

Third Sunday in Lent

Gathering

Gathering Music “Softly, as in a Morning Sunrise” Sigmund Romberg and Oscar Hammerstein II
 “Falling Grace” Steve Swallow

During this season of Lent, we reflect on our brokenness and prepare our hearts to receive the grace of God that comes to us through Christ’s death and resurrection. We invite you to share your prayers with this community in a new way this season. Instead of using our traditional prayer cards, you will receive a strip of cloth and a marker with which to write your prayers of joy and concern, making sure to use other paper or the bulletin to prevent the markers from getting on the pews or hymnals. At any point during the service, you are invited to quietly bring your cloth up to the cross and either tie it on or tuck it into the wire frame surrounding the cross.

We will continue to bring our prayers to the cross during each week of Lent as we await the promise of Easter. During the week, this cross will be placed in the Commons near the Loggia, and all are invited to add their prayers as they feel led.

Welcome

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Presbyterian Church welcomes all of God’s children into the life of the church regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical limitation, educational background, or economic situation.

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather around sacred stories not because they happened in the past but because they make things present for us today.

People: We were there!

Leader: Like Peter who failed Jesus at his times of greatest need, during our Lenten journey we pause to recognize and confess our own failings.

People: We are here!

Leader: Let us enter the story and worship our God.

***Opening Song** “God of Grace and God of Glory”

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: God of creation,
you give us life and a world to call home,
yet we confess that we have taken these gifts for granted.
We have not been good stewards of what we have.
We have been selfish in our exploitation of resources.
We have not been mindful of future generations.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: God of goodness and love,
we confess that we have taken each other for granted.
We have not treated others as your beloved children.
We are divided against each other.
We do not love our neighbors as ourselves.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: God of new beginnings,
we confess that we have taken Jesus for granted.
We have not walked in his path.
We have resisted his radical ways.
We have tamed his powerful message.
We have failed him and denied him.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: God of second chances,
we confess that we have taken your grace for granted.
We give up too easily.
We don't learn from our mistakes.
We forget that you love us no matter what.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: Help us, God, to follow when you call.
Help us to see beyond our limitations.
Help us to resist temptation.
Help us to be faithful until the very end.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: As beloved children of God, let us not be strangers to one another, but siblings in Christ. Please stand and greet one another with the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

All are invited to stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.

***Song** "Reach Out Your Hand in Peace" *Lucy Smith*



Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Mark 14:28–38, 66–72 *(New Testament, page 49)*

Sermon

The Peter Principle *John W. Vest*

Musical Reflection



Sealing the Word

Offertory Music "City Called Heaven" *Traditional*

Sharing of Gifts *(Please place gifts in the plate as it is passed.)*

***Doxology** *Lucy Smith*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

Sanctus *Lucy Smith*

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

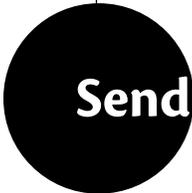
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

The Communion

Communion Music "Of All the Gifts Thy Love Bestows" *John Stevenson
and William Cowper*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**God of grace,
your Son Jesus Christ left us this holy meal
through which he shares himself with us.
May we who have celebrated this sign of his great love
show in our lives the fruits of his redemption,
so that we may truly be the body of Christ in the world. Amen.**



Sending

***Closing Song** "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

John W. Vest Associate Pastor
Lucy Smith Quartet Lucy Smith, vocals
Michael Caskey, drums
Bryan Doherty, bass
Marcin Fahmy, piano

A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God is named corporately in a variety of ways that are gender neutral. This allows for your personal expressions as you are led to name the Holy in ways meaningful to you.

Worship notes

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is being received throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and the Elam Davies Social Service Center as well as the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a “One Great Hour of Sharing” gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks or write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Our Lenten sermon series, “We Were There,” calls us to engage with biblical characters who encountered Christ in his final journey to the cross. Each Sunday’s lectern parament—created by Vicky Curtiss—evokes the theme of that day, and each week the parament from the previous Sunday is added to the Communion Table.

Acknowledgments

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FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
A Light in the City

PASTORAL STAFF

Shannon J. Kershner, Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Matt Helms, Minister for Children and Families
Hardy H. Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Layton Williams, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Resources

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class, which will meet this Saturday, March 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Room 4F, is also a prerequisite for membership.

Be sure to bookmark the Fourth Church website—www.fourthchurch.org—for easy access to the Fourth Church calendar, details about upcoming events; an archive of sermons and prayers, devotions, and much more.

Fellowship

Learn about the organ rebuilding project at a special event hosted by Fourth Dimension and the Center for Life and Learning. All are invited to hear John Sherer talk about the project on Friday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. To RSVP (required), contact Anne Ellis at aellis@fourthchurch.org by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11.

Young Adults gather for discussion about Lent on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

Lent

An Interfaith Passover Seder, hosted by Chicago Sinai Congregation (15 W. Delaware), will take place on Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. To reserve tickets, contact Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org) at 312.573.3369 by Tuesday, March 10.

