

Fourth Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024 • 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Introit

"Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator"..... Batak melody/arr. H. R. Pandobo Hallelujah! Sing praise to your Creator, sun, moon, and stars and angels above. Praise the Lord, whose word established the heavens, who upholds all the earth in power and love. God reigns on high, let the heavens rejoice!

*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: Beloved, let us love one another.

All: For God is love

One: and those who abide in love abide with God.

All: Let us worship the God of love,

One: full of compassion, mercy, and grace,

All: with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength,

One: through word and deed,

All: this day and for all our days.

^{*}Please rise in body or spirit. †Or "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.

Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

High voices:

O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Low voices:

All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears, sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All:

And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home.

Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!

Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy One, through your law, prophets, and gospel,

you give us the capacity to know the good.

But we betray that knowledge by our failure to act justly toward others.

We let our fear of change impede us.

We let our love of comfort hold us back.

We let our doubts slow our progress toward righteousness.

For all these ways we have strayed from your path of love,

consigning our neighbors and ourselves to needless suffering, we ask your forgiveness.

By your Spirit, fill us with courage so that we might live more faithfully into your vision for all creation. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

One: *Friends, believe the good news.*All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

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

Ministry Minute

Anthem

"And the Swallow" (9:30)	Caroline Shaw
How beloved is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts; my soul yearns, faints, my heart and n	ny flesh cry. The
sparrow found a house, and the swallow her nest where she may lay her young. They pass through the valley	
of Baka; they make it a place of springs. The autumn rains also cover it with pools.	
"Rise Up, My Love, My Fair One" (11:00)	łealey Willan
Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away; for lo, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone;	
the flowers appear upon the earth; the time of singing of birds is come.	

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination
Psalter
^k 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.
Scripture Reading
One: The grass withers, and the flower fades,
All: but the word of our God shall stand forever.
Sermon
Love in Truth and Action
Responding to the Word
Hymn 22
God of the sparrow God of the whale God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe How does the creature say Praise
God of the earthquake God of the storm God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe How does the creature cry Save
God of the rainbow God of the cross God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace How does the creature say Thanks
God of the hungry God of the sick God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care How does the creature say Life
God of the neighbor God of the foe God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love How does the creature say Peace
God of the ages God near at hand God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy How do your children say Home

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*Affirmation of Faith (unison) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Apostles' Creed Interpreted (PCUSA)
     One: What do you believe when you confess your faith in "God the Father Almighty"?
      All: That God is a God of love,
          and that God's love is powerful beyond measure.
     One: What do you affirm when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as "our Lord"?
      All: That having been raised from the dead
          he reigns with compassion and justice
          over all things in heaven and on earth,
          especially over those who confess him by faith;
          and that by loving and serving him above all else,
          we give glory and honor to God.
     One: What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?
      All: That apart from the Holy Spirit,
          our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served.
          The Holy Spirit is the personal bond
          by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself,
          the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ,
          and the comforter who leads us to repentance,
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Thanksgiving for Volunteers

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;

empowering us to live in Christ's service.

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

"The Heavens Are Telling the Glory of God" from *The Creation* (11:00)

Franz Joseph Haydn

The heavens are telling the glory of God; the wonder of his works displays the firmament. Today that is coming speaks it the day; the night that is gone to following night. In all the lands resounds the word, never unperceived, ever understood.

Christ has arisen, alleluia.

Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.

For our redeemer burst from the tomb,

even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sins forgiving, alleluia!

Jesus is living, alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to you.

Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Bearing the World into the World

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,

that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.

God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,

if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.

And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne, while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care, and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Allegro from Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 . . . Johann Sebastian Bach/arr. E. Peterson

Thank You to Our 2023 Volunteers!

We are grateful to the following individuals who, in 2023, generously gave of their time and talent to bring to life the mission and ministry of Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Lights.

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We are grateful for the new **rainbow banner thanking volunteers**, which was created by the Volunteer Ministry Council with the help of the Benevolent Guild.

You belong here!

This may be your first time in worship at Fourth Presbyterian Church, or perhaps you worship here 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 this place, 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. Join us for Coffee Hour, or speak to one of our pastors. 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."**

Let us know you're worshiping with us

Please let us know you are here by filling out an information form. Those worshiping 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 worshiping 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.

Joining us online

Each Sunday our worshiping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. 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) **** Links** to make an online offering gift, view or print the worship bulletin, and more can be found in the descriptive text below the video as well as on our website. ****** 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. ****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. ****** A half hour prior to each service the doors open for worship, with **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) as well as at 126 E. Chestnut and 115 E. Delaware. **** 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) for \$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.

Prayer, meditation, and sermons

If you would like to offer individual prayers of praise or concern with a Deacon today, you 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. ** Each Wednesday we gather at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom; on the first Wednesday of the month (May 1) we gather at 10:00 a.m. for our monthly in-person Morning Prayer in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ** If you would like to walk the labyrinth, Buchanan Chapel is open for that opportunity between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. ** You are also invited to a Sacred Pause time of meditation offered virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing ** During the week the Sunday morning service and sermon is made available via podcast on multiple 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 bit.ly/fpcsermons.

Resources for your personal reflection

We invite you to use our daily devotions (fourthchurch.org/devotions) for your personal reflection. To receive them by email, subscribe at bit.ly/fpcdevotions; you can also find them daily on Facebook and Instagram. ** Weekly "Rhythm and Word" videos—released on Wednesday evenings—are available via email as well. Sign up online at bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail or subscribe to our YouTube channel: bit.ly/fpcvideos ** Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to tune in to their podcast "Bible Top Ten" (fourthchurch.org/podcasts). This lively, informative, and often amusing podcast explores the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists.

