
Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Chaconne in E Minor Dieterich Buxtehude
O God of Love John Corigliano
Litany Joel Martinson

Introit ☩ “O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” Hal H. Hopson

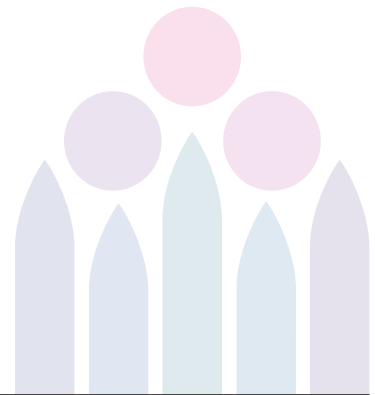
*O Jesus, joy of loving hearts, the fount of life, the light of all.
From every bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.
For you our restless spirits yearn, wherever our changing lot is cast;
glad, when your smile on us you turn, blest when by faith we hold you fast.
O Jesus, ever with us stay. Make all our moments calm and bright.
O chase the cloud of sin away. Shed over the world your holy light!*

*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 “God Is Calling through the Whisper”

God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit’s deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

God is calling through the voices of our neighbors’ urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling—and we hear! God is calling—and we hear!

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

We confess our struggle to be transformed into disciples, God of mystery.
We know that your heart is particularly open
to those we might call weak, poor, outcast, or oppressed.
And yet our culture lifts up those we might call
powerful, successful, important, or in control.
We confess we often feel pulled in both directions.
We value the “yes” from our world,
but we also long for the transformation you promise.
Forgive us, merciful God, for looking for you in all the wrong places.
Reawaken us with your voice that calls us to service;
revive our weary hearts with your vision of creation;
refresh our fatigued spirits that we might boldly proclaim
Jesus as our Lord and Savior and go forth to serve your people;
in Christ’s name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Solo # “Lamb of God” Twila Paris; arr. Lloyd Larson

*Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side
to walk upon the guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.
Your gift of love they crucified; they laughed and scorned him as he died;
the humble King they named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God.
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God; I love the holy Lamb of God.
O wash me in his precious blood. My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.
I was so lost I should have died, but you have brought me to your side;
to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God.
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God; I love the holy Lamb of God.
O wash me in his precious blood, till I am just a lamb of God.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 124

**If the Lord had not been on our side, let Israel now say;
if the Lord had not been on our side, when enemies rose up against us,
then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;
then would the waters have overwhelmed us and the torrent gone over us;
then would the raging waters have gone right over us.
Blessed be the Lord who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
Our help is in the name of the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.**

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 Exodus 1:8–2:10

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

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

Responding to the Word

Hymn “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e’er spoke: “My peace be with you here.”

We may not touch your hands and side nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice and cry, “My Lord and God!”

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.

And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

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 ♯ “Lord of All Hopefulness” Irish ballad; arr. Alan Bullard

*Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
Lord, of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.*

Bearing the Word into the World

Hymn “Go with Us, Lord”

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude ♯ Trumpet Tune in D Major David Johnson



For the foreseeable future we are gathering online for **livestream-only worship**.

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); you can also receive our sermons **by email** (www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).

Today at 12:15 p.m. we will have an **online town hall gathering** to discuss the boards’ decisions about the ways in which we will be church in the days ahead, as we continue to serve those in need and to build connections with one another during this pandemic. There will be time for questions as well as opportunity to hear more about the plans. We hope you will join us at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms (the link is also available on our website: www.fourthchurch.org).

Next Sunday, August 30 we will **resume our virtual Coffee Hours via Zoom!** We hope you will join us online after worship on August 30 at www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship (Zoom details are also posted at www.fourthchurch.org).

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!** **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 312.787.2729, ext 2260. * **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).

We are grateful to all who have made gifts in support of our mission and ministry. Thank you!

This monthly generosity report summarizes contributions to Fourth Church as of July 31, 2020.

Fourth Presbyterian Church Generosity Report — Contributions as of July 31, 2020				
<i>YTD = Year-to-Date</i>	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	YTD Variance	2020 Budget
Pledged contributions	\$1,769,052	\$1,801,872	(\$32,821)	\$3,111,000
General contributions	\$958,610	\$1,088,357	(\$129,747)	\$2,270,929
Restricted contributions	\$270,725	\$289,840	(\$19,115)	\$573,100
Total contributions	\$2,998,388	\$3,180,070	(\$181,682)	\$5,955,029

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

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

To purchase fresh produce and support the community, stop by the **Farmstand at the Chicago Lights Urban Farm** (444 W. Chicago Ave.) this Friday, August 28 between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m.

- * As part of our commitment to caring for the most vulnerable, Fourth Church **Meals Ministry** provides—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

Women at Fourth will gather via Zoom for a time of conversation this Thursday, August 27 at 6:00 p.m. For Zoom details, contact Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). * **Noonday Concerts** are streamed on Fridays at 12:10 p.m. at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms (where they are available during the week). * **TwentiesThirties** offers opportunities for young adults. For details, contact Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org). * **The Center for Life and Learning** offers online exercise classes, lectures, and virtual tours for those sixty and over. For details, contact Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org). * **Cornerstones**, a group of those fifty and over, will gather via Zoom for “**An Evening with Shannon Kershner**” on Friday, September 4 at 5:30 p.m. Zoom details will be sent to those who register by September 3 at bit.ly/cpfc0920
* **Books by Women** invites women to join them via Zoom on Tuesday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m. for discussion of *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. Zoom details are posted on the church calendar at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar, where you can find information about **other online opportunities**, including Bible studies, Benevolent Guild, and the Knitting and Crocheting group.

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.

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) for other 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.

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Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer, Briana Lee, Rocky Supinger, Shannon J. Kershner

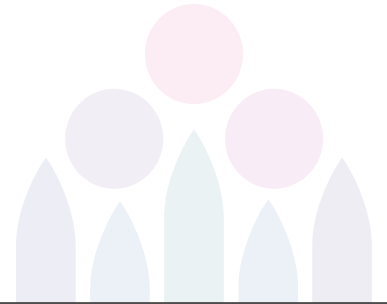
The Music Today

Jeanne Bishop, Soloist

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

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

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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.