



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024 • 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Lord of the Dance Shaker melody/arr. Jason W. Krug
- Three Vignettes of India Laura Perkett
1. Melodies of Rohet
 2. A Melody of Jaipur
 3. Slowly, Reminiscing

Introit

“In the Beauty of Holiness”. Nettie L. Sawyer Lester

Come, let us worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Give him the honor; give him the praise. Come, let us worship the Lord; let’s give him the praise. Worship him, give my God the glory; give my God the praise.

***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: *In the wilderness, water brings life.*

All: **Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.**

One: *In the Word of God, the good news gives light.*

All: **Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.**

One: *Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity.*

All: **Come and praise God, the vine that gives all goodness.**



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

***Hymn 157** “I Danced in the Morning”

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain:

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.
They came with me and the dance went on. (*Refrain*)

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and left me there on a cross to die. (*Refrain*)

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. (*Refrain*)

They cut me down and I leapt up high.
I am the life that will never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. (*Refrain*)

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit.
We have not loved others as you have loved us.
We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you.
Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy,
for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus Christ. 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

Anthem

“Kyrie” (9:30) Michael Allen
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” (11:00) . . . American folk melody/arr. Virgil Thomson
My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name. In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream. He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways. He leads me for his mercy’s sake in paths of truth and grace. When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay. One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread. My cup with blessings overflows; thine oil anoints my head. The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days. O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come. No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 23

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

All: *Thanks be to God.*

***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.

Scripture Reading 1 John 4:7-21

One: *Holy wisdom, holy word.*
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Because God First Loved Amy Pagliarella

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 285** “Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

Like the murmur of the dove’s song, like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind’s rush, like the new flame’s eager might:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ’s body, to the branches of the Vine,
to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*). Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

(Continued on facing page)

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

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

New Members (9:30)

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

“Laudate Dominum” (9:30) Aaron David Miller
Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord! Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

“Be Thou My Vision” (11:00) Bob Chilcott
Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, be all else but naught to me, save that thou art. Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word; be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord. Be thou my great Father, and I thy true child; be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one. Be thou and thou only the first in my heart; O sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art; great heart of my heart, whatever befall, still be thou my vision, ruler of all.

***Offertory Response** Hymn 251, v. 1

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 love, may your life-giving spirit bring forth blessings through our gifts
in order that the hungry may be fed,
the lonely may find company,
the downtrodden may be uplifted,
and all may be inspired to love and serve you wholeheartedly. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 641** “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!
How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!
So has the church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!
And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!
Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Pageant Leo Sowerby



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.”**

Worshipping in Person

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. If you like to worship with us in person, we gather at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Entering the building

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—where the reception desk is located—and 115 E. Delaware.

Sound

- Worship can be heard through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids.
- Please silence electronic devices during worship.

Parking

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.

Worshipping Online

We livestream our 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services on our YouTube channel: bit.ly/fpcvideos

Accessing the services

Worship can be viewed anytime 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

Online extras

Links to make an online offering gift, view or print the worship bulletin, and more can be found in the descriptive text below the worship video (*after exiting full screen*) as well as on our website.

For those without Internet

Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

Let Us Know You're Here

We are grateful to be worshipping with you today and would welcome knowing you are here. Please take a moment to fill out the information form.

In person

Those worshipping with us in person are asked to add their names to the information pads in the pews, passing them down their pew so worshippers have opportunity to greet one another by name following the service. If your contact information has changed, please indicate that too.

Online

Those worshipping with us via livestream will find a link to the online form included in the descriptive text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the “Welcome” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form.

Sunday Opportunities

Sunday morning fellowship

If you are worshipping with us in person, we encourage you to stop by Anderson Hall following the service for Coffee Hour, where there is opportunity greet each other and learn about ways to connect with one another and Fourth Church.

Praying with a Deacon

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.

Adult education

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. For Zoom details, register at bit.ly/aetexts424.

Our April “Sermon Discussion and Fellowship” gathering time concludes today at 12:15 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

Pipe organ tour

Following the 11:00 service a pipe organ tour begins at the front of the Sanctuary.

Afternoon worship service

We invite you to join us this afternoon for The Gathering: Communion at 2:00, a casual, intimate service. Beena David and the Gathering Ensemble lead our music; Amy Pagliarella will be preaching.

Children and Youth

Children in worship

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.

Nursery care

During the morning services nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center for infants through two-year-olds.

Sunday school

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. The 9:30 classes also come together for a “Children’s Chapel” time of worship in Buchanan Chapel.

Youth groups

Junior High (grades 6–7) gathers at 9:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, and Senior High (grades 8–12) meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Prayer, Reflection, and Meditation

Daily devotions

We invite you to use our daily devotions for your personal reflection. To receive them by email, subscribe at bit.ly/fpcdevotions; you can also find them daily at fourthchurch.org/devotions and on Facebook and Instagram.

Weekly “Rhythm and Word” videos

Each Wednesday evening we release a ten-minute video of music, scripture, and prayer led by our staff and Gathering musicians. You can receive notice of new videos by subscribing to our YouTube channel: bit.ly/fpcvideos; to receive them in your inbox sign up at bit.ly/rhythmword

Meditation Opportunities

You are invited to a Sacred Pause time of meditation is offered on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/repleglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing

If you would like to walk the labyrinth, Buchanan Chapel is open for that opportunity between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. this Wednesday and Thursday.