Volunteer with us!

On this Volunteer Appreciation Sunday we not only recognize and give thanks for all who give of their time and talent to connect others with God's love, but we also invite you to learn about our varied **volunteer opportunities** — including ushering, tutoring, serving with Meals Ministry, and more! — at fourthchurch.org/volunteer ** Particularly needed are individuals to serve as **Coffee Hour hosts**. For details, contact Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). ** Also needed is an individual with **digital marketing expertise** to help the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being. If interested, contact Robert Crouch (*rcrouch@fourthchurch.org*), Director of Volunteer Ministry.

Celebrating music

All who enjoy singing are invited to join the Fourth Church Choral Society this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. as it begins weekly rehearsals in preparation for singing in worship on Pentecost, May 19. This will be John Sherer's final season of directing the Choral Society before he moves to Rochester, New York, in late June. ** Be sure to also mark your calendar with the following opportunities to enjoy John's music! Friday, June 14 at 12:10 p.m. for a Friday Noonday Organ Concert played by John. ** Friday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m. for an Organ Recital played by John and followed by a festive reception. ** Sunday, June 23 for John's last Sunday as Organist and Director of Music at Fourth Church. If you would like to sing with the choir that Sunday, please join the 8:45 rehearsal that morning.

Get connected

Three Bible studies meet via Zoom: Men's Bible Study at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Horizons Women's **Bible Study** this Wednesday, April 24 at 12:00 and at 6:30 p.m. Email Simon (scrow@fourthchurch.org) for details. **** Women at Fourth** gathers this Thursday, April 25 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room to view and discuss the short film *There Are No Words*. Register at bit.ly/waf424 * A "Specialist in **Aging Ministries"** program taught by **Beth Truett** will be offered on Fridays, April 26–May 10 at 12:00 p.m. at Fourth Church. To register, contact Amy Pagliarella (apagliarella@fourthchurch.org). **☀** Join Fourth Church in **walking for hunger with Breakthrough** this Saturday, April 27 (9:00 a.m. in Garfield Park). Each walker will earn \$27 toward efforts to provide much-needed food for that community. To learn more, stop by the World Mission and Social Justice table in Coffee Hour today or email Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org). *** Knitting and Crocheting** meets via Zoom on Tuesday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m. Email scrow@fourthchurch.org for details. ₩ At the Friday evening, May 3 **Cornerstones** fellowship gathering for those fifty and over, **Ron Bottrell** will talk about the **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** program. Register (required) at bit.ly/cornerstones524 ***** Two new Adult Education opportunities will be offered Sunday, May 5: The class "Food and Religion" at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom and a staged reading of *Perseverance of the* **Saints**, written by **Kat Evans**, at 3:00 p.m. at Chicago Temple and also livestreamed. For details and registration links, see fourthchurch.org/adult-education

Sunday opportunities

If you are worshiping with us in person, we encourage you to stop by Anderson Hall following the service for **Volunteer Recognition Coffee Hour**, where there will be opportunity to thank volunteers, greet each other, and learn about ways to connect with one another and Fourth Church. *** If you are a young adult**, please visit the Young Adult Ministry table in Coffee Hour to connect with others in their twenties and thirties. *** 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. *** Junior High** (grades 6–7) gathers at 9:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, where **Senior High** (grades 8–12) meets at 11:00 a.m. *** A Family Communion Service** for second and third graders takes place at 10:30 a.m. today in Buchanan Chapel. *** The class "Troublesome Texts and Gender:** Interpretive Strategies across the Abrahamic Faiths" meets at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. Register at bit.ly/aetexts424 for details. *** "Sermon Discussion and Fellowship"** begins at 12:15 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. *** 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**, a casual, intimate service.

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. ** 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 at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc; you can also find our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news ** 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 ** To become a member of Fourth Church, please join us for a one-session Inquirers' Class on Sunday, May 12 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 4F (register at bit.ly/inquirers524). For more information, email Associate Pastor Matt Helms (mhelms@fourthchurch.org).

Pastoral care and a listening presence

To **submit a prayer request** to our Deacon Prayer Ministry, email Gloria Fleming (*gfleming@ fourthchurch.org*) ** Also email Gloria if you would like to **talk to a pastor** or **notify pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; if the situation requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call. ** **For those facing life's challenges**, Stephen Ministers provide a listening presence. To **talk with a Stephen Minister**, leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. ** To **explore options for counseling or learn about Grief Groups** (a new one begins May 15), call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260 or visit reploglecenter.org

Worship Leaders

Joseph L. Morrow, Claudia Winkler (9:30), Carl Traynor (11:00), Nancy Benson-Nicol, Nanette Sawyer

The Music Today

The Drum Circle; John Doty, Director

Tower Brass; Charles Schuchat, Artistic Director

9:30: The Morning Choir; Micah Dingler and Laura Perkett, Soloists

11:00: The Chancel Choir; Daniel Henry, Cole Seaton, Laura Perkett, Soloists

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

THE INTROIT this morning is a paraphrase of Psalm 148 set to a traditional Indonesian melody. Widely known in Asia, the music is now growing in popularity worldwide.

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

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

SOURCES AND CREDITS: "All Creatures of Our God and King" music from the English Hymnal, 1906. The Affirmation of Faith is from Study Catechism, www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/bcr-115/.

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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