



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Greeting

*Joining Our Voices

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

For the joy of human company, shared songs, and spoken prayers,

thanks be to God.

For a place that spans the ages and is a home to all who gather,

thanks be to God.

For the wonder of life and the decision of God to come among us,

thanks be to God.

How can we keep from singing?

Nothing can keep us from singing.

* Stand as you are able

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, mental health, educational background, economic situation, religious background, or documentation status.

***Opening Song** "My Life Flows On"

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**In the arguments which divide us, Hope's Heart,
we cannot always hear your voice calling us to be one.
In the rush to judge others who speak, dress, or look differently from us,
we cannot stop to experience your grace.
And so we pray for your forgiveness.
Silence our babbling lives
so that we might hear your clear, sweet voice
announcing that we are forgiven,
calling us to proclaim the good news to all the world,
making us family with folks we do not even know.
For in this we will find our wholeness and our peace. Amen.**

God Forgives and Blesses Us

The Holy Spirit is upon us and has given us this good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, blessed, and sent into the world! Alleluia! Amen!

***Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

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

Welcome

We Proclaim the Story

Psalter Psalm 15 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Open my lips and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Leader: God, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

Whoever leads a blameless life

and does what is right,

who speaks the truth from the heart

with no guile upon the tongue,

who does no evil to friends,

who does not heap contempt upon neighbors,

in whose sight the wicked are rejected,

but who honors those who fear God,

who has sworn to do no wrong

and does not take back a word,

who does not give money in hope of gain,

nor take a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Open my lips and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Scripture Reading

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23 (*New Testament, page 39*)

Sermon *Shannon J. Kershner*

We Offer Ourselves

Musical Reflection

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.**

Sharing of Gifts *(Please place gifts, pledges, and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.)*

Offertory Music

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

We Feast Together

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Sanctus "Holy, Holy, Holy"

The Communion

Communion Music

We Go Out with Gratitude

Closing Prayer *(unison)*

**Gracious God, as we prepare to leave this sanctuary space,
we pray that the peace of the rolling waves, the peace of the singing birds,
the peace of the twinkling stars, and the deep, deep peace of the Prince of Peace
might linger in us and with us not only tonight but also forever. Amen.**

***Sending Song** “You Shall Go Out with Joy”

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner	Pastor
Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Martha Brown	Lay Liturgist
Musicians	Allison Orobia, vocals Bryan Doherty, bass Marcus Evans, drums Amr 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.

Acknowledgments

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FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
A Light in the City

PASTORAL STAFF

Shannon J. Kershner, Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry
Nanette Sawyer, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Joseph L. Morrow, Minister for Evangelism
Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident
Shawn Fiedler, Ministerial Associate for Worship
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Resources

A Sanctuary open house for neighbors and visitors will be hosted by the Discover Fourth Committee this Saturday, September 8 between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Inquirers' Class, which offers opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian church history and beliefs—meets next Sunday, September 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room. To register for this one-session class that is also a prerequisite for membership, visit www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers

“Get Connected” through fellowship, education, and service at Fourth Church! On Sunday, September 16, all are invited to Anderson Hall and the Commons following morning worship for the annual “Get Connected” Coffee Hour—an opportunity to identify ways to connect through educational opportunities, fellowship groups, volunteer needs, and other activities.

Individuals experiencing life challenges can benefit from being paired with a Stephen Minister. For more information visit www.fourthchurch.org/caring

Follow Fourth Church on Twitter:

@FourthChicago

Be sure to “like” Fourth Church on Facebook to see photos of church life and keep up-to-date on Fourth Church news.

Please use the recycling baskets around campus to help us care for creation.

Nominating forms for the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Chicago Lights Board are available in the pew racks and also online at www.bit.ly/fpcnominating. Use the forms to recommend Fourth Church members with gifts for leadership and ministry. Paper forms may be placed in the offering plate, dropped off at the reception desk, or mailed to the church.

Bookmark the Fourth Church website—www.fourthchurch.org—for easy access to the Fourth Church calendar, information about upcoming events, photos, and more.

Music and the Arts

Our Noonday concert series moves back inside this week with soprano Jacqueline Piccolino at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Those interested in singing in the choir for 8:00 a.m. worship are invited to Chancel Choir rehearsals, which begin this Thursday, September 6 at 6:00 p.m. Rehearsals for the Choral Society will begin Thursday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m.

The Handbell Choir begins rehearsals next Sunday, September 9 at 8:00 a.m. in the Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft.

“A Chanticleer Christmas” concert tickets are already available for December 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Order tickets at online at www.cso.org or by calling 312.294.3000.

What's going on at Fourth Church?

Check out the churchwide calendar on the website for a complete look at what's happening at Fourth Church in the days and months ahead. You'll also find calendars by program and interest areas, and you can add the dates to your electronic calendar as well. Just visit www.fourthchurch.org or scan this QR code with any smartphone to learn more.



