



We Approach God

Gathering Music

Greeting

*Joining Our Voices

(The congregational responses are in boldface type)

From the corners of worry and fear,
from the shadows where we huddle with our doubts,

**God calls us to this place of sanctuary
where we can draw from love's deep wells.**

In every moment where we look for strength to continue,
in every time we wonder if faith is worth it,

**Jesus calls us to this time
where we can welcome the peace given to us.**

In every person who embraces us with acceptance,
in every touch that offers healing and hope,

**the Spirit calls us to see those around us
as God's beloved, our siblings of grace.**

* 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** "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

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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We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Gracious God, when sin and death hover around us like famished vultures,
you fill us with new strength so they cannot feed on us;
when our bitterness clamps tight around our hearts with its steel-like teeth,
you pry us loose with your scarred hands so we might walk in faith with you;
when we stack our hurts one on top of another, like kindling wood,
ready to set the match of our anger to the pile,
you pour your spirit of forgiveness upon them,
until they are soaked so thoroughly nothing can ignite them.**

**Our help, our hope, our life, our peace are truly found
in the name of our brother and savior, Jesus Christ.**

(Please hold silence.)

God Forgives and Blesses Us

Hear the good news:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**We hear the good news,
we believe the good news,
we will live out the good news.
Thanks be to God. Amen!**

***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.

Welcome

Psalter Psalm 139:1–18 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Leader: God, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
You trace my journeying and my resting and are acquainted with all my ways.
Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O God, know it altogether.
You press upon me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is a mystery I cannot fathom.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Even before words rise up in prayer, you have already heard my call.
O my beloved, you have searched me and known me.**

Leader: Where can I go then from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,"
darkness is not dark to you; night is as bright as day; darkness and light are the same.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Even before words rise up in prayer, you have already heard my call.
O my beloved, you have searched me and known me.**

Leader: For you created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you because I am wonderfully and fearfully made;
your works are wonderful. I know it well.
My body was not hidden from you,
while I was made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my limbs, unfinished in the womb; they were written in your book;
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
How deep I find your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them!
I count them, but they number like sand;
my life span would need to be like yours to count them.

ANTIPHON (*unison*) **Even before words rise up in prayer, you have already heard my call.
O my beloved, you have searched me and known me.**

Scripture Reading

Mark 9:38–50. (New Testament, page 42)

Sermon Nanette Sawyer

We Offer Ourselves

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.

Minute for Discipleship

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

Offertory Music

***Doxology** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

We Feast Together

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 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

The Communion

Communion Music

We Go Out with Gratitude

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

God of love, we thank you that you open our eyes so we can see you rightly;
you open our hands so we can be generous and fair; you guide our feet so we can follow Jesus.
Even as you have blessed us, send us now to carry the love of Christ into the world. Amen.

Commissioning of Greeters

***Sending Song** “God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Today’s commissioning of our Jazz at Four greeters is an affirmation of their dedicated service to our church, its members, and those who are among us as visitors.

Gordon Addington, Paula Addington, Carol Almashy, Anita Balodis, Linda Bergdahl, Martha Brown, Clark Costen, Robert Crouch, Cary Donham, Lynne Driver, Catherine Flaa, Joanne Gaines, Kenneth Gaines, Pamela Greanias, James Jacobs, Nancy Jacobs, Judith Kerch, Jean Marie Koon, Adrienne Kostreva, Constance Logelin, Thomas Mullaney, Gerald Murphy, John Nelson, Eric Olson, Samme Orwig, Marija Petrauskas, Arlene Raine, Ellen Schaller, Stephen Schlegel, Alex Shepard, Roger Wilson

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer	Associate Pastor
Joseph L. Morrow	Minister for Evangelism
Nathalie Loma	Lay Liturgist
Musicians	Leslie Beukelman, vocals; Bryan Doherty, bass; Marcus Evans, drums; Amr Fahmy, piano

Today's Minute for Discipleship is presented by Samme Orwig on behalf of "Called to Be a Church Alive!" the 2019 Annual Appeal for Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Lights

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
Joseph L. Morrow, Minister for Evangelism
Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Pastoral Resident
Shawn Fiedler, Ministerial Associate for Worship
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

“Called to Be a Church Alive,” our 2019 Annual Appeal, is underway! Pledge cards are in the pew racks, and information has been mailed to members about the ways in which your pledges are vital to supporting the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights. Please plan to submit your pledge by Sunday, October 28, when we will celebrate what it means to be a loving, serving church alive!

