



# Fourth Presbyterian Church

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

May 21, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

- Pavane and Gaillarde . . . . . Claude Gervaise/arr. Charles Schuchat
- Giga . . . . . Marco Enrico Bossi
- Aria from *The Goldberg Variations* . . . . . Johann Sebastian Bach/arr. Maria Fuller
- Festive Flutes . . . . . Everett Titcomb
- Allegro . . . . . Tylman Susato/arr. C. Schuchat

### Introit

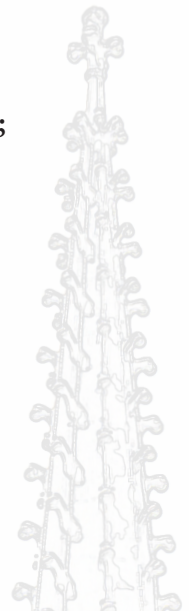
“Modimo re boka wena” . . . . . Traditional Sotho hymn/arr. Mollie Stone  
*Lord, we thank you; all things are created by you.*

### \*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 to God.*
- People: Sing praises to God’s name.
- Leader: *Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.*
- People: Sing praises to the Lord.
- Leader: *Let us worship God.*




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

**\*Hymn 81.** . . . . . “Glorious Things of You Are Spoken”

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.  
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.  
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation’s walls surrounded, thou may’st smile at all thy foes.  
Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.  
See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage?  
Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

We confess, O God, that too often we have our head in the clouds.  
We are more comfortable with dreaming of the world as we wish it would be  
instead of working with you to bring that wish to reality.  
At times we find it difficult to claim the power you have given us.  
Surely you have others more capable of being your witnesses?  
And so we continue to gaze heavenwards.  
Jolt us out of our complacency, O God.  
Remind us we have work to do with you.  
Give us your energy, courage, and vision to be your witnesses to the end of the earth. Amen.

**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**

**Ministry Minute**

**Anthem**

“Locus iste a Deo factus est” . . . . . Anton Bruckner  
*This place was made by God; it is a priceless mystery, without reproof.*

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Listening for the Word

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson** . . . . . Isaiah 25:6–9

**\*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.

**Second Lesson** . . . . . Revelation 21:1–6a

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** . . . . . Nanette Sawyer

*“I believe . . . in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.”*

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

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## Responding to the Word

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**\*Hymn 819** . . . . . “Be Still, My Soul”

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.  
Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future surely as the past.  
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know  
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord;  
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

**\*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**

“Come Dwell in Solomon’s Walls” . . . . . Z. Randall Stroope  
*When the final timber lay against the measured stones, with the doorposts in their place overlaid with gold. And then the Lord appeared to Solomon, blessing all the house, also the temple of the ark of God, pure and whole. Come dwell in Solomon’s walls; come and dwell in the house of the Lord. Where the humble bow down, seeking wisdom and strength, for the Lord dwells within and heals their land. Come dwell in Solomon’s walls; come and dwell in the house of the Lord. Where wisdom and righteousness, justice and holiness, join at the feet of God. When the people of this house kneel and humbly pray; when they turn from dark to light and your will obey, O Lord of heaven and Lord of earth, show favor on this house, and heal, restore, forgive, and bless, Lord, we pray. Come dwell in Solomon’s walls; come and dwell in the house of the Lord.*

**\*Offertory Response** . . . . . Hymn 251, verse 1

Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.  
For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.  
Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.  
Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

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

O God, for the life you have given to us; for your love made known.  
For the gifts of time and treasure, may your gracious life be shown.  
Your wonders astound us, and your love arises with bounty.  
For all of this and so much more, we give you thanks. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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**\*Hymn 65** . . . . . “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;  
I will ever give to thee.

**\*Charge and Benediction**

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

**Postlude**

Air for the Trumpets . . . . . J. S. Bach /arr. Michael Allen



**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.



**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](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. ✿ **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the livestreamed service.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. ✿ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. Access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and 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 worship 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.

