



We Approach God

Gathering Music

*Call to Worship

Come, all who are weary or feeling depleted.

We gather close to the God who strengthens us.

Come, all who are lonely or feeling lost.

We gather close to the God who finds us.

Come, all who are grieving, afraid, or sad.

We gather close to the God who heals us.

Come, all who are happy, content, or joyful.

We gather close to the God who celebrates with us.

Come, all of you, everyone, from north, south, east, or west.

We gather to worship the God who loves all!

* 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.

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.

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession

**Holy One, sometimes we lose our way and we feel lost.
Sometimes we are lost and we don't even know it
but realize later that we have gone astray, made mistakes,
harmed others by our actions or inactions. Forgive us.**

(Please hold silence for personal contemplation.)

**Open our eyes to see ourselves clearly.
Call us to your table to be loved and healed.
Fill us with strength and conviction to change our ways,
to correct our mistakes when we can, to begin anew today. Help us.**

(Please hold silence for personal contemplation.)

**Pour your compassion into our hearts. Where we are hungry, fill us.
Where we think poorly of ourselves or others, give us a new mind, a new perspective.
Where we feel compulsions, relieve us. Turn us again toward you. Heal us.**

(Please hold silence for personal contemplation.)

God Forgives and Blesses Us

Hear 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.

Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*congregation sings the antiphon*). Psalm 51:1–15

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.
Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.
Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.
Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.

ANTIPHON

Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

ANTIPHON

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.
Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare your praise.

ANTIPHON

Scripture Luke 15:1–10

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon Nanette Sawyer

We Offer Ourselves

Musical Reflection

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*)

God of new life and second chances, we thank you for finding us again and again.
Thank you for eating with us at the communion table and for teaching us
how to be your body, united in our diversity, answering your call to follow you.
Send us out into the world to carry your love and kindness to all we meet. Amen.

***Closing Song** "I Love to Tell the Story"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

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

A Disaster Relief Offering is being received today to help meet the emergency needs of those affected by Hurricane Dorian. Gifts, which will be distributed through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, can be made by using the Disaster Assistance envelopes, by writing “Disaster Assistance” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, or online at pda.pcusa.org; immediate assistance to those affected is also being provided by the Treasure Cay Community Foundation, which is receiving gifts online at www.bit.ly/tccfhurricanerelief

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
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.



Today we are receiving a **special offering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** to respond to immediate and long-term needs of those in the Bahamas affected by Hurricane Dorian. Gifts, which will be distributed through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, can be made by using our disaster relief envelopes, writing 'Disaster Assistance' on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, or online at pda.pcusa.org; immediate assistance to vulnerable populations affected by the hurricane is also being provided by the Treasure Cay Community Foundation, which is receiving gifts online at www.bit.ly/tccfhurricanerelief



We officially welcome to Fourth Church today **Andrea Denney and Michael Mirza**. Michael and Andrea joined our staff in August, Michael as the Director of Worship and Andrea as Director of Operational Ministries. In his role, Michael is devoted to maintaining, enhancing, and deepening the worship life of the congregation, and Andrea is leading the teams that oversee our building, facilities, and security; IT; human resources; food services; and event planning. As you see Michael and Andrea on Sunday and during the week, please take an opportunity to introduce yourself and welcome them to Fourth Church!



Among the ways to get connected at Fourth Church are various small groups, including a new **Men's Faith Discussion Group**, which begins this Friday, September 20 at 7:00 a.m., and will bring together seven to ten men for conversation about the ways in which scripture intersects with their lives. Since space is limited, preregistration (*see the sign-up page*) is required. * **LGBTQIA+ brunch** will be next Sunday, September 22 at 12:15 p.m. * Also next Sunday, all are invited to PC(USA) mission co-worker Cesar Carhuachin's presentation on **"God's Mission in Colombia"** at 11:00 a.m. * Shannon Kershner will join **Women at Fourth's** kickoff for their new year on Thursday, September 26 at 5:30 p.m. * **Books by Women** will discuss *So Big* by Edna Ferber on October 8. * **"Making Prisons More Humane"** is the October 4 topic for Cornerstones, a group for those over fifty. See the sign-up page to register and for more information.



Our Spiritual Formation Council invites you to take part in a weekend **contemplative retreat** at St. Benedict's Abbey in Benet Lake, Wisconsin, October 11–13. For details or to register, see the sign-up page. The registration deadline is Thursday, September 26.



