



We Approach God



Gathering Music

Third Sunday of Easter

*Call to Worship

When Thomas touched the wounds of Jesus and set himself free,

it was Easter day.

When Peter's three Yes's to Jesus finished his three denials,

it was Easter day.

When Mary, ready to embalm the dead, ran in fear from the empty tomb,

it was Easter day.

When the disciples looked from afar at a breakfast of fish on the beach,

it was Easter day.

When Emmaus became synonymous with welcome and breaking bread with strangers,

it was Easter day.

When Paul was blinded by the light and recognized the voice calling in his head,

it was Easter day.

When the hungry are fed at the same table as the rich,

it is Easter day.

When weapons are beaten to ploughshares and peace is lived among us,

it is Easter day.

When the stranger is welcomed in community and the lonely are restored to relationship,

it is Easter day.

Every day is Easter Day.

We worship a resurrected God! Alleluia!

* Please rise in body or spirit

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** “Now the Green Blade Rises”

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*)

**Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts and fears
override our hope and faith.**

**Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of your love
and instead fall into despair and gloom.**

**Lift up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember
the promise of new life here and now,
not just the hope of resurrection for the future.**

**We give thanks for your Son, Jesus the Christ,
who continues to offer us new life;
who continues to turn us around and upside down;
who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life.**

Forgive us, restore us, and renew us.

In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, we pray.

(Please hold silence.)

God Forgives and Blesses Us

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.

Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*congregation sings the antiphon*) Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth! You made your glory higher than heaven! From the mouths of nursing babies you have laid a strong foundation because of your foes, in order to stop vengeful enemies.

When I look up at your skies, at what your fingers made—the moon and the stars that you set firmly in place—what are human beings that you think about them; what are human beings that you pay attention to them? You’ve made them only slightly less than divine, crowning them with glory and grandeur.

**ANTIPHON: All that you have made, you have placed in our hands.
How powerful is your name in all the earth.
All that you have made, you have placed in our hands.
How powerful is your name in all the earth.**

You’ve let human beings rule over your handiwork, putting everything under their feet—all sheep and all cattle, the wild animals too, the birds in the sky, the fish of the ocean, everything that travels the pathways of the sea. Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!

**ANTIPHON: All that you have made, you have placed in our hands.
How powerful is your name in all the earth.
All that you have made, you have placed in our hands.
How powerful is your name in all the earth.**

Scripture John 21:1–17

Sermon Nanette Sawyer

We Offer Ourselves

Musical Reflection

Minute for Mission

Sharing of Gifts

In gratitude for the love and grace extended to us by God, we share our resources to support ministries of justice, mercy, and beauty. Please place your gifts and pledges in the plate as it passes.

Offertory Music

***Gloria** "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

We Feast Together

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

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”

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

*We celebrate an open table. All, including children, are invited to the Lord’s Table to receive Communion.
You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the
bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer
stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.*

We Go Out with Gratitude

*Prayer of Thanksgiving *(unison)*

Holy God, you have given us everything—a creation filled with beauty and possibility.

Thank you for the beauty of the earth, the glory of the skies, and the love with which you hold each of us. Thank you for the abundant life you offer us. Help us to receive that abundance, to care for it, to share it everywhere we go. In the name of the resurrected Christ we pray. Amen.

*Closing Song “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*Benediction

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer Associate Pastor
Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism
Anita Balodis Lay Liturgist
The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Today's Minute for Mission is presented by Holly O' Mara on behalf of the Care of Creation Committee.

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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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

We are glad to have you with us today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church! ✱ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. ✱ We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



The new **"Big Questions" sermon series** begins today by exploring "Why care about creation? Isn't God in control?" Next week, May 12, we'll consider "Are we saved?" On Sunday, May 19 we will wrestle with "How can we be church with differing political views?" ✱ We will then take a break on Sunday, May 26 to welcome **Father Elias Chacour** to the pulpit at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Father Chacour is internationally known for his work for reconciliation between Palestinians and Jews. ✱ **Each Sunday we come together to worship** at 8:00 (Communion), 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for a jazz Communion service here in Buchanan Chapel. ✱ On Wednesday mornings we gather in the chapel for **Morning Prayer**, an opportunity to pray for all Fourth Church members by name throughout the year and for those in need.



Today is **Care of Creation Sunday**, a day when we hold in prayer God's amazing creation and recommit ourselves to the good stewardship of that life-giving gift. ✱ This Sunday and May 19 we will be piloting the composting of materials from Coffee Hour and Sunday Night Supper. ✱ Another opportunity to take part in "reusing" takes place on Saturday, May 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.: our annual **Bike Drive** to collect used bicycles and parts for repair and distribution to those in need of a means of transportation here in Chicago as well as in Africa and Latin America. ✱ Also this Saturday, May 11 if you are looking for plant starts for your home garden or your planters, stop by the Chicago Lights Urban Farm (444 W. Chicago) between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. for their **plant sale**. ✱ Men's Breakfast that morning will include a program on **Openlands**, which works to protect the natural and open spaces of northeastern Illinois and the surrounding region to ensure cleaner air and water, protect natural habitats and wildlife, and help balance and enrich our lives.



We believe in living out our **commitment to mission** by sharing in the struggles and hopes of our brothers and sisters both in this city and around the world, working together for a world of compassion, peace, and justice. As an expression of that commitment, travelers from Fourth Church will be spending this week with our sister congregation, the **First Presbyterian Church of Havana**, in Havana, Cuba. ✱ We also have several upcoming opportunities to learn about ministries of compassion and justice. On Tuesday, May 14 at 8:00 a.m. at Catholic Charities (721 N. LaSalle), there will be an "On the Table" presentation about **"Better Health through Housing,"** and on Tuesday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room, there will be a program on **inequities plaguing Chicago public schools**.



