



Gathering

Gathering Music "The Lord Will Make a Way" Thomas Dorsey
arr. Henry Sexton and Raymond Henry
"Talk about a Child That Do Love Jesus" . . . James Van Heusen and Sammy Cahn
"Organ Blue Bossa" Grimoaldo Macchia

Greeting

Unplug your ears; unbind, open your eyes that you may hear, that you may see.
Wake up! God is here. God is doing something new.
God is inviting us into a journey to discover a new world, a new upside-down kingdom.
There is a restlessness in our society, in our culture, and in many of us at the moment.
The old ways of doing things seem to be broken or at breaking point.
Christ tells us another world is possible.

*Opening Responses

Leader: God of justice, peace and righteousness come into our midst this afternoon.
People: Breathe your breath, your spirit of prophecy, your energy, your imagination on us.
Leader: Wake us up; open our eyes. Unplug our ears,
People: that we might hear and see;
Leader: that we might grieve and also dream;
People: that we might follow the ways of your extraordinary kingdom.
Leader: We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ.
People: Amen.

* Stand as you are able

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, mental health, educational background, economic situation, religious background, or documentation status.

***Opening Song** “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Please note

Copyrighted musical pieces that we do not have permission to distribute online (but only to include in the printed order of worship) are not shown in this version of the bulletin.

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Litany of Confession

People: God of wisdom, you have set before us the path,
but we have wandered on our own to try to find our way.

Leader: Sometimes we are like toddlers, and we hear your call and come back.

People: Other times, we are children testing boundaries,
ignoring your call until fear finally makes us look back.

Leader: And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion,
demanding to be cut loose and set free,
not knowing how much we still need to seek your wisdom and guidance.

People: But most of all, too often we think we are adults
and have figured it all out and know our own way, only to stumble and stray so far.

Leader: Remind us, parental God, that we are always your children,
that we are never fully grown up in your sight, that we always have much to learn.

People: Help us to seek you every day,
to acknowledge that we need your wisdom and guidance,
and help us to return to the path and walk with you.
In the name of Christ, who is our companion on this journey of faith, we pray.

(Please hold silence.)

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, hear this good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, blessed, and sent into the world.

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

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

Welcome

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Psalter Psalm 119:97–105 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Leader: O, how I love your law!
All the day long it is in my mind!
Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies,
and it is always with me.
I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your decrees are my study.
I am wiser than the elders,
because I observe your commandments.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Mindful of your truth inside me, meditate with every breath
needing only you to guide me, never turning from your path.**

Leader: I restrain my feet from every evil way,
that I may keep your word.
I do not shrink from your judgments,
because you yourself have taught me.
How sweet are your words to my taste!
They are sweeter than honey to my mouth.
Through your commandments I gain understanding;
therefore I hate every lying way.
Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Mindful of your truth inside me, meditate with every breath
needing only you to guide me, never turning from your path.**

Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:15–20 (*New Testament, page 19*)

Sermon *Nanette Sawyer*

Responding to the Word

Musical Reflection

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.

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

Offertory Music "In This Very Room" Ron Harrs and Carol Harris

***Doxology** Lucy Smith

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Sanctus *Lucy Smith*

The Communion

Communion Music "Spirit Song" *John Wimber*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Generous God of love, through your presence with us

in the form of Jesus Christ,

you have taught and continue to teach us

to love our neighbors as ourselves.

As we receive your gifts through communion and community,

strengthen us to share what we have received.

Inspire us with generosity and a spirit of abundant grace,

that we may share your love with the world. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Song.** “Let Us Build a House”

*Benediction

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer	Minister for Congregational Life
Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Samme Orwig	Lay Liturgist
Lucy Smith Quartet	Lucy Smith, vocals Marcus Evans, drums Patrick Mulcahy, bass Tom Vaitsas, piano
John W. W. Sherer	Organist and Director of Music

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.

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, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry
Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Alex Wirth, Minister for Evangelism
Nanette Sawyer, Minister for Congregational Life
Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

Worship

We gather for worship each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. (with Communion), 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and, for Jazz at Four with Communion, at 4:00 p.m.

Sacred Pause meditative silence is offered on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

Morning Prayer is held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel as a time to pray with Fourth Church staff for members and those in need.

The labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is available for walking this week on both Monday and Tuesday between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., Wednesday between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., and Saturday between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

A memorial service for Sonja Bowen will be held on Thursday, September 14 at 2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow in Anderson Hall.

The next candlelit Taizé service will be held on Friday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, as it is on the fourth Friday of each month. Prior to this contemplative time of meditative song, prayer, and silent reflection, there will be a labyrinth available in Anderson Hall for walking that evening between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Our Communion table cloth contains painted handprints from members of this worshiping community. The handprints are different shades of green—the liturgical color of the Season of Ordinary Time—symbolizing growth and change.

News and Resources

Today we welcome Alex Wirth to the Fourth Church staff. Alex will be serving as Minister for Evangelism for the next two years and as the primary pastoral presence for Jazz at Four worship.

Nominating forms for the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Chicago Lights Board are available online at www.bit.ly/fpcnominating as well as in the pew racks. Please use the forms to recommend Fourth Church members who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry. When completed, paper forms may be placed in the offering plate, dropped off at the reception desk, or mailed to the church office.