**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](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)

We ask all who are worshipping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information form**, which also ensures we have current contact information for you. Those worshipping with us via livestream will find **a link to the online form—which takes only 20 seconds to complete!**—included in the descriptive text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); 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. ✨ Those worshipping in person are also invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** in Anderson Hall and the Commons following 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](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).



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](mailto:nbenson-nicol@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 labyrinth details, email Rocky Supinger ([rsupinger@fourthchurch.org](mailto: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](https://facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing) on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and also Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



To **talk to a pastor or notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org); if the situation 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](mailto:caringministries@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.



**If you have not yet contributed a card, note, or letter for Shannon Kershner**, thanking her for her ministry among us and wishing her well in her new call to Atlanta's Central Presbyterian Church, **please take a moment to do so today** so we might add them to the Memory Box we will present to Shannon next Sunday. These private expressions of gratitude, memories, and well wishes can be **mailed** to the church office (*Fourth Presbyterian Church, Attn. Memory Box, 126 E. Chestnut, Chicago, IL 60611.2014*), **dropped off** at the church reception desk or in Coffee Hour, or **emailed** to [memorybox@fourthchurch.org](mailto:memorybox@fourthchurch.org).



**Shannon's last Sunday at Fourth Church will be next Sunday, May 28.** She will lead us in worship that morning at 10:00 a.m. Immediately following that service we will hold a **congregational meeting**, which Session has called for the purpose of formally dissolving the pastoral relationship between Shannon and Fourth Church. The meeting will be both in person in the Sanctuary and livestreamed. Afterwards we will gather in Anderson Hall and the Commons for a festive **reception honoring Shannon**. We hope you will join us for this time of expressing gratitude and well wishes to her and her family as they prepare for the move to Atlanta.



**The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC)**, which has responsibility for identifying and recommending an Interim Pastor candidate, has begun their work. The Interim Pastor, who will be hired by Session, will not be our next Senior Pastor. Rather they will be **someone to guide us during the year or more when we are searching for the next Pastor**. The Interim Pastor will help us do the kind of preparatory work that is important in advance of welcoming a new leader. ✨ To ensure you **receive updates about this transition season**, be sure to subscribe to the Fourth Church email newsletter if you do not already receive it. **Sign up at [www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)** or send your email address to [news@fourthchurch.org](mailto:news@fourthchurch.org) ✨ **If you have questions or comments** about the transition, please email them to [transition@fourthchurch.org](mailto:transition@fourthchurch.org); you can also **find transition updates and information** at [www.fourthchurch.org/transition](http://www.fourthchurch.org/transition)



Robert Crouch and Jeff Doane are leading today's adult education class discussing ***Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times*** by **Dr. Otis Moss III** at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room (*in person only*). ✨ **Men's Bible Study** meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom. For details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)) ✨ The **"Bible Top Ten" podcast** ([www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts](http://www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts)) hosted by Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger explores the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists.

**Today is Dedication Commemoration Sunday at Fourth Church**, declared by Pastor John Timothy Stone in 1914 to be observed on the third Sunday of each May. On Sunday, May 10, 1914, the Fourth Church congregation worshiped in the Michigan Avenue Sanctuary for the first time, having moved from its smaller facility on Rush at Superior. A series of dedicatory services were held the remainder of that week, and later that month, the new Sanctuary and Parish House buildings were host to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, including the assembly's communion service attended by more than 1,800 worshipers. It was on our centennial celebration of this anniversary, in 2014, that Shannon Kershner first preached at Fourth Church as our then newly called Pastor. ✨ **The generations that have gone before us left a vibrant legacy**, not only in the bricks and mortar of the Sanctuary and Parish House buildings but also in the financial foundation from which we carry forth our ministry. It was the \$25,000 that remained after the completion of the 1914 building project that began the Fourth Church endowment fund. Just as we carry on the work of the church today, so too we join in the **commitment to passing on the legacy of that ministry for future generations**. If you have planned or are considering a legacy gift to Fourth Church or Chicago Lights as part of your will, we invite you to **learn more about the Legacy Society** by visiting [www.fourthchurch.org/giving/legacy](http://www.fourthchurch.org/giving/legacy) or contacting Katy Frey Bever ([kbever@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kbever@fourthchurch.org)).