Do you like to sing? The **Choral Society** welcomes singers to their rehearsals on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., beginning on September 26, to prepare music from 1969 for a November 15 concert. * Those interested in the **Music Mission Choir** trip to Cuba March 2–9, 2020 are invited to an information session on Sunday, October 6 at 12:30 p.m. to learn more. See the sign-up page for more information.



Interested in learning more about Fourth Church and perhaps becoming a member? Join us for a two-session Inquirers' Class on Sundays, October 6 and 13 from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. See the sign-up page to learn more and to register for the class.



The Racial Equity Council would appreciate your taking the time to **complete a brief survey** online (www.bit.ly/fpcrecsurvey). The results of that survey will help the council develop recommendations for our moving toward becoming a fully multicultural, antiracist church. * Next Sunday, September 22 we will be **dedicating a painting** commissioned by our Racial Equity Council: *The Ascension* by Gerald Griffin. The dedication will take place at 12:30 p.m. in the Gignilliat Commons, where the painting will be on permanent display.



Calling all creatures great and small! We're having our annual **Blessing of the Animals** service on Saturday morning, September 28 at 10:00 am outdoors in the Fourth Church courtyard (or in Buchanan Chapel if there's rain). All pets on leashes or in carriers are welcome. If you'd rather not bring your pet, you're invited to bring your pet's photo to be blessed instead. Come help us celebrate God's creatures!



We are in need of assistance this autumn. Might you be able to help? **Ushers** are needed to serve at the 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and the 4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four services. * Chicago Lights needs **100 new tutors** this fall. A one-session tutor orientation is offered several times in September for those interested. * Throughout September, Fourth Church Meals Ministry is holding a **snack drive** to collect individually packaged, single-serving snacks to put in the sacks distributed in Anderson Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays as part of our Bag Lunch program. * For more information about these opportunities, please see the sign-up page.



We are also in need of more recommendations for members to serve as church officers. If you submitted a recommendation prior to September, we ask that you please take a moment to resubmit it by going to www.bit.ly/fpcnominating. Because of some problems we had with the inbox for nominations@fourthchurch.org (that have since been resolved), we want to make sure we received your submission! And if you have not yet had opportunity to submit your recommendations for individuals—including yourself—to serve as Elder, Deacon, Trustee, or member of the Chicago Lights Board, please do so online The Nominating Committee appreciates your help!



Calendar for September 15–22, 2019

Sunday, September 15	4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four • Nanette Sawyer preaching	Buchanan Chapel
	5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper	Anderson Hall
Monday, September 16.	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
	6:00 p.m. New Tutor Orientation	Borwell Dining Room
Tuesday, September 17	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
Wednesday, September 18	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer	Buchanan Chapel
	9:30 a.m. Benevolent Guild	Room 5B
Thursday, September 19.	6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, September 20	7:00 a.m. Men's Faith Discussion Group	See the sign-up page
	12:10 p.m. Noonday Concert: Andrew O'Brien, piano	Buchanan Chapel
Saturday, September 21.	10:30 a.m. Urban Farm Farmstand Open (until 3:00 p.m.)	444 W. Chicago Ave.
Sunday, September 22.	8:00 a.m. Worship • Rocky Supinger preaching.	Sanctuary
	8:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal.	Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft
	9:00, 10:00, 10:30 a.m. Cherub/Youth/Children's Choir Rehearsals	Room 4F
	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 a.m. "Economics of Discipleship"	Room 5E
	9:30 a.m. Junior High Youth Group.	Bumpus Room
	9:30 a.m. "A Year with the Bible"	Room 5G
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School	Gratz Fourth Floor
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship • Shannon J. Kershner preaching.	Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m. All-Youth Fellowship.	Allison Library
	10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Time of Prayer with Deacons	Stone Chapel
	11:00 a.m. "Christian Meditation"	Room 5E
	11:00 a.m. "God's Mission in Colombia".	TBA
	11:00 a.m. Confirmation	Room 4G
	11:00 a.m. Senior High Youth Group.	Bumpus Room
	12:00 p.m. Sanctuary Tour	Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m. Organ Tour	Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m. LGBTQIA+ Brunch	Meet at Coffee Hour
	12:30 p.m. <i>The Ascension</i> Dedication	The Commons
	4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four • Shannon J. Kershner 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 and is also a prerequisite for membership. A two-week class is offered on Sundays, October 13 and 20 from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. 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 September 22.

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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