



Easter Sunrise Service

March 31, 2024 • 6:30 a.m. • Oak Street Beach

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE AT DELAWARE PLACE

A special word of welcome to all who are worshiping with us this morning!

This may be your first time worshiping with the Fourth Presbyterian Church community, or perhaps you worship with us so often you call Fourth Church “home”; in either case, we are grateful for your presence today. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone—without exception—into the life of this congregation. No matter where you may be in your faith journey, no matter what questions or burdens you may bring to our time together, we take seriously that God loves everyone, so **you belong here.**

Every Sunday we read the old biblical stories and sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world we live in this minute through liturgy, prayers, and sermons. By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ’s life, we discover hope and even joy, and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ to the city.

If you are new to us, stick around after worship and speak to fellow worshipers or to Pastor Matt. We have many programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. Give us a try; soon you too might be calling Fourth Church “home.”

For more information about Fourth Church, please contact Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries (312.573.3362; mhelms@fourthchurch.org).

We invite you to worship with us again!

Sundays

9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (the 9:30 service is livestreamed)

(Today’s Easter Sunday services are at **9:30** and **11:30** a.m.; the 9:30 service will be livestreamed)

2:00 p.m. | The Gathering, with Communion | In person and livestreamed

Participating in This Service

MATT HELMS, *Associate Pastor*

COLE SEATON, *Soloist*

MEMBERS OF TOWER BRASS, *Fourth Church’s brass ensemble*

CHARLES SCHUCHAT, *Artistic Director of Tower Brass*

The Prayer of Confession is partially adapted from Beth Merrill Neel’s “Hold Fast to What Is Good” blog, www.holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/
The Prayer after Communion is adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook*.

PRELUDE

Rigaudon Andre Campra /arr. Robert King

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: **Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: God has given us new hope and new life.

All: **God's steadfast love endures forever!**

Leader: This is the day our Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it!

All: **Alleluia! Amen!**

HYMN "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!

suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!

unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!

who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

sinner to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!

our salvation have procured. Alleluia!

Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!

where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

praise eternal as God's love. Alleluia!

Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, giver of life and forgiver of sin,
we come to you this Easter morning with hope:
a hope that you will always love us,
a hope that death truly has lost its sting,
a hope that you are indeed making all things new.

It is hard to see tragedy and suffering around us.

It is hard to admit the responsibility we have for much that plagues our world.

It is hard to work for the good when the good seems so far off.

Forgive us for those times we have retreated rather than proclaim your good news.

Forgive us for our disbelief, our cynicism, and our silence.

Give us courage to see clearly.

Give us strength to do our part.

Give us grace to forgive others and ourselves.

And give us faith to follow you.

This is our prayer, offered in Christ's holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: May the peace of Christ be with you all!

All: **And also with you!**

SCRIPTURE LESSON. John 20:1-18

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON. Matt Helms

HYMN “Christ Is Alive!”

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

The cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring.

Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound

to distant years in Palestine,

but saving, healing, here and now,

and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war

where color, scorn, or wealth divide,

Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,

and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,

can feel the Spirit, hear the call,

and find the way, the life, the truth,

revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive and comes to bring

good news to this and every age,

till earth and sky and ocean ring

with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION AND THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise. . . .

Great is the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(unison)*

Loving God,
may we who have received this sacrament
be strengthened in your service;
we who have sung your praises
tell of your glory and truth;
we who have seen the greatness of your love
see you face to face in your kingdom.
For you have made us your own people
by the death and resurrection of your Son, our Lord,
and by the life-giving power of your Spirit. Amen.

HYMN “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”

“Christ the Lord is risen today!” Alleluia! All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!
Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Canzona per Sonare No. 4 Giovanni Gabrieli/arr. Michel Rondeau

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- *Gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering can be given to greeters as you leave today* •

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

supports the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People programs; Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and Chicago Lights Tutoring and Social Service Center.

Gifts can also be made online at www.fourthchurch.org/give or by using Venmo.

An Invitation from Fourth Presbyterian Church

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! 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.

Let us know you're worshipping with us! Please scan this QR code or go to fourthchurch.org/worship/survey to fill out a simple information form (it takes no more than 20 seconds!) to let us know you are with us this Easter.



Devotions for the Easter season, written by Fourth Church

members and staff, are available daily via email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); at facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), as well as at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions ✨ Our **Easter "Rhythm and Word" video series** begins Wednesday, April 3. These brief videos (*approximately 10 minutes each*) will be available on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), with a new one released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. To receive them by email, sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmmandwordemail

Get connected. Stay connected. You can find details about 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 and opportunities**. ✨ To see all that is going on at Fourth Church, we encourage you to bookmark **our online church calendar**, which is accessible at fourthchurch.org/calendar and from our website's home page. ✨ We 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 online at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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