

# News and Opportunities

April 23–29, 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](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.



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](http://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) ✳️ Available by podcast as well is Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger's "**Bible Top Ten**," a podcast exploring the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists. ✳️ **Men's Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and **Women's Bible Study** offers two Zoom gathering times (12:00 and 6:30 p.m.) this Wednesday, April 26. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)).

**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. 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 (*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.



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, and to explore what we believe together. ✨ 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 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.



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*). ✨ 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*). ✨ To **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org)

As was announced in a congregational letter this past week, **Shannon Kershner has accepted the call to be pastor of Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta.** Her last Sunday at Fourth Church will be **Sunday, May 28**, when we will have opportunity to express our gratitude and well wishes to Shannon and her family in a reception following the 10:00 a.m. service of worship. ✨ Notes, letters, memories, and photos for Shannon, thanking her for her ministry among us and wishing her well in her new call, are being collected through May 21. They can be mailed to the church (*Attn. Memory Box*), emailed to [memorybox@fourthchurch.org](mailto:memorybox@fourthchurch.org), or dropped off at the church reception desk; these **private expressions of gratitude, shared memories, and well wishes will be presented to Shannon in a memory box** on Sunday, May 28.



**If you did not receive the email announcement from Shannon last Sunday** (*which you can read on our website at [www.bit.ly/sjkletter](http://www.bit.ly/sjkletter)*), we encourage you to subscribe to the Fourth Church email newsletter! We don't want you to miss out on updates about our honoring Shannon or about his time of transition for Fourth Church. The leadership of this congregation is hard at work planning for this season, and we want to make sure you see the latest information. To subscribe, **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)**



Those worshipping in person are invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** in Anderson Hall and the Commons following the service. ✨ Those who are interested in being a **welcoming presence at Coffee Hour** are encouraged to sign up online at [app.vomo.org/project/coffeehour](http://app.vomo.org/project/coffeehour) to be a **Cookie Table Host, Server, or Hospitality Coordinator.** ✨ Those interested in **serving as a Youth Ministry Leader** can learn more at [www.bit.ly/youthleaders2324](http://www.bit.ly/youthleaders2324) ✨ **Explore other volunteer opportunities** by visiting [www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers) or by contacting Robert Crouch (*312.981.3382; [rcrouch@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rcrouch@fourthchurch.org)*), Director of Volunteer Ministry.



The **World Mission and Social Justice Council** invites you to join them in **walking for hunger** with community partner Breakthrough Urban Ministries on Saturday, April 29. To learn more about Breakthrough's work partnering with people to build connections, develop skills, and open doors of opportunity in Garfield Park or **to sign up for the walk**, visit [www.bit.ly/hungerwalk423](http://www.bit.ly/hungerwalk423)



**Borwell Dining Room and some other Gratz Center spaces are temporarily closed** as we do some spring refreshing of those rooms, which have seen much use since we opened the Gratz Center in 2012!

The **“Aging and Spirituality”** class taught by Annette Mileski and HD Mitchell meets today at 11:15 a.m. in Room 5F and via Zoom. For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/aeaging](http://www.bit.ly/aeaging) ✨ A new class, led by Robert Crouch and Jeff Doane, will begin on Sunday, May 7 at 11:15 a.m. and will discuss the latest book by **Dr. Otis Moss III, *Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times***. This class will be in person only; register at [www.bit.ly/aedancingdarkness](http://www.bit.ly/aedancingdarkness)



**A new ten-minute video in our “Rhythm and Word” video series led by Shannon Kershner** is released on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)) each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.; to receive the videos by email, sign up at [www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail) ✨ 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)



**Cornerstones** will be hosting an **intergenerational Deep Listening Dinner** on the evening of May 5 in Borwell Dining Room, with conversations centered around the theme of generations. There is no charge for the meal, to which all are invited; however, seating is limited to seventy-two people and thus advance registration is required at [www.bit.ly/cornerstones523](http://www.bit.ly/cornerstones523). ✨ **Women at Fourth** will gather via Zoom this Thursday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m. for a program on the **Chicago Children’s Advocacy Center**. For the Zoom link, register at [www.bit.ly/wafpc423](http://www.bit.ly/wafpc423) ✨ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets this Tuesday, April 25 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom; for Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto: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**, 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)



The **Fourth Church Choral Society** will present a concert on May 21 with St. James Cathedral singers. **All who enjoy singing** are invited to Thursday rehearsals at 7:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. ✨ Our **free Friday Noonday Concert series** will feature our **Organist John Sherer** this Friday, April 28 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and on YouTube ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)).



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.