



Gathering

Gathering Music “Wade in the Water”. *African American spiritual*
“Take Me to the Water” *Traditional*

Greeting

*Opening Responses

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

The One who granted us the breath of life is present here to greet us.

Praise God for the gift of life and the linking of our lives with one another.

God’s own Spirit rests upon us, drawing us into the family of faith.

We have been baptized into Christ and share in the mission entrusted to Jesus.

The good news of peace is for all people, for God shows no partiality.

Open up your heavens to us, O God, that your reality may be inescapably apparent. 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.

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.

For details on the licenses, permission to reprint, and copyright information for the musical pieces not included here, please see the “Acknowledgments” page later in this bulletin.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Loving God, we confess our tendency to focus our world on our individual self.
We miss the opportunities you bring before us to remember our collective history,
to connect with our community and learn from one another.
We become nervous to share in our vulnerabilities,
wanting to exhibit a false all-togetherness,
and miss that you’re here with us,
working through strangers and neighbors.
As John prepared the way for Jesus and Jesus makes a way for us,
help us find joy and strength in the connection of community,
for this faith journey is one we cannot do alone. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

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

Minute for Discipleship

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Psalter Psalm 29 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **May God give strength to the people, may God bless the people with peace.**

Leader: Ascribe to God, you gods;
ascribe to God glory and strength.
Ascribe to God the glory due the name;
worship God in the beauty of holiness.
The voice of God is upon the waters;
the voice of God thunders.
God is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of God is a powerful voice;
the voice of God is a powerful splendor.
The voice of God breaks the cedar trees;
God breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **May God give strength to the people, may God bless the people with peace.**

Leader: God makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
The voice of God splits the flames of fire;
the voice of God shakes the wilderness.
God shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of God makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forest bare.
And in the temple of God, all are crying, "Glory!"
God sits enthroned above the flood;
God sits enthroned as ruler forevermore.
God shall give strength to the people;
God shall give the people the blessing of peace.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **May God give strength to the people, may God bless the people with peace.**

Scripture Reading

Mark 1:1–11 (New Testament, page 32)

Sermon Abbi Heimach-Snipes

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, pledges, and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.*)

Offertory Music "Shall We Gather at the River" Robert Lowry

***Doxology** Lucy Smith

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Sanctus *Lucy Smith*

The Communion

Communion Music "Out of Deep, Unordered Water" *C. Hubert H. Parry and Fred Kaan*

Closing Prayer *(unison)*

The One who granted us the breath of life has baptized us with water and the Spirit.

**We are supported and strengthened by God's love
and by the family of faith of which we are a part.**

Carry forward the mission that Christ entrusts to us: proclaim peace to all people everywhere.

Our differences are celebrated in the healing streams of God's impartiality.

In humility, and yet with confidence, we go out to witness to our faith. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Song.** “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

***Benediction**

Sending Music

*Benediction

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Abbi Heimach-Snipes	Pastoral Resident
Maggie Shreve	Lay Liturgist
Lucy Smith Quartet	Allison Orobia, vocals Michael Caskey, drums Bryan Doherty, bass Amr Fahmy, piano

Today's Minute for Discipleship is presented by Marsha Heizer on behalf of the Spiritual Formation Council.

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
Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry
Nanette Sawyer, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Alex Wirth, Minister for Evangelism
Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

Worship

A candlelit Taizé service is held on the fourth Friday of each month (January 26) at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

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

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

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

The memorial service for Center for Life and Learning members who died in 2017 will be held this Thursday, January 11 at 12:00 p.m. in Stone Chapel.

The labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is available for walking this week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday. (See page 4 for times.)

Enrichment

A spiritual pilgrimage to Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, will take place April 6–13. Applications are due Monday, January 15. Information and an application form are online at www.bit.ly/ghostranch18

Men's Bible Study next meets on Tuesday, January 16 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Women at Fourth's Horizons Bible study meets Wednesday noon, January 10 in Room 5H.

Books by Women will discuss *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly this Tuesday, January 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Two new adult education classes begin next Sunday, January 14: "Reading Paul with the Protestant Reformers," led by Stephen Chester at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5D, and a viewing of the film *An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story* at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5G with discussion led by Robin Lovin.

"Women of God's Story" will be the theme of this year's Women's Retreat on Saturday, January 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Fourth Church. For details, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

"Fifteen Days of Free Liberal Arts Education" describes the January Series of one-hour lectures offered by Calvin College and shown via live video feed on weekdays January 3–23 (*except January 15*) at 11:30 a.m. in Page Smith: www.calvin.edu/january

The "Path of Discipleship" Lenten series begins Tuesday evenings, February 20. Details and registration information are available in the literature racks and at www.bit.ly/fpcpod2018

A meditation group hosted by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us in welcoming Lucy Forster-Smith!