“Get Connected” through fellowship, education, and service at Fourth Church! Next Sunday, September 17, all are invited to Anderson Hall and the Commons following morning worship for the annual “Get Connected” Coffee Hour to learn about educational opportunities, fellowship groups, volunteer needs, and other activities.

Fellowship

Young Adults are discussing prayer during their weekly Sunday Gathering time at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A. Their new Bible study begins this Monday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Manse.

For ways to connect with the community of Fourth Church, visit www.fourthchurch.org/community

Needed: 10,000 single-serving snack items by Sunday, October 1!

We need your help in collecting 10,000 snack items—a two-month supply of single servings of granola bars, chips, pretzels, and fruit cups—that Fourth Church Meals Ministry will pack in the bag lunches they serve Tuesday–Wednesday–Thursday in Anderson Hall and Chicago Lights Social Service Center will include in emergency snack packs for neighbors in need during September and October. Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk.

Music and the Arts

This week's free Friday Noonday Concert will be presented by our Associate Organist, Thom Gouwens, at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Those interested in singing in the choir for 8:00 a.m. worship are invited to Chancel Choir rehearsals on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary Choir Loft.

The Fourth Church Choral Society invites all who like to sing to join them this Thursday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. for their first weekly rehearsal preparing music by Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi for a November 10 concert that will be presented at Fourth Church with the Chicago Camerata orchestra.

The Handbell Choir rehearses on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. in the Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft.

Children, Youth, and Family

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

Youth groups and Confirmation meet on Sundays at 11:00 a.m., with a weekly time for fellowship beforehand at 10:30 a.m.

Choirs for children and youth meet on Sundays in Room 4F: Cherub Choir (age 3–grade 1) at 9:00 a.m., Youth Choir (grades 6–12) at 10:00 a.m., and Children's Choir (grades 2–5) at 10:30 a.m.

"We Play Together," an interactive class for parents and their children ages eighteen to twenty-four months (by September 1), will be offered by the Day School on Tuesdays from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., September through June. To sign up (*enrollment is limited*) or for more information, contact Kathy Hager (312.640.2579; khager@fourthchurch.org).

Enrichment

Two adult education classes meet on Sundays in Room 5D: "The Language of Discipleship: A Brief Statement of Faith," led by Jeff Doane at 9:30 a.m., and "The Architecture of Faith: Exploring Sacred Spaces," led by Suzanne Morgan at 11:00 a.m.

Inquirers' Class offers opportunity to learn about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class, which is also a prerequisite for membership, next meets on Sunday, October 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. Class attendees are encouraged to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. that day.

A new Center for Life and Learning program year kicks off this week. The CLL offers a wide range of classes, exercise programs, and day trips for adults sixty and over. Details—including opportunities to register for classes and renew CLL membership—are available online at www.fourthchurch.org/ctl

Books by Women book group will discuss Madeleine Thien's *Do Not Say That We Have Nothing* this Tuesday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. Group participants need not commit to attending every monthly gathering but can join as their schedules allow and the books interest them.

Horizons Bible Study on Hebrews, a monthly study for women, begins this Wednesday, September 13 at 12:00 p.m. in Room 5H.

Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesday, September 19 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Christian Century Study Groups, which discuss the challenging social, ethical, and theological topics presented in the magazine *Christian Century*, begin Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room. RSVP to Anne Ellis (312.573.3369).

Daily devotions are available via email (*sign up at* www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); in the literature racks; and at facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), and www.fourthchurch.org

Volunteers/Donations Needed

102 new tutors by October 2 to work with students of the Chicago Lights Tutoring program one evening a week at the church; a one-session volunteer orientation will be offered on various days: September 12, 13, 18, and 26 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room (*to learn more or to RSVP online for an orientation session, go to www.tutoringnvo2017.eventbrite.com*)

Individuals to staff the Book Nook during the 12:00 noon Sunday Coffee Hour

Sunday School teachers for 11:00 a.m. classes

Greeters for the Jazz at Four 4:00 p.m. worship service

Men's pants, all sizes and styles, for the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center Share Shop

Shopping bags—large-size, from grocery or department stores—for guests of the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center Share Shop and Food Pantry

Donations can be left at the reception desk. To sign up—or for additional volunteer opportunities—contact Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry, at 312.981.3382 (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

Mission and Outreach

Gifts to the Disaster Relief Offering to help meet the emergency needs of those affected by recent disasters can be made online at www.fourthchurch.org

Produce from the Chicago Lights Urban Farm is available at their Farmstand (444 W. Chicago) on Saturdays (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.).

A Chicago Lights bake sale, hosted by the Associates Board, will be held during morning Coffee Hours next Sunday. All proceeds benefit Chicago Lights, Fourth Church's nonprofit community outreach arm.

The Benevolent Guild gathers on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create gifts for hospitalized children.

Chicago Shares voucher booklets—which offer a way to give to those in need on the streets while knowing that the \$1 gift will be redeemed at a grocery store or restaurant—are available by emailing Nancy Davis (ndavis@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 prayer requests will be read by the pastoral staff during the week.

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.

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

Please silence all electronic devices when in the Sanctuary.

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 left-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. 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. Attend Sundays, October 8, November 12, or December 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room. We invite you to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. the day you attend the class. For details or membership information, contact Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org) at 312.274.3815 or go to www.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 Nancy Davis (ndavis@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 September 24.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up from the Chestnut Street reception desk.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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