Sunday School children will join us in worship next Sunday, May 12 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., sitting with their parents until just prior to the sermon, when children leave with their teachers for their Gratz 4 classrooms. Next Sunday will also be the **last week of Sunday School**. * **Summer Sunday School** will begin on June 2 with just one session on each Sunday, at 9:30 a.m. If you're planning to join us for **Family Camp** (May 17–19) in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, be sure to sign up this week! * Registration is also open for **Vacation Bible School**, which this summer takes us to ancient Greece with the Apostle Paul the mornings of August 5–9.



In addition to our **daily devotions**, we offer several other resources for **meditation and reflection**. Each Tuesday, we begin the day with time set apart for **Sacred Pause** meditation, twenty minutes of silence in Stone Chapel at 7:45 a.m. * We then end the day with **Tuesday evening meditation**, hosted by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, at 7:00 p.m. * Later this month, on Thursday, May 23 at 5:30 p.m., **Women at Fourth** will hold a program on contemplative prayer, and our monthly candlelit **Taizé service** will be held on Friday, May 24 at 7:30 p.m.



For those looking to enrich their faith, **Men's Bible study** gathers this Tuesday morning, May 7 in the Loop, as it does on the first and third Tuesday of each month. * This Wednesday noon, the **Horizon's Bible study** for women also has its monthly meeting. * Later in May, a three-month **Men's Faith Discussion group** will begin on Friday mornings. Those who are interested in joining this small group for study and sharing are asked to register in advance (*see the sign-up page noted on page 11.*)



Our other opportunities to learn together include the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being's "**Music, Nostalgia, and Wellness**" program on Wednesday afternoon, which will invite those sixty and over to share the soundtrack of their lives (*class size is limited; advance registration is required*). * Then next Tuesday evening, May 14, **Books by Women** will discuss Paulette Jiles' *News of the World*.



Are you planning to run the Chicago Marathon this year? If so, we hope you will join the **Chicago Lights Marathon Team** in support of our nonprofit community outreach arm, Chicago Lights. * Another running—and walking!—opportunity will take place on Saturday, June 1, when the Racial Equity Council will be raising funds for antiracism work through the **GospelRun**. Walkers and runners are needed as are donations in support of them.



Taking part in our walking and running teams is just one way to support the mission and ministry of Fourth Church. We are also in need of individuals to **serve as greeters** to welcome and assist worshipers during Sunday Jazz at Four services. * **Youth Ministry** is also recruiting an adult leadership team for the 2019–2020 program year, which begins in September. To learn about helping with Sunday morning programs for junior high and high school youth or to accompany students on lock-ins and weekend retreats, visit our online sign-up page. * To add your name or learn about other volunteer opportunities, please contact Robert Crouch (312.981.3382; rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

Calendar for May 5–12, 2019

Sunday, May 5	4:00 p.m.	Jazz at Four • Nanette Sawyer preaching	Buchanan Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper	Anderson Hall
Monday, May 6	9:00 a.m.	Day School (<i>also Tues.–Fri.</i>)	Day School Classrooms
	4:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Monday Night Supper	Catholic Charities
	5:00 p.m.	Chicago Lights Tutoring (<i>also Tues.–Thurs.</i>)	Gratz Fifth Floor
Tuesday, May 7	7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	(see website sign-up page)
	7:45 a.m.	Sacred Pause Meditation	Stone Chapel
	12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunches (<i>also Wed.–Thurs.</i>)	Anderson Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Tuesday Evening Meditation	Boyle Conference Room
Wednesday, May 8	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Buchanan Chapel
	9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Room 5B
	12:00 p.m.	Horizon's Bible Study	Room 5H
	1:00 p.m.	"Music, Nostalgia, and Wellness"	Boyle Conference Room
Thursday, May 9	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m.	Choral Society Rehearsal	Buchanan Chapel
Friday, May 10	12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Organist Thom Gouwens	Sanctuary
Saturday, May 11	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast	Room 4E
	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Bike Drive	115 E. Delaware Entrance
	11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Plant Sale at Chicago Lights Urban Farm	444 W. Chicago
Sunday, May 12	8:00 a.m.	Worship • Rocky Supinger preaching	Sanctuary
	8:00 a.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Buchanan Choir Loft
	9:00, 10:30 a.m.; 12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall / Commons
	9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Nursery	Nursery / Day School
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m.	Worship • Shannon J. Kershner preaching	Sanctuary
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m.	Children in Worship	Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Youth Groups	Bumpus Room
	9:30 a.m.	Meditating on the Psalms	Room 5E
	10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.	Time of Prayer with Deacons	Stone Chapel
	11:00 a.m.	Marilynne Robinson's Essays	Room 5E
	12:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Tour	Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m.	Organ Tour	Sanctuary
	4:00 p.m.	Jazz at Four • Joseph L. Morrow preaching	Buchanan Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper	Anderson Hall

For details, go to www.fourthchurch.org/sign-up

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to visit a prayer station to offer joys and concerns by writing them on a prayer card. The cards will be collected at the end of worship, read by the pastoral staff during the week, and then displayed in an ongoing art project.

We celebrate an open table at Communion. All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion. You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.

Worship can be heard through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids.

Please silence all electronic devices when in the Chapel.

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org/sermons and by email: subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons

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, May 12 or June 9 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 (subscribe online at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc).

If you are interested in 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 April 28.

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).

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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