**Today LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome (WOW)** gathers for brunch. Those who would like to join in this time of fellowship are invited to meet at the reception desk following worship to walk together to a nearby restaurant. ✨ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets today at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5B and on Tuesday, May 23 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ **Cornerstones**, a fellowship group of those fifty and over, will meet for dinner and a program on Friday evening, June 2 in Borwell Dining Room. **Jeanne Bishop will be present to speak on "Writing about Mercy,"** as she talks about the books she has written and is currently writing. Register (*required*) at [www.bit.ly/cornerstones623](http://www.bit.ly/cornerstones623) ✨ 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](http://www.fourthchurch.org)). ✨ Events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at [fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://fourthchurch.org/calendar)



**Those graduating from eighth grade, high school, college, or a graduate or professional program** in 2023 are asked to email their names to Katie Patterson ([kpatterson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kpatterson@fourthchurch.org)) no later than next Sunday, May 28. Graduate names received by May 28 will appear in the worship bulletin on June 4, which is **Baccalaureate Sunday** at Fourth Church.

**This evening enjoy the music of the Fourth Church Choral Society and St. James Cathedral choirs** as they present “Orb and Sceptre: Music for the Coronation” at 6:30 p.m. at St. James Cathedral (65 E. Huron). The combined choirs will perform celebrative works by Handel, Parry, and Vaughan Williams. ✨ Our free **Friday Noonday Concert series** features our Organist John Sherer this Friday, May 26 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and livestreamed on YouTube ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)).



A new ten-minute video in our **“Rhythm and Word” video series led by Joe Morrow and drawing on the poetry of Mary Oliver** is released on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)) each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.; sign up at [www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail) to receive the videos by email. ✨ Our **daily devotions** ([fourthchurch.org/devotions](http://fourthchurch.org/devotions)), written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available as a resource for your **personal meditation and prayer**. To receive them by email, subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)



On Tuesday, May 30 Fourth Church will cohost **“Our Tears Are the Same Color”** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. In this evening of dialogue and understanding, Robi Damelin and Laila Aksheikh, **bereaved Palestinian and Israeli mothers**, will share their stories of loss and their journey to peace.



**The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in need of the following items**, which can be dropped off at the church reception desk (*enter at 126 E. Chestnut*) on weekdays and Sundays between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. **Men’s clothing:** jeans/casual pants/khakis (*sizes 30–40*), sweatshirts/hoodies (*sizes S–3XL*), and T-shirts (*sizes S–3XL*). **Men’s and women’s items:** spring coats (*all sizes*), sneakers/athletic shoes (*all sizes*), and new underwear (*sizes S–2XL*). **Carrying items:** backpacks, suitcases, push or pull roller bags, and large cloth bags/sturdy shopping bags.



**This afternoon’s Jazz at Four service will be our last afternoon worship service until after Labor Day.** During the upcoming summer months, a team will be at work preparing to relaunch our afternoon service when it **resumes on Sunday, September 10.**



**After Labor Day we will be adding a second Sunday morning worship service.** Beginning Sunday, September 10, we will be worshipping at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Until then, and through the summer, we will continue to worship at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.

## Worship Leaders

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Nancy Benson-Nicol, MeShellai McWilliams, Lucy Forster-Smith, Nanette Sawyer

## The Music Today

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Tower Brass; Charles Schuchat, Artistic Director

The Drum Circle; John Doty, Director

The Morning Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

## Worship Notes

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THIS MORNING'S INTROIT, "Modimo re boka wena," was sung by the Fourth Church Touring Choir on its 2018 trip to South Africa. It was orally taught to the choir by Chicago musician Mollie Stone, who specializes in the music of South Africa.

TODAY WE CONCLUDE THE SERMON SERIES "I believe . . ."—our invitation to take a closer look at the Apostles' Creed, one of our Affirmations of Faith, and to explore what we believe together.

OFFERING GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in one of the offering plates, which will be passed 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](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online)

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**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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