

News and Opportunities

May 28–June 3, 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 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. Children up through second grade are welcome in Room 4D during worship this morning. (*Sunday School does not meet today but will resume next Sunday, June 4 at 10:00 a.m.*) ✳️ **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

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, which today will begin **following the congregational meeting.**



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 the congregational meeting, a **pipe organ tour** begins at the front of the Sanctuary. ✨ Also following the meeting, **Deacons will be 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). ✨ **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.).



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 is the Day of Pentecost, which celebrates the birth of the church and the giving of the Holy Spirit to the disciples of Jesus. Red, which is the liturgical color for the day, symbolizes the pentecostal fire of the Holy Spirit, and our processional ribbons evoke the wind from heaven, as described in the Acts of the Apostles. In the Jewish tradition, Pentecost (for “fifty” days after Passover) is a harvest festival of first fruits that also celebrates the giving of the Torah, or Hebrew law. The banners hanging in the Sanctuary present Pentecost themes, including creation, Hebrew law, harvest, Passover, and the tongues of fire.



Shannon Kershner’s last Sunday as Pastor at Fourth Church is today. Immediately following worship 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 at www.bit.ly/fpcvideos. (*After the livestream of worship concludes, a new livestream will start for the meeting.*) 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 Shannon and her family as they prepare for the move to Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta!



Today is the last day to submit names of those graduating from eighth grade, high school, college, or a graduate or professional program in 2023. Graduate names emailed to Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org) by the end of today will appear in the worship bulletin for next Sunday, June 4, which is **Baccalaureate Sunday** at Fourth Church.



This 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.



A new ten-minute video in our weekly **“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) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.; sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail to receive the videos by email. ✨ Our **daily devotions** (fourthchurch.org/devotions) are also available by email: subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ✨ **Men’s Bible Study** meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

The church office is closed this Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.



Cornerstones, a fellowship group of those fifty and over, will meet for dinner and a program this 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 * **Knitting and Crocheting** meets on Tuesday, June 6 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. * **Vacation Bible School** for children three years old through fifth grade will take place Monday–Wednesday, **June 12–14**, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Register (*required*) at www.bit.ly/fpcvbs2023 by Wednesday, May 31. * 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



On Sunday, June 11 we will welcome as our guest preacher Mx. Slats Toole. They hold Master of Divinity and Certificate in Theology, Women, and Gender from Princeton Theological Seminary and currently serve as co-moderator of the board of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians. 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 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. * **If you have questions or comments** about the transition, please email them to transition@fourthchurch.org; you can also **find updates and information** at www.fourthchurch.org/transition



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. Also on September 10 our afternoon service, which is currently taking a summer break, will resume. Until then, and **through the summer, we will continue to worship at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.**