The class meets in person only on Sundays, March 5–19 in Borwell Dining Room.

The season of Lent calls Christians to embrace the faith journey by reflecting upon and deepening their relationship with God and by acting upon their Christian beliefs. We are invited to thoughtfully take up the gifts of faith—worship, study, prayer, and service—in these weeks in preparation for Holy Week and Christ’s journey to the cross. ✨ Our **daily Lenten devotions** (www.fourthchurch.org/devotions) are a resource for reflection during this season. To receive these meditations daily via email, simply subscribe online at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✨ Also available as a resource is our **Lenten “Rhythm and Word” video series**. These brief videos (*approximately ten minutes each*) have been **created by Rocky Supinger and the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet** and weave together scripture, prayer, and music. A new video is released on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) each Lenten Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. To receive them by email, sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail ✨ A quiet **candlelit Lenten Taizé service**—a contemplative time of meditative song, silent reflection, and prayer for peace, reconciliation, and unity—will be held on Friday evening, March 24 at 7:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.



Opportunities to engage in Bible study include **Men’s Bible Study**, which meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and **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 and next meets this Wednesday, March 8. For Zoom details for either Bible study, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



You are invited to **remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward the Easter flowers** that will decorate the Sanctuary and Buchanan Chapel. A list of individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Contributions can be made online at www.bit.ly/fpcgift and must be received by Sunday, March 26 for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, contact Gloria Vicente (gvicente@fourthchurch.org; 312.252.3571).



Nancy Benson-Nicol and Lucy Forster-Smith will be leading a **Ghost Ranch Pilgrimage of Faith and Learning this May 15–19** in Abiquiu, New Mexico. Mornings will be spent in conversation with a speaker; there will be hiking and exploration of the area in the afternoon; and evenings will offer time together as a group with guided conversations and worship. To express interest and learn more, complete the simple “Expression of Interest” form at www.bit.ly/ghostranchinterest23; an application, which will be due March 15, will be available in the coming days. ✨ 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).

The **Knitting and Crocheting** group will meet this Tuesday, March 7 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5G and on Sunday, March 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5B. ✨ **Benevolent Guild** meets this Wednesday, March 8 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. Sewing experience is not required. ✨ **Books by Women** will discuss ***Oh William!* by Elizabeth Strout** on Tuesday, March 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. ✨ **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 fourthchurch.org/calendar



The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is **in need of paper grocery bags and** heavy plastic bags, large shopping bags, backpacks, suitcases, duffel bags, blankets, sleeping bags, athletic shoes (*sizes 6–12*), men's sweatpants (*S, M, L*), and men's pants or jeans (*sizes 30–38*). Items can be dropped off at the reception desk (*enter at 126 E. Chestnut*) between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and Sundays.



Shannon Kershner will be one of three female faith leaders speaking this Friday evening, March 10 at Parker's 9th Annual **International Women's Day Celebration** being held at the Harris Center (*preregistration required: www.bit.ly/3J8z7qm*) and via Zoom (*www.bit.ly/3mkhMBY*).



Those who are interested in **becoming a member of Fourth Church** are invited to a one-session **Inquirers' Class** on Sunday, March 19 from 11:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Room 5F (*register online at www.bit.ly/inquirers323*). For more information, email member@fourthchurch.org



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.



Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday, March 12. Be sure to set your clocks ahead an hour as we “spring forward”: we don't want to start worship without you!

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Marsha Heizer, Joseph L. Morrow, Shannon Kershner

The Music Today

Henry Turner, alto saxophone

The Chancel Choir

The Morning Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

WE ARE GRATEFUL to Henry Turner of Fourth Church Youth for sharing his musical gifts today.

THE COMPOSER OF THIS MORNING'S FIRST ANTHEM, Thomas Pavlechko (b. 1962) comes from a Ukrainian family of pianists, accordionists, and folk dancers. He became a polka dancer at the age of four, a pianist at six, a tuba player at eleven, and an organist at twelve. After earning degrees in organ, he pursued a career in church music and serves at Christ the King Catholic Church in Dallas.

OFFERING GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in an offering plate at the time of the offering or, after the service, in one of the offering boxes at the exits. Gifts also can be given at www.fourthchurch.org/give ✨ Throughout Lent we are also receiving a One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. "One Great Hour of Sharing" gifts can be designated "One Great Hour of Sharing" (OGHS) when giving online or by writing that designation on the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

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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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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