Worship

Sacred Pause meditation, a time of silent reflection hosted by the Replogle Center and the Spiritual Formation Council, is held Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

Morning Prayer is held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel as a time to join staff in prayer for Fourth Church members and those in need.

Access daily devotions, written by members and staff of Fourth Church, via email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); at facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), online at www.fourthchurch.org; and in booklets in the literature racks.

Jazz at Four will be held in Buchanan Chapel on Sunday, September 9 as we will be welcoming our neighbors, Chicago Sinai Congregation, to the Sanctuary that evening as we do each year for their Rosh Hashanah Eve service.

A Blessing of the Animals service will be held Saturday, October 6 at 10:00 a.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School and youth gatherings resume next Sunday, September 9. Sunday School will meet at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Junior High (grades 6–8) will meet at 9:30 a.m. All youth will gather for fellowship at 10:30 a.m., and Senior High and Confirmation will meet at 11:00 a.m. Families are invited to join us for food and games in the courtyard at 12:00 noon.

Choirs for children and youth resume next Sunday, September 9 in Room 4F: Cherub Choir (age 3–grade 1) at 9:00 a.m., Youth Choir (grades 9–12) at 10:00 a.m. (with grades 6–8 joining at 10:15 a.m.), and Children’s Choir (grades 2–5) at 10:30 a.m.

“Together We Play,” an interactive class for parents and children ages eighteen to twenty-four months (by September 1), will be offered on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m., September to June. For information about this class and other Day School openings, contact Kathy Hager at 312.640.2579.

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Sunday Night Supper volunteers

Ushers for 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. services

Pianist to play in Children’s Chapel from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. three Sundays a month

Shower Ministry greeters (women and men) for rotating Tuesday schedule (1:15–4:00 p.m.)

T-shirts, sizes XL and larger, for guests of the Elam Davies Social Service Center

Adult-sized men’s and women’s socks for guests of the Social Service Center

Individually packaged salty snack items

Donations can be left at the reception desk. To sign up—or for additional volunteer opportunities—contact Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry, at 312.981.3382 (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

Mission and Outreach

Fourth Church's Meals Ministry is participating in the Greater Chicago Food Depository Hunger Walk on September 8. Learn how you can get involved online at www.classy.org/team/181904

Fresh produce is available from the Chicago Lights Urban Farm's Farmstand (444 W. Chicago) on Saturdays between 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Chicago Lights Tutoring is looking for tutors for the 2018–2019 school year. RSVP information and orientation dates are online at www.bit.ly/CLtutoring2018

Fourth Church's Racial Equity Council will host a book lecture on *Strength for the Struggle* by Joseph Ellwanger—author, pastor, and civil rights activist—on Saturday, September 30 at 12:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. To RSVP, contact Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org; 312.573.3369)

Fellowship

Young Adults group meets next Sunday for their weekly Sunday Gathering at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

Men's Bible Study will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 4 in the Loop. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369)

Join Fourth Church's new movie club—Classic Movies You've Never Seen—on Thursday, September 6 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 4F. This week's movie is *Casablanca*. All ages are welcome!

Men's Breakfast next meets on Saturday, September 15 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 4E.

Enrichment

The Tuesday meditation group meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Boyle Conference Room

Cornerstones—a group for those fifty and older—will meet this Friday, September 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Borwell Dining Room for dinner and a presentation on “The Legacy of Faith” led by Lucy Forster-Smith. Register online at www.bit.ly/cfpc0918 by Wednesday, September 5.

John Buchanan and Tom Dozeman will be teaching “In the Beginning: God and Humankind in Genesis” for four weeks beginning next Sunday, September 9 at 9:30 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

“Just and Unjust Wars” is an adult education class that explores questions about just war tradition and peace. This four-week class will begin next Sunday, September 9 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5E.

The new program year for the Center for Life and Learning kicks off next Monday, September 10. To register online for classes and to renew CLL memberships go to www.fourthchurch.org/cll or contact Susan Quaintance (312.981.3386).

The new men's discussion series on the Gospels will begin on September 12 at 7:00 a.m. in Room 5A. Register (*required*) with Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org; 312.573.3369).

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to use the prayer card, found in this worship bulletin, to offer joys and/or concerns. The cards will be collected during the Sharing of Gifts (simply place the card in the offering plate as it is passed). The prayer requests will be read by the pastoral staff during the week.

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.

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

Please silence all electronic devices when in the Sanctuary.

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, are available from a greeter.

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks. 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. Attend Sunday, September 9 or October 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room (register online for the class at www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers). We invite you to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. the day you attend the class. For details or membership information, contact Joe Morrow (member@fourthchurch.org; 312.981.3399) or go to www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers

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 considering baptism or becoming a member of Fourth Church during the 4:00 p.m. service, please contact Joe Morrow (jmorrow@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 September 23 or October 28.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up from the Chestnut Street reception desk.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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