

# You are invited!

November 12–18, 2023



*The following pages are our invitation to you—an invitation to explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church as well as an invitation to connect with one another, our staff, and the varied resources available to you here. We hope you will spend a few minutes looking over the opportunities and identifying those that interest you!*

## Welcome!

**We are glad to be worshipping with you today** and invite you to continue 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. ✨ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation!

## Joining us online

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we **livestream our 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services** on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)), where they can be viewed any time after the services begin. (*For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see [fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning](http://fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning)*) ✨ Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

## Joining us in person

If you like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. ✨ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to each service. There are three fully accessible entrances, without steps, that lead to the Sanctuary: on Michigan Avenue (*through the glass Loggia doors between the courtyard and the main Sanctuary doors*); at 126 E. Chestnut; and at 115 E. Delaware. ✨ **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours (*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. ✨ **Worship can be heard** through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids. ✨ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.

## Joining us with children

**Children** are always welcome in worship! **If you need to step out to comfort your child**, the Hospitality Suite, on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed. During the morning services **nursery care** is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center for infants through two-year-olds.

## Let us know you're worshipping with us!

Please 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.

## Worship podcasts and sermon text

During the week the Sunday morning **service and sermon is available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at [fourthchurch.org/podcasts](http://fourthchurch.org/podcasts) ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday morning's **sermon text** ([fourthchurch.org/sermons](http://fourthchurch.org/sermons)) **by email** by subscribing at [www.bit.ly/fpcsermons](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).

## Prayer and meditation

Those who would like to **offer individual prayers of praise or concern with a Deacon today** are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) following the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services. ✨ On Wednesdays we gather 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)). ✨ Buchanan Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is offered 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 Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).

## Resources for personal reflection

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) ✨ Our **November “Rhythm and Word” video series** offers ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer for viewing at home. This month **Lucy Forster-Smith is guiding our reflections on giving thanks**. A new video is released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on YouTube, where you can also view videos from previous series. To receive the videos by email, sign up at [www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail); you can also **subscribe to our YouTube channel** ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos))

**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)

## Today's opportunities

Those worshipping in person are encouraged to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** in Anderson Hall and the Commons following worship, where there is also opportunity to learn about ways to get connected with one another and Fourth Church. Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by the World Mission Social Justice Council **in celebration of the one-year anniversary of Fourth Church's Refugee One Family.** (See page 9 for more about our refugee partnership.) ✨ A **Long-Range Planning town hall** will be held today at 10:45 a.m. via Zoom at [www.bit.ly/longrange1112](http://www.bit.ly/longrange1112) (or see [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org) for the link). ✨ **"Reformed and Always Being Reformed"** begins today at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room (*in person only*). In this two-week Adult Education class, **Jeff Doane** will lead us in comparing selections from Reformation-era Confessions with portions of A Brief Statement of Faith. ✨ **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome (WOW)** meets for pizza and games at 12:00 p.m. today in the Manse off of Parish House. (*Stop by the reception desk for directions.*) ✨ **Eighth-grade Confirmation** meets at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5G. **Junior High (grades 6–7)** gathers at 9:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, and at 11:00 a.m. **Senior High** also meets in the Bumpus Room. ✨ **Sunday School** for children from three years old to fifth grade meets at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. ✨ Rehearsing on Sundays are **Children's Choir (kindergarten–grade 5)** at 9:00 a.m. in Room 4G; **Cherub Choir (ages 3 and 4)** at 10:15 a.m. in 4B; and **Youth Choir (grades 6–12)** at 10:30 a.m. in 4G. ✨ The **Handbell Choir**, which also rehearses on Sundays at 12:15 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel Loft, welcomes newcomers to join in ringing. ✨ **Voices of Light**, our gospel choir, invites singers to join them in rehearsing at 1:30 p.m. in Room 4G. ✨ Following the 11:00 service a **pipe organ tour** begins at the front of the Sanctuary. ✨ We invite you to join us this afternoon for **The Gathering: Communion at 2:00**. This more casual, intimate service, which is livestreamed as well, features a breadth of musical expressions.

## Organ anniversary concert

This Friday **world-renowned organist Isabelle Demers** will present the annual **Andrew Pipe Organ Dedication anniversary concert**, which is cosponsored by the American Guild of Organists. Taking place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, November 17 in the Sanctuary, the concert will also be livestreamed. ✨ Earlier in the day, the **Roosevelt University Choirs** will present the free **Friday Noonday Concert** at 12:10 p.m., also in the Sanctuary and livestreamed. ✨ For a **complete listing of performances** at Fourth Church, **including holiday concerts**, see [www.fourthchurch.org/concerts](http://www.fourthchurch.org/concerts)

## Singing in the season

This Saturday, November 18 at 5:00 p.m. we will be **singing carols on the steps of the Sanctuary** prior to the 5:30 p.m. **Tree-Lighting Parade** that is part of the annual Magnificent Mile Lights Festival. Come join us in spreading holiday cheer to those gathered for the Michigan Avenue festivities!

