



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 11, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Variations on “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” John Knowles Paine

Introit

“O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips” George Guest

O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us; O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory 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.

Praise ye the Lord; the Lord’s name be praised.

*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

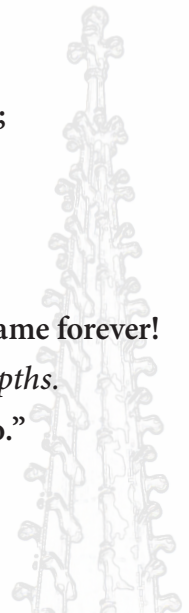
Leader: *People of God, let us gather to worship and praise God’s name.*

People: I give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart. I will glorify your name forever!

Leader: *For great is God’s steadfast love for us. God has delivered us from the depths.*

People: God says, “Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go.”

Leader: *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:
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:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

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

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

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

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Infinite God,
you have set us in your creation, full of wonder and surprises.
You whisper to us that you made humanity in your image,
 an image too vast to be contained in one race, gender, culture, or creed.
Yet we try to limit you.
We try to force your expansive self into a form we find familiar.
We diminish you into an idol we hold to comfort ourselves.
We distance ourselves from you as we dismiss the experiences of others.
Forgive us.
Open our hearts as wide as your own.
Challenge us with the truth of your image,
 reflected in bodies and spirits we never imagined could be yours. 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

The Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise” Laura Perkett
*Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit’s sign, with this water God has sealed
you unto love and grace divine. Child of love, our love’s expression, love’s creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits; into joy and laughter lead. Child of joy, our dearest treasure,
God’s you are, from God you came. Back to God we humbly give you: live as one who bears
Christ’s name. Child of God, your loving parent, learn to listen for God’s call. Grow to laugh and
sing and worship; trust and love God more than all.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 56:1–8

*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 Matthew 13:54–58

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Slats Toole

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 318** “In Christ There Is No East or West”

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

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

In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.
We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

(continued on facing page)

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

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. . . .

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. . . .

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. . . .

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

"We Wait for Thy Loving-Kindness, O God" Stephen Elvey
We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple.

***Offertory Response** Hymn 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*)

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives.
Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity and our reluctance.
Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known,
that our lives might show forth your glory,
for we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 297** “In Christ Called to Baptize”

In Christ called to baptize, we witness to grace
and gather a people from each land and race.
In deep, flowing waters, we share in Christ’s death,
then, rising to new life, give thanks with each breath.

In Christ called to banquet, one table we share,
a haven of welcome, a circle of care.
Although we are many, we share in one bread.
One cup of thanksgiving proclaims Christ, our head.

In Christ called to witness, by grace we will preach
the life-giving gospel; God’s love we will teach.
By grace may our living give proof to our praise
in costly compassion reflecting Christ’s ways.

Unite us, anoint us, O Spirit of love,
for you are within us, around us, above.
Equip us for service with gifts you bestow.
In Christ is our calling. In Christ may we grow.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Music for a Festival. Calvin Hampton

Baptized in Today's Service

Charlotte Blake Humphrey, child of Brian and Chelsea Humphrey

Easton Jeffrey Maurer, child of Andrew and Katie Maurer

Everly Grace Maurer, child of Andrew and Katie Maurer

Henry Riis Proegler, child of Michael and Margaret Proegler

Aaron Patrick Schulz, child of Nathan Schulz and Laura Perkett

Gabby Singleton, child of Will Singleton and Angela Giles

Parker Margaret Whittington, child of Michael and Lauren Whittington

News and Opportunities

June 11–17, 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.



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 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 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. ✧ In the Sanctuary **worship can be heard** through the “T” or “T-coil” setting of hearing aids. ✧ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.



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 available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. ✧ **Sunday School** meets at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth floor as well.

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 who are worshipping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information form.**

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 worship.



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.



Following worship a **pipe organ tour** begins at the front of the Sanctuary. ✨ Also following the service **Deacons are available in Stone Chapel** (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) to pray with those 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). ✨ 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). ✨ Our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being hosts virtually a **Sacred Pause time of meditation** at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and also on 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; 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 ✨ **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.