To receive Lenten devotions by email (if you do not already receive our daily devotions), send email addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org. Devotions are also available on the website and via Facebook and in printed format in the literature racks.

Remember loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Easter flowers for the Sanctuary. A list of those honored will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Donations must be received by Sunday, March 22 in order for the names to appear in the bulletin. Contributions can be made by completing the cards available in the literature racks or online at www.fourthchurch.org. For details, contact Allie Williams at 312.981.3383.

A Lenten Contemplative Retreat will be held Friday–Saturday, March 27–28 at the Well in La Grange Park. To register, call Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 by Sunday, March 22.

It's easy to share your church with your friends: whether it's an invitation to Midweek Wednesday services, a thought-provoking reflection from a Lenten devotion, an inspiring quote from a sermon, or fun pictures of life at Fourth Church, you will find all on our page on Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch, or scan this QR code). Why not share at least one with friends this week?



News and Opportunities

Enrichment

Photo Meditation, offered through the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being and led by director Tom Schemper, will be held this Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. in Boyle Conference Room.

NEXT Church—which is committed to “sparking imaginations and connecting congregations”—will be holding its 2015 national gathering at Fourth Church March 16–18. All are invited to register. More information is available online at www.nextchurch.net

Books by Women will discuss *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor this Tuesday, March 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. For more information, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Mission and Outreach

Runners interested in joining the 2015 Chicago Lights Marathon Team are asked to contact Kate Solis Silva at ksolis@chicagolights.org. Runners will need to register themselves for the marathon, the lottery for which opens this Tuesday, March 10 at 12:00 noon at www.chicagomarathon.com.

The deadline to register for the Guatemala mission trip, led by Tom and Sue Schemper, is Saturday, April 11. Registration forms for this July 12–19 trip are available in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html

Worship

Next Sunday's Jazz at Four service will be held in Buchanan Chapel (through the Commons and up the stairs or elevator to the second floor). This is to accommodate the Sanctuary setup needs on Sunday afternoon, March 15 in preparation for Fourth Church hosting the NEXT conference the following morning.

Children, Youth, and Family

“Connect as a Community,” opportunity for parents to gather for a time of fellowship, will be held next Sunday, March 15 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 4G.

A Family Service Project will be held at the Greater Chicago Food Depository on Saturday, March 21 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. To RSVP, please contact Matt Helms at mhelms@fourthchurch.org.

Music and the Arts

Vocalist Christine Mild will perform this Friday's free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

The Choir of King's College will be in concert on Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available through Symphony Center Presents at 312.294.3000 (www.cso.org).

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Church members to host and pass out cider to waiting worshipers prior to 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. services on Easter Sunday

Tutors for Chicago Lights Tutoring one evening a week, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Members to serve as hosts for upcoming NEXT conference at Fourth Church

Current Donation Needs

Clean blanket

Men's and women's sturdy winter clothes in all sizes
Individually wrapped food items

A complete list of volunteer opportunities is available online at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/volunteer.html or by contacting Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org).

During Today's Worship

During this season of Lent, we reflect on our brokenness and prepare our hearts to receive the grace of God that comes to us through Christ's death and resurrection. We invite you to share your prayers in a new way this season—you will receive a strip of cloth and a marker with which to write your prayers of joy and concern. During the service, you are invited to quietly bring your cloth up to the cross and either tie it on or tuck it into the wire frame surrounding the cross. During the week, this cross will be placed in the Commons—all are invited to add their prayers.

All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion, which is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available in the paper "cup" within the basket of bread), which they will then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles.

The large banners hanging in the middle of the Sanctuary were created by liturgical artist Shawna Bowman during the 4:00 worship service and are artistic representations of our worship experience.

Please turn off all cell phones when in the Sanctuary.

Worship also can be heard through the "T" setting of hearing aids.

If your infant or small child needs care during the worship service, you may leave the Sanctuary and return as you wish. There is also an area in the left-side aisle where your child can play quietly.

Worship folders, containing quiet activities and a bulletin for children, are available from a greeter.

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks outside the South Transept doors (leading to Anderson Hall) and in the Narthex, at the back of the Sanctuary. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org/sermons/index.html.

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion with a Deacon, contact Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).

If You Are New to Fourth Church

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership and includes a light meal. Attend Saturday, March 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; Monday, April 13, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For membership information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (hkim@fourthchurch.org).

Information about opportunities and resources available to you here at Fourth Church is available in the literature racks as you're leaving the church. You can also find information on our website (www.fourthchurch.org), our page on Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to news@fourthchurch.org).

If you are interested in considering baptism or membership at the 4:00 p.m. service at Fourth Church, please contact Matt Helms (312.573.3362; mhelms@fourthchurch.org) or any pastor involved in the service. Information is available about the Baptism Seminar and Inquirers' Class, which are necessary for preparation. A monthly opportunity to be baptized or join the church at the 4:00 service is available on March 22 and April 24.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$10. Validation tickets must be picked up from the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org
312.787.4570; Fax: 312.787.4584; www.facebook.com/fourthchurch