



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday of Epiphany

January 14, 2024 • 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Be Thou My Vision Irish ballad/arr. Zsolt Gárdonyi
- Three African American Spirituals
 - Give Me Jesus arr. Richard Billingham
 - Talk about a Child That Do Love Jesus arr. Calvin Taylor
 - My Lord, What a Morning arr. Robert Lau

Introit

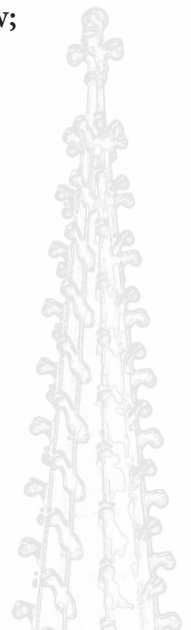
“Take My Life, and Let It Be” John B. Dykes
*Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days,
 let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
 take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.*

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
 praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.† Amen.

***Call to Worship**

One: *Sisters and brothers, rejoice: we live sustained by God’s presence and love.*
 All: Thanks be to God.
 One: *As we work to build the Beloved Community,*
 All: God works with us.
 One: *As we offer our gifts to all,*
 All: God blesses us.
 One: *Sisters and brothers, rejoice:*
 All: sustained by God’s presence and love, we worship God!



**Please rise in body or spirit. †Or “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”*

***Hymn 722** “Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.
O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet.
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.
O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.
O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.
O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where
until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) *adapted from Martin Luther King Jr.'s
Letter from Birmingham Jail*

Holy God,
in our baptisms you have promised us forgiveness and new life
and have made us part of the wider body of Christ.
But we confess we remain focused primarily on ourselves,
denying that we are tied to one another in a single garment of destiny,
ignoring that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.
We have seen peace as an absence of tension
rather than the presence of your justice.
May we aspire to something greater than the status quo.
May your church meet the challenge of this decisive hour.
Remind us of the promises you make in baptism
so that, together, we may rise to new life and live in your grace.
Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

One: *Believe this good news:*
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Exchange of Peace**

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ,” and encourage those online to use this time to share your presence with us, using the online form.

Welcome and Announcements

The Sacrament of Baptism (9:30)

Anthem

“Precious Lord” (9:30) Thomas A. Dorsey/arr. Arnold Sevier
Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, Lord, and lead me home. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near; when my life is almost gone, at the river, Lord, I stand, guide my feet and hold my hand. Take my hand, Lord, and lead me home.

“I’m Going to Sing” (11:00) African American spiritual/arr. Ronald E. Anderson
I’m going to sing when the Spirit says sing, and obey the Spirit of the Lord. I’m going to shout when the Spirit says shout, and obey the Spirit of the Lord. I’m going to pray when the Spirit says pray, and obey the Spirit of the Lord. I’m going to sing when the Spirit says sing, and obey the Spirit of the Lord. I’m going to shout when the Spirit says shout, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

PsalterPsalm 139:1–6, 13–18

One: *The Word of God for the people of God.*

All: **Thanks be to God.**

(9:30) Children age three through grade five are invited to come forward during the singing of the Gloria Patri.

†Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:[†]
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

(9:30) Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers.

Scripture Lesson 1 Samuel 3:1-18

One: *Holy Wisdom, holy word.*

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

God Is Still Speaking Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 69** "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*). adapted from the Confession of Belhar

We believe in the triune God who gathers, protects, and cares for the church.

We believe that God has revealed God's self

as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;
that God, in a world of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the
destitute, the poor and the wronged.

We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need
so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Therefore we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice.

Jesus is Lord.

To the one and only God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,

be the honor and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

"Witness" (9:30). African American spiritual/arr. Alice Parker
Who'll be a witness for my Lord? My soul is a witness for my Lord. You read in the Bible and you understand, Methuselah was the oldest man; he lived to nine hundred and sixty-nine, and he died and went to heaven, Lord, in due time. O, Methuselah was a witness for my Lord. You read in the Bible and you understand, Samson was the strongest man; Samson went out at one time, and he killed about a thousand of the Philistine. Deliah fooled Samson, this we know, for the Holy Bible tells us so; she shaved off his head just as clean as you can, and his strength became the same as any natural man. O, Samson was a witness for my Lord. Who'll be a witness? Now Daniel was a Hebrew child, he went to pray to his God a while; the King at once for Daniel did send, and he put him right down in the lion's den. God sent his angels the lions for to keep, and Daniel laid down and went to sleep. Now Daniel was a witness for my Lord. Who'll be a witness for my Lord? My soul is a witness for my Lord. I'll be a witness for my Lord!

