
Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Suite from *Water Music* George Frideric Handel

Introit :: “Ye Are the Light of the World” Frank La Forge

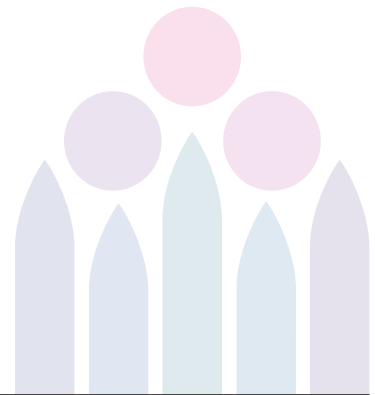
*Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.
Neither does one light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick,
and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before all,
that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
Ye have heard that it hath been said, thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy.
But I say unto you, love your enemies; bless them that curse you;
do good to them that hate you; and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you;
that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven.
Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.*

*Doxology (*sung*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.† Amen.**

Welcome and Call to Worship

Prayer of Praise



†Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Hymn “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God’s command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where’er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the sky!

There’s not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Spirit of God, you are the breath of creation and the wind of change.
You open up to us new dreams and give us hope in Jesus Christ.
Forgive us our closed minds, which barricade themselves against new possibility,
preferring the past to what you might want to do through us tomorrow.
Forgive our closed eyes, which fail to see the needs of your world
and overlook opportunities for service and compassion.
Forgive our closed hands, which clutch our resources for our own use alone.
Forgive our closed hearts, which limit our affections to those we already know.
Spirit of new life, break down any walls of selfishness and pry us open for your love.
Help us unleash that love into your world. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Solo # “Ave Verum Corpus” Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*Hail true body, born of the virgin Mary,
who truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for all;
whose pierced side overflowed with water and blood,
be for us a foretaste in the test of death.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 119:105–112

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light upon my path.
I have sworn and am determined to keep your righteous judgments.
I am deeply troubled; preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips, and teach me your judgments.
My life is always in danger, yet I do not forget your teaching.
The wicked have set a trap for me, but I have not strayed from your commandments.
Your decrees are my inheritance forever; truly, they are the joy of my heart.
I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes forever and to the end.

*Gloria Patri (*unison*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:[†]
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson Matthew 13:1–9

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

[†]Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

Responding to the Word

Hymn “For the Fruit of All Creation”

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth’s safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God’s will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God’s will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God’s will be done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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.

Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory Solo :: “Agnus Dei” from the *Mass in B Minor* Johann Sebastian Bach
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn “For the Beauty of the Earth”

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: *Refrain*

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: *Refrain*

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: *Refrain*

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude ♯ “The Rejoicing” from *Music for the Royal Fireworks* George Frideric Handel



We continue to gather online for **livestream-only worship throughout the summer**, as our campus will remain closed through August. In addition to livestreaming our 11:00 a.m. service at www.bit.ly/FPCworship, where the service is available throughout the week, we make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify** (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast); we also invite you to sign up to receive our sermons **by email** (www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).

As a connectional community committed to living out our care for one another and remaining together while apart, **we very much we want to hear from you!** Our pastors, Deacons, Stephen Ministers, and other volunteers are available to connect with you by phone and email. Please let us know by contacting our Pastoral Care Office (callerton@fourthchurch.org)—

- ▶ **if you want to talk about grief, anger, or frustration you are feeling**
- ▶ **if you are—or someone you know is—feeling isolated, lonely, anxious, or sick**
- ▶ **if you are a medical professional or are a provider of essential services**
- ▶ **if you have a prayer request**; Dave Handley (dhandley@fourthchurch.org) is receiving these requests as part of our Morning Prayer and Deacon Prayer Ministries
- ▶ **If you would like to explore options for teletherapy** with our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, the Center invites you to call them at 312.787.8425.
- ▶ **If you would like to have a phone conversation with a Stephen Minister**, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.
- ▶ **If you would like to talk to a pastor**, please call the church (312.787.4570) and your request will be forwarded to someone on the pastoral staff.

