

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gathering

Gathering Music "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy" Joe Zawinul
"Love Reborn" George Duke

During this season of Lent, we reflect on our brokenness and prepare our hearts to receive the grace of God that comes to us through Christ's death and resurrection. We invite you to share your prayers with this community in a new way this season. Instead of using our traditional prayer cards, you will receive a strip of cloth and a marker with which to write your prayers of joy and concern, making sure to use other paper or the bulletin to prevent the markers from getting on the pews or hymnals. At any point during the service, you are invited to quietly bring your cloth up to the cross and either tie it on or tuck it into the wire frame surrounding the cross.

We will continue to bring our prayers to the cross during each week of Lent as we await the promise of Easter. During the week, this cross will be placed in the Commons near the Loggia, and all are invited to add their prayers as they feel led.

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: Wanderers, gatherers, homemakers, travelers,

People: we come to God.

Leader: Questioners, adventurers, believers, doubters,

People: we come to God.

Leader: Workers, menders, seekers, dreamers,

People: we come to God.

Leader: Let us worship!

***Opening Song** "Now Thank We All Our God"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession



I call to you with the depths of my be-ing! With loud voice, I cry to you. I

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: Holy and gracious God, our brokenness can be too heavy to bear.
So here and now, we will take a deep breath and lay before you
the truth of who we are. We confess to you our failure to love as
deeply and as broadly as Christ loved . . .

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: We confess to you that we still want what our neighbors have
and greed has a loud voice in our lives . . .

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: We confess to you that we are weak in the face of some temptations . . .

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

Leader: We confess to you our frailty and sense of powerlessness before the challenges
of this world . . .

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **I call to you with the depths of my being! With loud voice, I cry to you.**

**All: Merciful God, forgive us. Heal us, and make us whole,
for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: As beloved children of God, let us not be strangers to one another,
but family in Christ. Please stand and greet each other
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

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Mark 14:53–65 (*New Testament, page 49*)

Sermon *Shannon J. Kershner*

Sealing the Word

Musical Reflection

Sharing of Gifts (*Please place gifts in the plate as it is passed.*)

Offertory Music “You’ve Got a Friend” *Carole King*

***Doxology** *Lucy Smith*

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: Blessed are you, strong and faithful God . . .
 . . . we sing the ageless hymn of your glory:

Sanctus *Lucy Smith*

Minister: All holy God, how wonderful the work . . .
 . . . who taught his disciples to pray saying:

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 "The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power". *Andrae Crouch*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

O God, you have so greatly loved us,
long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us.
Give us grace that in everything we may offer ourselves,
our wills and our works, as a gift to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Song** "Amazing Grace"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner	Pastor
Layton Williams	Pastoral Resident
Lay Liturgist	Dave Nelson
Lucy Smith Quartet	Holly McGuire, Song Leader Michael Caskey, drums Bryan Doherty, bass Tom Vaitsas, piano

A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God is 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 notes

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is being received throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and the Elam Davies Social Service Center as well as the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a “One Great Hour of Sharing” gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks or write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Our Lenten sermon series, “We Were There,” calls us to engage with biblical characters who encountered Christ in his final journey to the cross.

Acknowledgments

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FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
A Light in the City

PASTORAL STAFF

Shannon J. Kershner, Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
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
Layton Williams, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

We welcome NEXT Church to Fourth Church this week, as we host their 2015 national gathering Monday through Wednesday.

We also welcome back the Progressive Youth Ministry Conference this Thursday through Saturday as we again host their national conference.

Conversations with Shannon—opportunities for small groups of Fourth Church members to get to know our Pastor, Shannon Kershner, in informal conversational settings—will be held on Sunday, May 10 in the Manse and Sunday, May 31 in the Randolph Room. To RSVP (required in advance), call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

Be sure to bookmark the Fourth Church website—www.fourthchurch.org—for easy access to the Fourth Church calendar; details about upcoming events; archives of prayers and sermons; devotions; and more

Fellowship

Presbyterian Women will gather for a time of “Good News” fellowship on Thursday, March 26 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 4F

Worship

Ted Wardlaw, President of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will preach at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship next Sunday, March 22.

Opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is available this week on Monday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Morning Prayer will be held at 9:30 a.m. (except on Tuesday, when it will be at 9:00 a.m.) in Buchanan Chapel (Monday through Wednesday) and in Stone Chapel (Thursday and Friday).

Music and the Arts

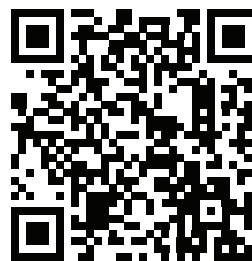
The Orpheus Choir will perform this Friday’s free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Lent and Easter

Palm Sunday—with the children’s palm processional at the beginning of the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services—is Sunday, March 29. A complete schedule of Holy Week and Easter services of worship is available at www.fourthchurch.org/lent-easter

It’s easy to share Fourth Church with friends:

whether it’s an invitation to Midweek Wednesday services, a thought-provoking reflection from a Lenten devotion, an inspiring quote from a sermon, or fun pictures of life at Fourth Church, you will find all on our page on Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch, or scan this QR code). Why not share at least one with friends this week?



News and Opportunities

Remember loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Easter flowers for the Sanctuary. A list of those honored will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Donations must be received by next Sunday, March 22 in order for the names to appear in the bulletin. Contributions can be made by completing the cards available in the literature racks or online at www.fourthchurch.org. For details, contact Allie Williams at 312.981.3383.

Tickets for Easter Brunch, which will be held Sunday, April 5 at 12:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room, are available at the reception desk today and during the week.

A Lenten Contemplative Retreat will be held Friday–Saturday, March 27–28 at the Well in La Grange Park. To register, call Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 by next Sunday, March 22.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School classes are held at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Church members to host and pass out cider to waiting worshipers prior to 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. services on Easter Sunday

Tutors for Chicago Lights Tutoring

Current Donation Needs

Clean blankets

Men's and women's sturdy winter clothes in all sizes

Individually wrapped food items

A complete list of volunteer opportunities is available online at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/volunteer.html or by contacting Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org).

Mission and Outreach

The Fourth Church Meals Ministry, Chicago Lights Tutoring and Social Service Center, as well as Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs are all supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering being received through Easter. Gifts to this offering can be made using the offering envelopes in the pew racks, by writing "Lenten Offering" on a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, or at www.fourthchurch.org

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2015 Gala of Hope! This annual benefit supports Chicago Lights, the community outreach arm of Fourth Church, and also the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, Fourth Church's response to the mental health needs of its congregation and the wider community.

Runners interested in joining the 2015 Chicago Lights Marathon Team are asked to contact Kate Solis Silva at ksolis@chicagolights.org before registering for the marathon at www.chicagomarathon.com.

In support of Earth Day, on Saturday, March 28 from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., Fourth Church will be turning off its non-essential lighting. Please visit the Care of Creation table at Coffee Hour next Sunday, March 22 to learn more about this.

Enrichment

Premarital Saturday Seminars offer couples opportunity to learn and practice skills necessary to building a healthy marital relationship. This one-session class, which will meet this Saturday, March 21 in Boyle Conference Room, is also a prerequisite for marriage at Fourth Presbyterian Church.

During Today's Worship

During this season of Lent, we reflect on our brokenness and prepare our hearts to receive the grace of God that comes to us through Christ's death and resurrection. We invite you to share your prayers in a new way this season—you will receive a strip of cloth and a marker with which to write your prayers of joy and concern. During the service, you are invited to quietly bring your cloth up to the cross and either tie it on or tuck it into the wire frame surrounding the cross. During the week, this cross will be placed in the Commons—all are invited to add their prayers.

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 chapel 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 chapel.

If your infant or small child needs care during the worship service, you may leave the chapel and return as you wish. There is also a special area where your child can play quietly; see an usher for details.

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 in the Commons, across from the reception desk. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org/sermons/index.html.

Daily Lenten devotions are also available in the literature racks in the Commons as well as via Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and our website, www.fourthchurch.org.

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, April 13, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, May 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), 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 Church, please contact Matt Helms (312.573.3362; mhelms@fourthchurch.org) 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 March 22 and April 24.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$10. Validation tickets must be picked up from the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org
312.787.4570; Fax: 312.787.4584; www.facebook.com/fourthchurch