Today is the last day to submit names of individuals—including yourself—for the Officer Nominating Committee to consider as 2019 candidates for Elder, Deacon, or Trustee. Recommendations can be made using the forms in the pew racks or online at www.bit.ly/fpcnominating

Directions and the easiest routes for getting to church on Sunday, October 7 are at www.fourthchurch.org/marathon.pdf

Inquirers’ Class, which offers opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian church history and beliefs, next meets Sunday, October 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room. To register for this one-session class that is also a prerequisite for membership, visit www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers

Individuals experiencing life challenges can benefit from being paired with a Stephen Minister. For more information visit www.fourthchurch.org/carings

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Ushers for the 8:00 a.m. service

Book Nook volunteers for the 12:00 p.m. Sunday Coffee Hour

Shower Ministry greeters for rotating Tuesday schedule (1:15–4:00 p.m.)

Volunteer to unload Meals Ministry food truck once a month—around 3 hours; must be able to lift 50 pounds

Our “5,000 Snacks by October 1” drive for Meals Ministry bag lunches is still in need of granola bars, chips, pretzels, and fruit cups; donations can be dropped at or shipped to the church reception desk (“Attn: Meals Ministry”)

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).

Looking to build community at Fourth Church?

Meet new people? Share your gifts with others? Grow in faith? Engage in learning and conversation? Explore new opportunities? Let us know your interests and gifts by filling out a profile during Coffee Hour or available online at www.fourthchurch.org/login and we’ll help you identify ways to get connected or reconnected!



News and Opportunities

Worship

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

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.

This Saturday's Blessing of the Animals service will take at 10:00 a.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard (or, in the event of rain, in Buchanan Chapel). Bring your pet (on a leash or in a carrier) or their photo.

Brian Ellison, Executive Director of the Covenant Network, will be our guest preacher next Sunday, October 7 at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.

World Communion Sunday is next Sunday, a day when worshipers around the world gather for the Lord's Supper. We will celebrate Communion at all four worship services that day.

The next candlelit Taizé service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel on Friday, October 26.

Children, Youth, and Family

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

Youth gather on Sundays with Junior High (grades 6–8) at 9:30 a.m. in Bumpus; a time of fellowship for all youth at 10:30 a.m. in Allison Library; and Senior High (in Bumpus) and Confirmation gatherings (Room 4G) at 11:00 a.m.

The Day School will offer complimentary introductory classes of its new toddler program "Together We Play" on October 2 and 9, which is open to any parent and child 18 months to 2 years. For more information or to register, email Josie Phelps (jphelps@fourthchurch.org).

Tunes for Tots will meet next Sunday, October 14 in the Nursery at 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship

Cornerstones—a group for those fifty and older—meets this Friday, October 5 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room for a dinner and a presentation on "The New Old Post Office" by Les Ventsch. Register online by Wednesday, October 3 at www.bit.ly/cfpc1018

Movie Club will meet on Tuesday, October 9 at 6:30 p.m. to watch the comedy classic *Young Frankenstein* in Room 4F. Bring a dessert to share.

News and Opportunities

Enrichment

A Replogle Center meditation group meets on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Boyle Room.

Men's Bible Study will meet at 7:30 a.m. this Tuesday, October 2 in the Loop. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369).

New adult education classes will begin in October. "Care of Creation" begins October 7 at 9:30 a.m.; "The Impact of Gun Violence" begins October 14 at 11:00 a.m.; and "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About the Bible" begins October 21 at 9:30 a.m. For course descriptions visit, www.fourthchurch.org/academy

Books by Women will meet next Tuesday, October 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room to discuss *The Door* by Magna Szabo.

A men's discussion group on "How God Speaks to Us through Scripture," led by Tom Forster-Smith, will begin October 12. Register (*required*) with Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Horizon's women's Bible study will meet next Wednesday, October 10 at 12:00 p.m. in Room 5H.

Men's Breakfast will meet on Saturday, October 13 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 4E.

Music and the Arts

This week's Free Friday Noonday concert is presented by Wind Energy with Michele McGovern on flute in Buchanan Chapel.

Mission and Outreach

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

An Interfaith Immigrant Justice Vigil will take place this Tuesday, October 2 at 5:15 p.m. in the courtyard. For details call Vicky Curtiss (312.981.3598).

Purple bows will be tied on the trees outside the church on Michigan Avenue at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 5 in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness month. Contact Anne Ellis if you would like to help (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

A Peace and Global Witness Offering, which supports efforts toward peacemaking in our denomination as well as local efforts to address violence in Chicago through CureViolence, will be received next Sunday, World Communion Sunday.

Chicago Lights Tutoring begins its fifty-fourth year this week. We look forward to welcoming back for a new school year the 440 students who will meet one-to-one with their tutors here at the church one evening a week. New tutors are still needed. For details, contact Meg Sutter (msutter@fourthchurch.org)

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to use the prayer card, available from the ushers, 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" or "T-coil" 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, 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 Sunday, October 14 or November 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room (register online for the class at www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers). 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 Joe Morrow (member@fourthchurch.org; 312.981.3399) or go to www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers

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 considering baptism or becoming a member of Fourth Church during the 4:00 p.m. service, please contact Joe Morrow (jmorrow@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 October 28 or November 25.

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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