Today we welcome as our guest preacher Mx. Slats Toole, Co-Moderator of the board of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians. They hold a Master of Divinity and Certificate in Theology, Women, and Gender from Princeton Theological Seminary. Slats is a published author and has led workshops on expansive language and queer theology (with a particular emphasis on gender identity) throughout the US and Canada. Slats' work centers around creating space in the church where all are welcomed, embraced, and loved. ✨ **The Covenant Network**, of which Slats is Co-Moderator, works for an equity still not fully realized for LGBTQIA+ people in church and society. Fourth Church has had a consistent presence on the Covenant Network board—on which Senior Associate Pastor Lucy Forster-Smith currently serves—since John M. Buchanan was one of the founding co-moderators of the group in 1997.



Walk with Fourth Church and the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches in the annual Chicago Pride Parade! This year the parade takes place at noon on Sunday, June 25. For details about when and where to meet on the day of the parade, contact Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ The **Pride flag signs and rainbow ribbons** outside Fourth Church, along Michigan Avenue, are public witness to the inclusive hospitality we extend to all and to our welcome of all of God's children into the life of the church.



We are in need of Sunday morning Cookie Table Hosts, Servers, and Hospitality Coordinators. If you are able to help, please sign up at app.vomo.org/project/coffeehour or email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ You can also **explore other volunteer opportunities** by visiting VOMO, our Volunteer Ministry software platform, at www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers or by contacting Director of Volunteer Ministry Robert Crouch (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org; 312.981.3382).



Our June "Rhythm and Word" video series, led by Rocky Supinger, offers ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer focusing on Jesus' public connections with people. A new video is released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos); sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail to receive the videos by email. ✨ Our **daily devotions** (fourthchurch.org/devotions) are available as a **resource for your personal meditation and prayer**. To receive them by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✨ **Men's Bible Study** meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom and Women's Horizons Bible Study meets on Wednesday, June 14 also via Zoom. For times and Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

If you are a Fourth Church member and have not done so already, please take a few moments to **complete the Member Census form mailed to member homes and return it by June 15** to the church. Your doing so will help in our ongoing effort to paint the picture of who Fourth Church is today and provide information that will help us strengthen connections in our community!



Books by Women will discuss *Fresh Water for Flowers* by Valérie Perrin this Tuesday, June 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. * **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome (WOW) Brunch** will take place following worship next Sunday, June 18 at a nearby restaurant. All who would like to take part in this time of fellowship are invited to meet at the church reception desk following the June 18 service to walk to brunch together. * **Women at Fourth** will gather for “**Paint and Sip**” on Thursday, June 22 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. Space is limited, and registration is required by Friday, June 16 at www.bit.ly/waf62023 or this evening of fun and fellowship that includes being professionally led in painting a one-of-a-kind “masterpiece.” * **Knitting and Crocheting** meets Tuesday, June 27 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). * For **additional ways to connect** with one another and Fourth Church, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources and opportunities**, 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



Our **free Friday Noonday Concert series** features our **Organ Scholar Michael Rees** this Friday, June 16 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and livestreamed on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). * Beginning July 7, the Noonday concerts will move outdoors! Come enjoy our **Music by the Fountain** series on Fridays during July and August.



The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC), which has responsibility for identifying and recommending an Interim Pastor candidate, is hard at 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. You can **read about the IPNC work and find the latest transition updates** at fourthchurch.org/transition * **If you have questions or comments** about the transition, please email them to transition@fourthchurch.org

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer, Ed Miller, Slats Toole

The Music Today

The Women's Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

THE ANTHEM "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" was composed by Morning Choir member Laura Perkett for this Baptism Sunday, when those baptized include Aaron Schulz, child of Laura Perkett and Nathan Schulz. The text, written by Ronald S. Cole-Turner in 1980, addresses the newly baptized by beginning each stanza with a facet of a child's identity, culminating in "child of God."

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

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

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship and the Prayer of Dedication are adapted from Kimberly Bracken Long in *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A*, Volume 2: Trinity Sunday through Reign of Christ. © Westminster John Knox Press. "Let Us Build a House" text © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.; music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc. "In Christ Called to Baptize" text © 1995 The Pilgrim Press. OneLicense.net. License A-712340. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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