



**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!

✳️ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. ✳️ 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.



**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](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)), where they can be viewed at any time after the services begin. *(For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see [www.fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning](http://www.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.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. ✳️ On Sundays 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 located between the courtyard and the main Sanctuary doors*); at 126 E. Chestnut; and at 115 E. Delaware. ✳️ **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 for hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (*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 an usher. ✳️ **Worship can be heard** through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids. ✳️ Please silence **electronic devices** during 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. During the morning services **nursery care** for infants through two-year-olds is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

**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](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)

We ask all who are worshipping with us to **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. ✨ After worship, those worshipping in person are also invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** in Anderson Hall and the Commons.



During the week we make the Sunday morning **service and sermon available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at **www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts** ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday morning’s **sermon text by email** by subscribing at [www.bit.ly/fpcsermons](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).



Following the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services **Deacons are available in Stone Chapel** (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) to pray with those who would like to **offer prayers of praise or concern.** ✨ Following the 11:00 service a **pipe organ tour** begins at the front of the Sanctuary. ✨ We gather on Wednesdays 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](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ Our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being hosts virtually a **Sacred Pause time of meditation** at [facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing](https://facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing) on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.). ✨ Buchanan Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursday.



To **talk to a pastor or notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@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, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org) ✨ **For those facing life’s challenges**, Stephen Ministers provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. ✨ **To explore options for teletherapy or in-person conversations with a counselor**, call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260.

We gather each Sunday afternoon for **The Gathering: Communion at 2:00**, a more casual, intimate service than worship in the morning and featuring a breadth of musical expressions. The service, which takes place in the Sanctuary, **is also livestreamed**. We hope you will come experience it!



**Sunday School** takes place each Sunday at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. **Junior High** (*grades 6 and 7*) gathers at 9:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room; **Senior High** gathers there at 11:00 a.m. Eighth-grade **Confirmation** does not meet today, as they had their fall lock-in this weekend. ✨ **If your child is attending college** this fall, please email their mailing address to Katie Patterson ([kpatterson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kpatterson@fourthchurch.org)) by Sunday, October 15, as our youth groups will be assembling care packages for them the following week. ✨ **Rehearsing today are Children's Choir** (*kindergarten–grade 5*) at 9:00 a.m. in Room 4G; **Cherub Choir** (*ages 3 and 4*) at 10:15 a.m. in 4B; and **Youth Choir** (*grades 6–12*) at 10:30 a.m. in 4G.



The **Handbell Choir**, which rehearses on Sundays at 12:15 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel Loft, welcomes newcomers to join in ringing. ✨ **Voices of Light**, our Gospel choir, invites singers to join them in rehearsing on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. in Room 4G. ✨ All who enjoy singing are encouraged to join the **Fourth Church Choral Society**, with rehearsals beginning Thursday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel in preparation for a November 10 **concert honoring Morgan Simmons**, former Fourth Church Organist and Choirmaster. ✨ This week's **free Friday Noonday Concert**, which takes place in the Sanctuary and is also livestreamed, will be presented by **Organist John Sherer**.



**A Sunday morning Adult Education class** is offered each week at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room. The current series, which concludes today, is **"Celtic Spirituality," taught by Vicky Curtiss**. For the Zoom link, register at [www.bit.ly/aeceltic923](http://www.bit.ly/aeceltic923) ✨ **"Foundations of Islam: Discovering Common Ground and Debunking the Myths,"** taught by Nanette Sawyer, Arshan Khalid, and Aisha Subhan, begins next Sunday, October 1. For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/aeislam1023](http://www.bit.ly/aeislam1023)



**Men's Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. **Horizons Women's Bible Study** — which is exploring **"Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke – Acts"** — is offered via Zoom this Wednesday, September 27 at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)).

Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to tune into the new season of their **“Bible Top Ten”** podcast ([www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts](http://www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts)). This lively, informative, and occasionally funny podcast about the Bible as explored through a rotating series of top ten list has as its current theme **“Top 10 Biblical Movie Adaptations.”** ✨ This month our weekly **“Rhythm and Word”** video series explores **“Prophets and Poets”** during ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer. The videos are available by email (*subscribe at [www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail)*). New and previous videos can also be viewed on our YouTube channel: [www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) ✨ Also available by email are our **daily devotions** ([fourthchurch.org/devotions](http://fourthchurch.org/devotions)), written by members and staff as a resource for your **personal reflection and prayer**: subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)



There is still time to join one of the **Zoom Small Groups** that will begin this week! Groups will have as their focus conversation about faith journeys or Otis Moss’s *Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times*, Daniel James Brown’s *Facing the Mountain*, or C. S. Lewis’s *The Problem of Pain*. For details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ Those who would like to **learn more about this congregation** or **become a member of Fourth Church** are invited to a one-session in-person Inquirers’ Class on Sunday, October 15 at 11:15 a.m. (*register at [www.bit.ly/inquirers1023](http://www.bit.ly/inquirers1023)*). For details, email [member@fourthchurch.org](mailto:member@fourthchurch.org)



A four-week **Grief Support Group** hosted by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being begins this Wednesday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. To register (*required*), email Sharon Crawford-Tucker ([stucker@fourthchurch.org](mailto:stucker@fourthchurch.org)) or call the Center at 312.787.8425.



**TwentiesThirties young adult group** will enjoy an afternoon of free live music, theater, and dance **at Navy Pier today** following the 11:00 a.m. service; meet in Anderson Hall at 12:00 p.m. ✨ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets via Zoom this Tuesday, September 26 at 4:00 p.m. and in person on Tuesday, October 3 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ **Women at Fourth** will gather for a time of fellowship and **conversation with Rocky Supinger and Matt Helms**, co-hosts of the “Bible Top Ten” podcast, Thursday, September 28 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. Register at [www.bit.ly/waf923](http://www.bit.ly/waf923) ✨ **Cornerstones**, a group for those fifty and over, will meet on Friday, October 6 at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and a program in Borwell Dining Room. Register (*required*) at [www.bit.ly/cornerstones1023](http://www.bit.ly/cornerstones1023) ✨ **Tutors are needed** on weekday evenings, beginning in October, to partner with **Chicago Lights Tutoring** students. For details or to sign up, see [www.chicagolights.org/youth-programs/#tutoring](http://www.chicagolights.org/youth-programs/#tutoring)

**The Officer Nominating Committee is in need of recommendations** of individuals to serve in leadership positions opening in 2024 for Elder, Deacon, Trustee, Nominating Committee, and the Chicago Lights Board. If you know any Fourth Church members—including yourself!—who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry, please offer your recommendations via the online form at [www.bit.ly/nominating2024](http://www.bit.ly/nominating2024) or by using the paper forms in the pew racks. Please submit your recommendations **by Sunday, October 1.**



As we begin our 2024 stewardship campaign today, we encourage you to take time to reflect on the questions **“How is Fourth Church home to me? To others?”** and **“What will my 2024 pledge be in support of the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights?”** Then please plan to submit your 2024 pledge—which you can make using the form mailed to member homes and also available online at [www.bit.ly/fpcpledging](http://www.bit.ly/fpcpledging)—by **Commitment Sunday, October 29**, when we will celebrate all we are able to do together through our generous response to God’s blessings in our lives. ✨ Also on October 29 we look forward to welcoming to our pulpit the **Reverend Tom Are Jr., who is joining us as our Interim Pastor!** Read more at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)



Next Sunday morning, October 1, we will welcome as our **guest preacher the Reverend Brian Ellison**, Executive Director of the Covenant Network. ✨ The previous day, Saturday, September 30, we will host **“Beyond Words: From Mere Welcome to True Belonging,”** an event **sponsored by the Covenant Network of Presbyterians and the Chicago Presbytery.** The program will explore how Christians can show true hospitality to anyone who walks through our church doors, especially members of the LGBTQIA+ community. To register to attend, see [www.bit.ly/covenant923](http://www.bit.ly/covenant923)



Calling all creatures great and small! We’re having our annual **Blessing of the Animals** service on Saturday, October 7 at 10:00 a.m. outdoors in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. All pets on leashes or in carriers are welcome. You can also bring your pet’s photo to be blessed instead.



For **additional ways to connect** with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources and opportunities**, see our **website** ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)). ✨ Events are posted online on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website’s home page and at [fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://fourthchurch.org/calendar) ✨ We invite you to follow us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)), **Instagram** ([instagram.com/fourthchurch](https://instagram.com/fourthchurch)), and **Threads** ([www.threads.net/@fourthchurch](https://www.threads.net/@fourthchurch))