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” (11:00) Thomas A. Dorsey/arr. Jack Schrader
Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light. Take my hand, Lord, and lead me home. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near; when my life is almost gone, at the river, Lord, I stand, guide my feet and hold my hand. Take my hand, Lord, and lead me home.

***Offertory Response** Hymn 712, v. 3

In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life’s way.
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life’s work is done.

***Litany of Dedication and Commitment**

One: *God of all races and nations, we praise you for all your faithful servants who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with you. For apostles, martyrs, leaders, and saints and for humble folks whose names never made the news but are recorded in your book of life,*

All: we give you thanks, O God.

One: *Especially this day we thank you for our brother, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., for his courage and conviction, for his passion for peace, and for his tireless quest of a nation that keeps faith with its promises;*

All: we give you thanks, O God.

One: *For the countless saints who stood in the front lines and marches, integrated schools, restaurants, and churches, or sat in buses and at lunch counters and refused to move,*

All: we give you thanks, O God.

One: *For nameless multitudes who suffered the tortures of slavery and the tyranny of oppression, who were beaten and killed, and for the nameless multitudes today whose lives are stunted and cut short by systems of brutality,*

All: we grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.

One: *And for our siblings of every race and nation who long for safety, freedom, and hope in our community and land,*

All: we grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.

One: *Lead and guide us, that we may follow the way of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 37** “Let All Things Now Living”

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us; pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration, a song let us raise,
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Soon I Will Be Done African American spiritual/arr. C. Taylor

Baptized at 9:30 today
Caroline Matys Coogan, child of Paul and Katherine Coogan

You are invited!

January 14–20, 2024



The following pages are our invitation to you—an invitation to explore in the coming year 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), 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) ✨ 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 on Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. ✨ 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. ✨ **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. ✨ **Worship can be heard** through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids. ✨ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship. ✨ **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 ushers.

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

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 ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday morning's **sermon text** (fourthchurch.org/sermons) **by email** by subscribing at 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 worship. ✨ 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). ✨ Buchanan Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. this Tuesday and Wednesday. ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is offered virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 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), 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 ✨ Our weekly **“Rhythm and Word” video series** offers ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer for your viewing at home. A new video is released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on YouTube. To receive the videos by email, sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail; you can also **subscribe to our YouTube channel** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)

A farewell and a congregational meeting

Today we celebrate and give thanks for the ministry of Senior Associate Pastor **Lucy Forster-Smith!** This is Lucy's last Sunday with us before her retirement. We will hold a **congregational meeting today at 12:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary (*viewable live via Zoom at www.bit.ly/fpcmeeting114*) for the purpose of formally dissolving the pastoral relationship between Lucy and Fourth Church. Please join us for that as well as a special Coffee Hour reception in Lucy's honor at 10:30 a.m. and again following the meeting.

The Life and Legacy of Dr. King

Today we join churches and communities across the nation in **honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**, who was born ninety-five years ago on January 15. Signs with Dr. King's image and words stand along Michigan Avenue as public witness for all who pass by. They are a continued expression of our commitment to embrace racial equity by purposely including all people, striving for radical hospitality, and modeling an antiracist approach in all areas. We remain steadfast in our theological conviction that the lives of our Black siblings matter to both God and to us and that their lives are sacred. We are committed to putting that theological conviction into practice and continuing to express it in a variety of ways.

Sunday opportunities

"Finding Faith in Hard Times: When Bad Things Happen to Good People" is the topic of a three-week Adult Education class led by Amy Pagliarella at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/afindingfaith * **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. * **Youth groups** do not meet this morning, as they are returning from their ski trip. * On exhibit in the Loggia is **"Light in the Darkness,"** featuring the artwork of Jan Brandt and Amy Hanks. * 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.