Wednesday Morning Prayer

Each Wednesday we gather at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom. For details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). This Wednesday, May 1 (*and the first Wednesday of each month*) we gather for in-person Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Podcasts

During the week the Sunday morning service and sermon is made available via podcast on multiple platforms and at fourthchurch.org/podcasts

You will also find there Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger’s podcast “Bible Top Ten.” This lively, informative, and often amusing podcast explores the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists.

Joining the Fourth Church Family

Welcome, New Members!

This morning we are delighted to welcome the newest members of our Fourth Church family: Carol Ackerberg, Anna Campbell, Constance Christian, Eric Clausen, Nicole Clausen, Annie Frances, Melissa Graham, Michael Graham, Jim Marotz, Su Marotz, Staunton Peck, Samantha Wade, Ed Zehr, and Ruth Zehr. We are grateful you have chosen to join us in our life together and look forward to continuing to welcome and connect with you in the days ahead!

Becoming a member of Fourth Church

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 Matt Helms (mhelms@fourthchurch.org).

Making Music

Sing with the Choral Society

All who enjoy singing are invited to join the Fourth Church Choral Society on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. as they rehearse for singing in worship on Pentecost, May 19.

Celebrate John Sherer's music ministry

John Sherer's last Sunday as our Organist and Music Director will be June 23. As we celebrate and give thanks for his twenty-eight years of ministry among us, we hope you will mark these special opportunities on your calendar. This will be John Sherer's final season of directing the Choral Society before he moves to Rochester, New York, in late June.

- Sunday, May 19 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.: John directs the Choral Society.
- Fridays, May 31 and June 14 at 12:10 p.m.: John plays his last Friday Noonday Organ Concerts.
- Friday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m.: John plans an Organ Recital followed by a festive reception.
- Sunday, June 23 at 10:00 a.m.: John's last Sunday leading us in worship music. If you would like to sing with the choir that day, please come for an 8:45 a.m. rehearsal that morning.

Interim Music Director search

An Interim Music Director Search Committee has been formed to look for someone to lead us in music while we shape the search for our next Organist and Director of Music. We are grateful to have Organ Scholar Michael Rees leading worship music while the interim search committee undertakes its work!

Get Connected

Cornerstones fellowship

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

Handcrafts

Benevolent Guild meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create sewn and crafted items for those in need. Sewing experience is not necessary. Knitting and Crocheting meets in person on Tuesday, May 5 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B.

Bible studies

Three Bible studies meet via Zoom: Men's Bible Study at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and *Horizons* Women's Bible Study on Wednesday, May 8 at 12:00 and at 6:30 p.m. Email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org) for details.

Adult education

The one-week class "Food and Religion" meets next Sunday, May 5 at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. For details, register at bit.ly/aefoodreligion

A staged reading of *Perseverance of the Saints*, written by Kat Evans and based on the 1874 heresy trial of Fourth Church pastor David Swing, takes place at Chicago Temple on Sunday, May 5 at 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday's reading will also be livestreamed. For details and registration links for the two readings, see fourthchurch.org/adult-education

Stay Connected

You can find details about ways to connect with one another and this congregation — whether in person or online — as well as discover various resources and opportunities on our website: fourthchurch.org

Weekly newsletter

Look for information, updates, and snapshots of life at Fourth Church in our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe at bit.ly/newsfromfpc and visit our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news

Calendar

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

YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram

We invite you to follow us on various platforms.

- YouTube: bit.ly/fpcvideos
- Facebook: facebook.com/fourthchurch
- Instagram: instagram.com/fourthchurch

Caring for One Another

Stephen Ministry

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.

Counseling and well-being

To explore options for counseling or well-being offerings, call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260 or visit repluglecenter.org

Prayer requests and pastoral care

To submit a prayer request to our Deacon and Morning Prayer Ministries, please 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.

News and Updates

Pastor Nominating Committee

Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, May 19 at 12:15 p.m., both in person and via Zoom, for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee to begin the search process for our next pastor.

Summer worship schedule

Our summer worship schedule will begin Memorial Day weekend and run through the weekend of Labor Day. From May 26 through September 1, we will gather for two worship services: at 10:00 a.m. and at 2:00 p.m. This will give us opportunity to experience community during a season when many travel or have different schedules, impacting not only attendance but also the number of worship volunteers available.

Generosity Update

We are grateful to all who have made gifts in support of our mission and ministry this year. Thank you!

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GENEROSITY REPORT
Year-to-date (YTD) Contributions as of March 31, 2024

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	2024 Budget
Pledged:	\$792,533	\$792,217	\$316	\$2,845,476
General:	\$121,419	\$101,200	\$20,200	\$937,703
Restricted:	\$143,951	\$156,324	(\$12,373)	\$691,450
Total:	\$1,057,903	\$1,049,741	\$8,143	\$4,474,629

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer, Decima Panitch (9:30), Barbara Pearce (11:00), Nancy Benson-Nicol,
Amy Pagliarella

The Music Today

Handbell Choir; Briana Belding-Peck, Director
Voices of Light; Cicely Perry, Director
Morning Choir (9:30); Chancel Choir (11:00)
Laura Perkett, Oboist
Michael Rees, Organ Scholar
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

BEING PREMIERED DURING TODAY'S PRELUDE is "Three Vignettes of India," written by Morning Choir member Laura Perkett and dedicated to John Sherer with gratitude for his twenty-eight years of service to Fourth Church as Organist and Director of Music. The piece was inspired by music Laura heard performed for the Fourth Church Touring Choir during their February visit to Rohet, Jodhpur, and Jaipur, India.

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

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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