## Pilgrimage

**This Saturday morning**, November 18 our **Spiritual Formation fall workshop “Pilgrimage”** will provide opportunity to learn how a pilgrimage can **deepen your faith and prepare the way to step out of the busyness of life**; come find the sacred within while building community. This 10:00 a.m. workshop will be held in Buchanan Chapel as well as via Zoom (*Zoom link: [www.bit.ly/pilgrimage1123](http://www.bit.ly/pilgrimage1123)*).

## Exploring the Bible

**Men’s Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (*[scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)*). ✨ Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger also invite you to tune in to the their **“Bible Top Ten” podcast** (*[www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts](http://www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts)*). This lively, informative, and often amusing podcast explores the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists.

## World mission and social justice

Please stop by Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall today to **meet our refugee family: Paul, Flora, Leila, and Nolan, originally from the Ivory Coast and Cameroon**. Celebrating their one-year anniversary in Chicago, the family continues to welcome our prayers, encouragement, and support as they navigate new beginnings in the US. Interested in learning more about Refugee One, with whom we have cosponsored this family, and **becoming a mentor to a new refugee family?** Contact [refugeeproject@fourthchurch.org](mailto:refugeeproject@fourthchurch.org). ✨ This past week we learned that the city will be using the Selina Hotel next door to the church to **provide shelter during the winter months to those experiencing homelessness**. While the city is still working out the details, we look forward to identifying ways in which we might strategically partner to **help provide services that may be needed by our new neighbors** as part of this important initiative. ✨ Our annual **Meals Ministry Christmas Gift Bag Drive is underway!** This year our goal is to fill 475 bags, which includes an addition of 75 gift bags for children. A list of items needed by December 4 can be found at <https://qrco.de/mealsministry>. We are also in need of 475 McDonald’s gift cards of \$10 each; cards can be dropped off or mailed to the church to the attention of Meals Ministry.

## Volunteers needed

Our Legal Affairs Committee is developing a **directory of attorney volunteers** who could consult with Fourth Church from time to time on legal matters. If you would be willing to be included in the directory, email Allison MacDonna (*[amacdonna@fourthchurch.org](mailto:amacdonna@fourthchurch.org)*) with your interest, noting any particular legal subject matter expertise you may have. ✨ **We have a waitlist of Chicago Lights Tutoring students in need of tutors** on weekday evenings (for ninety minutes)—in person (*Tuesdays and Wednesdays*) or online (*Mondays*). For details or to sign up, see [www.chicagolights.org/tutoring](http://www.chicagolights.org/tutoring). ✨ We need **doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and medical students** to assist with medical services at **Sunday Night Supper**. To learn more, email Mike Usiak (*[musiak@fourthchurch.org](mailto:musiak@fourthchurch.org)*).

## Get connected

**Books by Women** meets this Tuesday, November 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room to discuss *Crying in H Mart: A Memoir by Michelle Zauner*. ✨ **Benevolent Guild**, which creates sewn and crafted items to care for those in need, meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. *No sewing experience is necessary*. ✨ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets next Sunday, November 19 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. **Women at Fourth** will be gathering next Sunday, November 19 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5G for a program on “**Nurturing Responsibility in Children: Strategies and Considerations**” led by Dr. Margaret (Peg) Griffiths. Register at [www.bit.ly/waf1123](http://www.bit.ly/waf1123) ✨ An in-person workshop on “**You and Your Spiritual Gifts**” will be held on Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5G. To register for this in-person-only opportunity to discover your spiritual gifts and find ways to **connect with the programs and ministries in the church specifically related to your God-given gifts**, sign up at [www.bit.ly/spiritualgifts122](http://www.bit.ly/spiritualgifts122) ✨ A **Holiday Deep Listening Dinner** will be held Saturday evening, December 2 in Anderson Hall. Register (*required*) at [www.bit.ly/holidaylistening23](http://www.bit.ly/holidaylistening23) ✨ For **additional ways to connect** with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources and opportunities**, watch our website: [fourthchurch.org](http://fourthchurch.org)

## Pastoral care and a listening presence and witness

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. ✨ Our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** facilitates **grief groups**. To learn more or add your name to the list for new groups being formed, email Sharon Crawford-Tucker ([stucker@fourthchurch.org](mailto:stucker@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ **To explore options for teletherapy or in-person conversations with a counselor**, call the Replogle Center at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260 or visit [www.reploglecenter.org](http://www.reploglecenter.org)

## Stay connected

To see all that is going on at Fourth Church, be sure to bookmark our **online church calendar**, accessible from our website’s home page and at [fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://fourthchurch.org/calendar) ✨ We also invite you to follow us on **YouTube** ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)), **Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and **Instagram** ([instagram.com/fourthchurch](https://instagram.com/fourthchurch)).