Get connected

Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. **Horizons Women's Bible Study** meets via Zoom Wednesday, January 24 at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). * **Benevolent Guild**, which creates sewn and crafted items for those in need, meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. *Sewing experience is not necessary.* Knitting and Crocheting meets via Zoom on Tuesday, January 23 at 4:00 p.m. * Join us on Thursday, January 25 at 5:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel as we cohost with the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy a panel discussion on **"Chicago's Newest Neighbors: Examining the Migrant Crisis."** * **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome** gathers on Sunday, January 28 at 1:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room for pizza and a movie. * **"The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Future of American Democracy"** will be the topic of our next **Michigan Avenue Forum**, which will be held Wednesday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our speaker will be **Robert P. Jones**, author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Path to a Shared American Future*. * **Cornerstones**, a fellowship group for those fifty and over, will meet for dinner and a program on **"Do You Hear What You're Saying?: A Discussion of Microaggressions,"** led by Robert Crouch and Regan Burke, on Friday, February 2 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. Registration (www.bit.ly/cornerstones224) is required.

Long-range planning: proposed strategic directions

Your continued input is essential to the long-range planning process! Thus we encourage you to join the **Long-Range Planning Task Force** for one of their **upcoming listening sessions**—a time to hear **proposed strategic directions and goals** and **provide feedback**. There will be identical sessions this **Thursday, January 18** at 6:30 p.m. (*Zoom*); **Sunday, January 21** at 10:45 a.m. (*in person*); Sunday, January 28 at 12:30 p.m. (*in person*); Tuesday, January 30 at 8:00 p.m. (*Zoom*); and Sunday, February 4 at 12:30 p.m. (*in person*). To ensure group sizes enabling all to be heard, **registration is required**. For registration links, see www.fourthchurch.org; to learn more, email longrange@fourthchurch.org

Pastoral care and a listening presence and witness

To **talk to a pastor** or **notify pastoral staff** of personal concerns, hospitalizations, or deaths, email Gloria Fleming (gfleming@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, email Gloria Fleming (gfleming@fourthchurch.org) or Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ✨ On Sunday, January 28 at the 9:30 a.m. service, we will commission **Robert Crouch** to begin service as a Stephen Leader in our congregation. Please join us as we pray for and show our support for **Stephen Ministry** and the lay Christian caregivers God has called and equipped for this important role. Following the service that day, there will be a special Coffee Hour hosted by the Stephen Ministers, when there will be opportunity to learn more about Stephen Ministry. You can also leave a confidential message for them at 312.573.3365. ✨ Our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** facilitates **grief groups**. For details, email Sharon Crawford-Tucker (stucker@fourthchurch.org). ✨ To **explore options for counseling**, call the Replogle Center at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260 or visit www.reploglecenter.org.

Stay connected

You can find details about **additional ways to connect** with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, on our website: www.fourthchurch.org, where you will also discover various **resources**. ✨ To see all that is going on at Fourth Church, we encourage you to bookmark our **online church calendar**, which is accessible from our website's home page and at fourthchurch.org/calendar ✨ The **church campus and offices will be closed** tomorrow, Monday, January 15, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. ✨ To **learn more about this congregation or become a member of Fourth Church**, we invite you to a one-session Inquirers' Class on Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom (*register at www.bit.ly/inquirers207*). For more information about joining, contact Associate Pastor Matt Helms (mhelms@fourthchurch.org). ✨ We also invite you to **follow us** on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and Instagram (instagram.com/fourthchurch). ✨ Look for information, updates, and **snapshots of life at Fourth Church** in our weekly email newsletter, to which you can subscribe at ww.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Cooper Giblin (9:30), Kathy Kidder (11:00), Nanette Sawyer, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Morning Choir (9:30); Carol Carpenter, soloist
Chancel Choir (11:00)
Michael Rees, Organ Scholar
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

THE HYMN “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” was both written and composed by Daniel L. Schutte.

His text is unusual text for portraying two distinct voices interacting together: the first section represents the voice of God, while the refrain is the faithful human response to God’s call.

OFFERING GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in the plates passed during the service, or, afterwards, in an offering box at the exit from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at fourthchurch.org/give

Tom Are Jr. Interim Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

Matt Helms Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries

Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship

Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014

www.fourthchurch.org www.facebook.com/fourthchurch

312.787.4570 Voicemail: 312.787.2729 Fax: 312.787.4584

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