Our daily devotions are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. You can receive them in your inbox (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) or read them online (www.fourthchurch.org/devotions), via Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch), or on Twitter (www.twitter.com/fourthchicago). * On Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. we gather online for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. Email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for details.
* A virtual **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted by our Replogle Center on Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) and Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing

Ensure you receive the latest updates from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Those who are interested in **becoming a member of Fourth Church** are invited to join us online for a two-session Inquirers' Class next Sunday, July 19 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday, July 22 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. To register for this class (*required for membership*) and discover more about Fourth Church history, mission, and congregational life as well as the Presbyterian Church (USA), **sign up at www.bit.ly/inquirer0720**

The Officer Nominating Committee is gathering recommendations of individuals to serve in the offices of Elder, Deacon, Trustee, or Chicago Lights Board for terms beginning in 2021. If you know any Fourth Church members—including yourself!—who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry, please take a moment to offer your leadership recommendations by completing the online form at **www.bit.ly/nominating2020**

New virtual small groups (of six to eight members) are being formed for August. If you are interested in joining others via Zoom for a book discussion, conversation about race, or reflections on faith journeys, please email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

TwentiesThirties offers opportunities for young adults, including a weekly Zoom Coffee Hour following worship and a book study. Details are available from Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org). * **Adults sixty and over** are invited to take part in online **Center for Life and Learning** summer exercise classes, virtual tours, and more. Details are available from Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org). * Information about **online youth group gatherings** is listed at fourthchurch.org/youth. * For details about **online programming for children, parents, and families**, including Sunday School and online VBS, contact Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). * **Noonday Concerts** are streamed on Fridays at 12:10 p.m. at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms, where they are also available later in the week.

As part of our commitment to caring for the most vulnerable, Fourth Church **Meals Ministry** is providing—via outdoor pickup—“to go” meals for Sunday and Monday Night Suppers and “to go” lunches for the Tuesday-through-Thursday Bag Lunch program. * Tuesday through Friday mornings the Chicago Lights **Social Service Center** offers “curbside” pickup of emergency clothing; hygiene items; and pre-assembled bags for scheduled Food Pantry appointments. * For ways to **order and ship items needed for these ministries** see www.fourthchurch.org

To purchase fresh produce and support the community, stop by the **Farmstand at the Chicago Lights Urban Farm** on Fridays between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. Guests are required to wear a face covering and practice social distancing while at the Farm (*444 W. Chicago Ave.*).

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) for additional resources and ways to connect. We also encourage you to follow us on **Facebook** (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **Instagram** (www.instagram.com/fourthchurch) for updates and glimpses of our life together while apart.

Ensure you receive the latest updates from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at **www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc**

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Kashane Taylor, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Laura Kubelka, Soloist

Worship Notes

YOUR GIFTS TO FOURTH CHURCH MATTER NOW MORE THAN EVER! When we do not pass a plate, it is easy for our offering to decrease even while our expenses continue. Your generosity in this time makes a big difference! You can **give online** at fourthchurch.org/give-online (or via the **“To Make a Gift”** button on our website: www.fourthchurch.org); **via Venmo** (@Fourth-Church); or via a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church and mailed to 126 E. Chestnut, Chicago, IL 60611.2014.



Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

David Handley Interim Minister for Pastoral Care

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014

www.fourthchurch.org www.facebook.com/fourthchurch

312.787.4570 Voicemail: 312.787.2729 Fax: 312.787.4584

TO NOTIFY PASTORAL STAFF of personal concerns, illness, hospitalization, or deaths or to request prayer, contact David Handley (dhandley@fourthchurch.org; 312.573.3360). (Please note: hospitals do not inform churches when a member is admitted.) Those experiencing difficult times are invited to consider meeting with a Stephen Minister: leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.