Lucy Forster-Smith joined the Fourth Church staff this week in the new position of Senior Associate Pastor for Leadership Development and Adult Education. She is responsible for supervision and leadership for associate pastors; working with our lay leaders; and facilitating the work of the Nominating, LEAD, and Adult Education Committees.



News and Resources

A new Grief Group begins Monday, February 5. To sign up (*required*), call the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.8425.

Martin Luther King Jr. weekend events that the Fourth Church Racial Equity Council invites you to consider are a labyrinth walk (this Saturday, January 13, 10:00–11:00 a.m., in Buchanan Chapel); a presentation by Daniel Davis on “Honoring the Legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.: What We Can Do” (Sunday, January 14 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5G); a performance of *Too Hot to Handel: The Jazz-Gospel Messiah* (on Sunday, January 14 at 3:00 p.m. at Auditorium Theatre; use code RECFPC at www.bit.ly/2kfFyfA for our group discount); and a “Faith in Action” assembly with the Community Renewal Society (Monday, January 15 at Old St. Patrick’s Church; register at www.bit.ly/CRSMLK18).

Individuals experiencing life challenges can benefit from being paired with a Stephen Minister, who walks alongside them as a listening presence. The next fifty-hour training course for new Stephen Ministers begins February 3. The application process for new Stephen Ministers closes on Friday, January 19. Details are available in the literature racks and online at www.bit.ly/2yOefl0

“How the Constant Use of Technology Is Changing Us” will be the topic of a one-day conference hosted by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Saturday, February 24 at the church. For details or to register, call the Replogle Center at 312.787.8425.

Children, Youth, and Family

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

Youth gather for fellowship on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, followed by youth group meetings at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School children will be joining their parents in worship next Sunday, January 14 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. They will sit with their families until just prior to the sermon, when they will leave with their teachers for their Sunday School classrooms.

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

Tunes for Tots, for parents and children up to two years old, meets on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in Day School Classroom B.

Registration for the Junior High retreat (which will take place January 26–28 in Williams Bay, Wis.) is due on January 12: www.bit.ly/JHRetreat18

Registration for youth mission trips is due on January 21: www.bit.ly/youthtrips2018

Fellowship

The Young Adults group, for individuals and couples in their twenties and thirties, meets weekly for their Sunday Gathering at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

Men’s Breakfast will meet for a presentation and meal this Saturday, January 13 at 8:00 a.m. in the Parish House Dining Room. Gregory Sakowicz, Rector of Holy Name Cathedral, will present a program on “Ecumenism and Forgiveness.”

Music and the Arts

CSO concertmaster Robert Chen will present this week's free Friday Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

A new exhibition of art by members and friends of Fourth Church is on display this month in the Loggia Gallery.

Mission and Outreach

Fourth Church Prison Ministry is launching this year. Those interested in learning more or taking part are invited to a one-session information time offered next Sunday, January 14 at 12:20 p.m.

The Interfaith Coalition Against Racism is offering "Confronting the Moral Crisis of Mass Incarceration" on Thursdays, January 25 to February 15 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Chrysostom's (1424 N. Dearborn). Details are available online at saintc.org/justice

The Benevolent Guild meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create taggies and stuffed animals 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).

Our 25th anniversary Gala of Hope will be Friday evening, March 2 at the Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel.

The 2018 Chicago Marathon team for Chicago Lights is recruiting runners. To sign up, contact Lauren Suppes (lsuppes@fourthchurch.org; 312.981.3383).

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Fifty new tutors to volunteer with Chicago Lights Tutoring one evening a week at the church; a new tutor orientation session will be held this Wednesday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room

Hosts on weekdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for the Calvin College January Series shown in the Page Smith Room

Leaders for 2018 youth mission trips; details and a sign-up form are online at www.bit.ly/youthtrips2018

Greeters for 4:00 p.m. Sunday worship

Single-serving snack items for Fourth Church Meals Ministry and the Social Service Center (5,000 items are needed each month)

Large paper shopping bags for use by guests of the Social Service Center Share Shop and Food Pantry

Men's clothing (all sizes) for guests of the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center Share Shop

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).

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, January 14, February 11, or March 11 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 Alex Wirth (awirth@fourthchurch.org; 312.981.3399) 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 January 28.

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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