



Gathering

Gathering Music “Equinox”
“Black Narcissus”

*John Coltrane
Joe Henderson*

We invite you to complete the prayer card found in this worship bulletin and to place it in the plate during the sharing of gifts. Information about the prayer cards is printed on the outside back cover of the bulletin.

Welcome

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Presbyterian Church welcomes all of God’s children into the life of the church regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical limitation, educational background, or economic situation.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, you too were tired when day was done;
you met your friends at evening time.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, you too enjoyed when nights drew on;
you told your tales at close of day.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, you kindled faith when lamps were low;
you opened scriptures, broke the bread, and shed your light as darkness fell.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus. Meet us here.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

***Opening Song** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Antiphon (*Psalm 130, sung by the congregation*)

Leader: Out of the depths I called to you, O God;
God, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well
the voice of my supplication.
If you, God, were to note what is done amiss,
O God, who could stand?
For there is forgiveness with you;
therefore you shall be feared.

Antiphon

Leader: I wait for God;
with my entire being, I wait for God;
whose word is my hope.
I am eager for God,
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

Antiphon

Leader: O Israel, wait for God,
for with God there is mercy;
and great power for redemption,
God shall redeem Israel from all its sins.

Antiphon

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: As forgiven children of God, let us not be strangers to one another, but sisters and brothers in Christ. Please stand and greet one another with the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

All are invited to stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.

***Song** "Reach Out Your Hand in Peace"

Lucy Smith

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Luke 16:1–13

(page 74, N.T.)

Sermon The Hardest Parable to Understand . . .

Adam H. Fronczek

Musical Reflection

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

Please place gifts and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.

Offertory Music "We'll Understand It Better By and By"

Charles A. Tindley

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

Sanctus

Lucy Smith

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.**

The Communion

Communion Music “If the Path I Travel”

Mark Diedrich and Margaret E. Barber

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**Gracious God,
we thank you, for as confusing as life may be,
you walk with us all the way.
We thank you for this table,
where we remember the commitments
you have made to us
and where we are made strong to continue
along the journey of faith.
As you have come into our lives,
help us to be a part of your good plan for the world.
Amen.**

Sending

***Closing Song** “God of Our Life”

***Benediction**

Sending Music

A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God will be named corporately in a variety of ways that are gender neutral. This allows for your personal expressions as you are led to name the Holy in ways meaningful to you.

Worship Leaders

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Adam Fronczek | Associate Pastor |
| Edwin Estevez | Pastoral Resident |
| Maggie Lewis | Liturgist |
| Lucy Smith Quartet | Lucy Smith, vocals Michael Caskey, drums Bryan Doherty, bass Marcin Fahmy, piano |

Acknowledgments

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org
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PASTORAL STAFF

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor and Head of Staff
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Matt Helms, Minister for Children and Families
Hardy H. Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Edwin Estevez, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

Worship

A service in the style of Taizé, which is held on the fourth Friday of the month, will next be held on Friday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. It will be preceded by opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. This meditative walk takes approximately twenty minutes.

Opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is typically available on Mondays and Tuesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Morning Prayer is held weekdays in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesdays, when it is at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for opportunity to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need.

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can pray there with a Deacon at 10:30 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. or place their prayer requests in one of the prayer boxes outside Stone Chapel or in the Narthex.

Daily devotions, written by Fourth Church staff, are available in the literature racks, online at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions, and by email from devotions@fourthchurch.org.

Music and the Arts

The Choral Society welcomes new singers to rehearsal on Thursdays, beginning September 26, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. They will perform Francis Poulenc's *Gloria* on November 8.

Organist John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music at Fourth Church, will perform this Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Those who would like to receive *Music Notes*, a weekly email newsletter about music at Fourth Church, are invited to subscribe by sending email addresses to music@fourthchurch.org.

Mission and Outreach

The Benevolent Guild, which creates stuffed animals for hospitalized children, will gather this Wednesday, September 25 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. For more information about Benevolent Guild, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Chicago Shares voucher booklets offer a way to give to those in need on the streets while knowing that the \$1 gift will be redeemed at a participating grocery store or restaurant. To purchase a \$5 booklet, contact Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

Have you made your officer recommendations yet?

If not, the Nominating Committee asks that you please do so by September 30 to help them with their task of compiling a slate of elders, deacons, trustees, and Chicago Lights Board members to present at the Annual Meeting next February. You can submit your recommendations using the form online at www.fourthchurch.org or use the print form in pew racks.



News and Opportunities

News and Resources

Today we kick off “Living Stones: We Are the Church Together,” the 2014 Annual Appeal for Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Lights. Watch your mailbox in the coming days for an invitation to support the many ways in which this congregation daily lives out its call to be a vibrant, alive church in the city. For more information, contact Katy Frey Bever at 312.981.3380 (kbever@fourthchurch.org).

This week we celebrated the 101st anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of this Sanctuary on September 17, 1912. That stone, carved with 1912, can be seen outside on the northeast corner of the church. We also celebrated the first anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the Gratz Center. That stone can be seen at the base of the stairs at the Delaware entrance to Gratz. Photos of both ceremonies are posted at www.facebook.com/fourthchurch.

Be sure to “like” Fourth Church on Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) to see the latest photos of church life, keep up-to-date on church news, and access resources, including excerpts from sermons and prayers.

The September update from the PNC is posted online at www.fourthchurch.org/pnc. As noted there, the Pastor Nominating Committee is currently in conversation with a select group of candidates.

The first class of Stephen Ministers will begin fifty hours of training on October 9. Those interested in becoming a Stephen Minister are encouraged to complete an application by this week. Information is available online at www.fourthchurch.org or by contacting Judy Watt at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).

An interfaith Blessing of the Animals service will be held on Saturday, October 12 at 1:00 p.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard.

Follow Fourth Church on Twitter:
(@FourthChicago).

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Tutors for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program, one evening a week, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Habitat for Humanity volunteers for a work day on Saturday, October 5, 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Greeters and attendants for the Covenant Network Conference at Fourth Church, Oct. 31–Nov. 2

Doctors, nurses, and pharmacists to provide medical information prior to Sunday Night Supper, 3:45–5:00 p.m.

Experienced website developer to help an AIDS agency improve their website

Computer lab instructor for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program, one evening a week, 5:25–5:55 p.m., starting September 30

Current Donation Needs

Men’s and women’s sturdy seasonal clothes (coats, hats, socks, etc.)

Gently used clothes for an eleven-year-old chronically ill girl

Double paper/plastic bags with handles
Keyboards and guitars for churches in the Chicago Presbytery

Nonperishable food items for the Chicago Lights Elam Davis Social Service Center

For details or to volunteer, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org) or visit www.fourthchurch.org/mission/volunteer.html.

News and Opportunities

Enrichment

The CLL Literature and the Arts class will be held on Mondays, starting September 23, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 5G. The class will be led by Daniel Bosch, a published poet and essayist and winner of the Presidential Scholars Teacher Recognition Award in 2011. For details, adults sixty and more are invited to call Ashley Elskus at 312.981.3387.

Two opportunities to learn about Syria are being offered this week and next. "Syria: Conditions and Dislocated Residents and Refugees" will be held this Wednesday, September 25 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 4G. The Cornerstones program "Providing Medical Assistance to Victims of the Syrian Conflict," presented by Zaher Sahloul, will take place on Friday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Gratz Center. To register for this event (required), call Carol Allerton at 312.640.5448 by Wednesday, October 2.

Four new Academy for Faith and Life classes begin next Sunday, September 29: "An Introduction to the Bible," led by Kenneth Vaux at 9:30 a.m.; "Immigration and Our Journey of Faith," led by Edwin Estevez at 9:30 a.m.; "New Paths: Christians Engaging Israel," led by Robert Cathey and Esther Menn at 11:00 a.m.; and "Forgiveness," led by Vicky Curtiss at 11:00 a.m. To register, visit www.fourthchurch.org/academy.

Men's Bible Study, which meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, will next gather on Tuesday, October 1 at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop.

Craig Barnes, who preached at Fourth Church in June and is President of Princeton Theological Seminary, will be speaking on "Humility and Expectation" at the Christian Century's annual lecture. For registration details about the lecture, which will be held at the Arts Club on Thursday, October 3, contact the Century at 312.263.7510, ext. 229 (event@christiancentury.org).

Christian Century Study Groups meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room.

Fourth for Bridge will meet on Saturday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m. at a member's home. To RSVP, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

"EcoPeace with Friends of the Earth Middle East," a free Michigan Avenue Forum about interfaith transboundary environmental efforts in the Middle East, will be held on Monday, October 7.

"Introduction to SoulCollage," a seminar led by Vicky Curtiss, will be held on Saturday, October 12 at 9:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room of Parish House. To register (required), call the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center at 312.787.8425.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School classes are held at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Youth in grades 6–12 gather on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room.

The Cherub, Children's, and Youth Choirs rehearse on Sundays, with Youth Choir (grades 6–12) at 9:30 a.m., Cherub Choir (age 4–grade 1) at 10:30 a.m., and Children's Choir (grades 2–5) at 11:00 a.m.

Fellowship

Young Adults meets on Sundays for fellowship at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

Knitters and Crocheters, which meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month, will next gather this Tuesday, September 24 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 4F. For details, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to use the prayer card, found in this worship bulletin, to offer joys and/or concerns. The cards will be collected during the Sharing of Gifts (simply place the card in the offering plate as it is passed). The prayers will then be incorporated into this afternoon's Prayers of the People.

If you have a prayer you would rather not share during worship, you are invited to complete a prayer card found by one of the prayer boxes in the Narthex, at the back of the Sanctuary, and it will be passed on to Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care.

All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion, which is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available in the paper "cup" within the basket of bread), which they will then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles.

The large banners hanging in the middle of the Sanctuary were created by liturgical artist Shawna Bowman during the 4:00 worship service and are artistic representations of our worship experience.

Please turn off all cell phones when in the Sanctuary.

Large-print Bibles are available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Worship also can be heard through the "T" setting of hearing aids.

If your infant or small child needs care during the worship service, you may leave the Sanctuary and return as you wish. There is also an area in the side aisle where your child can play quietly.

Worship folders, containing quiet activities and a bulletin for children, are available from a greeter.

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks outside the South Transept doors (leading to Anderson Hall) and in the Narthex, at the back of the Sanctuary. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org/sermons/index.html.

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion with a Deacon, contact Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).

If You Are New to Fourth Church

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership and includes a light meal. Attend Monday, October 7, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, October 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, November 4, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. For membership information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (hkim@fourthchurch.org).

Information about opportunities and resources available to you here at Fourth Church is available in the literature racks as you're leaving the church. You can also find information on our website (www.fourthchurch.org), our page on Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to news@fourthchurch.org).

If you are interested in considering baptism or membership at the 4:00 p.m. service at Fourth Presbyterian Church, please see Adam Fronczek or any pastor involved in the service. Information is available about the Baptism Seminar and Inquirers' Class, which are necessary for preparation. A monthly opportunity to be baptized or join the church at the 4:00 service is available on October 27.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8. Validation tickets must be picked up from the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.