



# Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 24, 2021

## Gathering around the Word

### Prelude

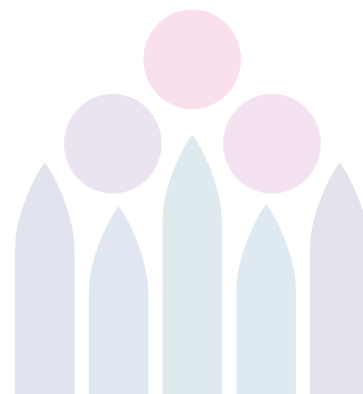
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee . . . . . Ludwig van Beethoven; arr. James Curnow  
Prayer of Saint Gregory . . . . . Alan Hovhaness

Introit # “Just as I Am” . . . . . Bob Chilcott

*Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bid'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come.  
Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings within and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come.  
Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need, in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come.  
Just as I am, thou wilt receive, welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come.  
Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come.  
Just as I am, of that free love the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
here for a season, then above, O Lamb of God, I come.*

### \*Doxology (sung)

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



### Welcome and Call to Worship

### Prayer of Praise

†Or “praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”

Hymn ..... “You Walk along Our Shoreline”

You walk along our shoreline where land meets unknown sea.  
We hear your voice of power, “Now come and follow me.  
And if you still will follow through storm and wave and shoal,  
then I will make you fishers but of the human soul.”

You call us, Christ, to gather the people of the earth.  
We cannot fish for only those lives we think have worth.  
We spread your net of gospel across the water’s face,  
our boat a common shelter for all found by your grace.

We cast our net, O Jesus; we cry the kingdom’s name;  
we work for love and justice; we learn to hope through pain.  
You call us, Lord, to gather God’s daughters and God’s sons,  
to let your judgment heal us so that all may be one.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O God of life, we thank you that you are in our midst  
both in our worship and in our daily work.  
We thank you that your Holy Spirit constantly shakes us out of complacency,  
questions our orthodoxy, and challenges our conformity.  
Yet on this day, we confess to you that there are still many ways  
in which we have failed to change;  
ways in which selfishness still wins and divisions remain.  
Nevertheless, you keep bringing us together to be a new creation,  
a community marked by love,  
and we are grateful for the ways in which this is true.  
Keep prying open our hearts with your grace and do your work within us  
and, sometimes, even in spite of us. We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Solo :: “Thou Art God” ..... Lionel Bourne

*Thou art the peace of all things calm, thou art the place to hide from harm;  
thou art the light that shines in dark, thou art the heart’s eternal spark;  
thou art the door that’s open wide, thou art the guest who waits inside;  
thou art the stranger at the door, thou art the calling of the poor.  
Thou art my love, thou art my Lord and with me still.  
Thou art my love, keep me from ill. Thou art the light, the truth, the way.  
Thou art my Savior this day, thou art my Savior this very day.*

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## Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter ..... Psalm 62:5–12

For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.  
God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.  
In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.  
Put your trust in God always, O people,  
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.  
Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted.  
Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.  
Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.  
God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.  
Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

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 ..... Mark 1:14–20

Sermon ..... Shannon J. Kershner

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

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## Responding to the Word

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Hymn ..... “Will You Come and Follow Me”

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”

“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”

“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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 :: “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands” . . . African American spiritual  
arr. Moses Hogan

*He’s got the whole world in his hands. He’s got all the power in his hands.  
He’s got you and me, brother, in his hands. He’s got you and me, sister, in his hands.  
He’s got the little baby in his hands. He’s got mother and father in his hands.  
He’s got the stars and moon right in his hands. He’s got everybody in his hands.  
He’s got the whole world in his hands.*

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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Hymn . . . . . “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;  
feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;  
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;  
I will ever give to thee.**

## Charge and Benediction

Postlude :: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty . . . . . German chorale; arr. James Curnow



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](http://www.bit.ly/FPCworship)

(where the service is available throughout the week), the service is available via

**Facebook Live** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)) and **YouTube** ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)) at 11:00 a.m.

on Sundays. \* Those without Internet access are invited to **listen to the service live via phone by calling 888.916.9166** (toll-free) at the time of the service (the prelude begins around 10:45 a.m.).

\* During the week we make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify** ([www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast](http://www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast)); you can also receive our sermons **by email** ([www.bit.ly/fpcsermons](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons)).

**If you would like to connect with others** for a time of fellowship today, join us following the congregational meeting for **virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom at [www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship](http://www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship)** (Zoom details are posted at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)). You can also take part in Coffee Hour **by phone**: dial 312.626.6799 and enter meeting ID number 963 5583 1751#. \* To express interest in connecting with others in a **small group**, which will meet via Zoom once a week for four to six weeks, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

On Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. Email Carol Allerton ([callerton@fourthchurch.org](mailto:callerton@fourthchurch.org)) for the details. \* **If you have a prayer request**, Dave Handley ([dhandley@fourthchurch.org](mailto:dhandley@fourthchurch.org)) is receiving these requests as part of our Morning Prayer and Deacon Prayer Ministries. \* **If you would like to talk to a pastor**, please call the church (312.787.4570). \* **To explore options for teletherapy** with our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, call the Center at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. \* If you would like to have a **one-time phone conversation with a Stephen Minister or arrange for ongoing talks**, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

We are looking for Fourth Church members with **gifts for compassionate listening** to become Stephen Ministers and walk alongside individuals experiencing life challenges. The next fifty-hour **training course for new Stephen Ministers** will be offered in March 2021; for information about applying for the training, see [www.fourthchurch.org/caring/stephen-ministers.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/caring/stephen-ministers.html)

**Knitting and Crocheting** meets via Zoom this Tuesday, January 26 at 4:00 p.m. to share in fellowship while working on projects for the agencies we support. The **Benevolent Guild**, which has been making face masks, meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. For Zoom details for either of these opportunities, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

**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](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)

Today we begin a new adult education class led by Carol Allen, **“On Restoring God’s Beloved Community: Looking for Guidance in Scripture.”** The class, which will meet via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays through February 28, begins by looking at the struggle of Jews and Gentiles to create a uniquely inclusive community following the resurrection of Jesus, as they sought to live not by rules of empire but by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/restoring21](http://www.bit.ly/restoring21) \* Again this year the Spiritual Formation Council will host a **Lenten “Path of Discipleship”** series, which will meet for six Tuesday evenings via Zoom. Led by the associate pastors, this time of discernment and discussion will be grounded in the book **Entering the Passion of Jesus by Amy Jill-Levine**. Space is limited, so please register by Monday, February 15 at [www.bit.ly/fpcpod2021](http://www.bit.ly/fpcpod2021)

**“Varying Voices of the Prophets: Cries for Justice, Lamentation, and Consolation,”** a three-week theme within the “Foundations of Faith: An Hour a Week with the Bible” class, concludes this Sunday at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom. Jeff Doane is leading this exploration of texts in Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Hosea; for Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/fpcf20](http://www.bit.ly/fpcf20) \* **Men’s Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and the **Horizons Bible Study for women** next meets this Wednesday, January 27 at 12:00 p.m. For Zoom details for Bible studies, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

**Sunday School and family activities** meet online. For details, email Briana Belding-Peck ([bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org](mailto:bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org)). \* For details about **youth groups and Confirmation**, email Katie Patterson ([kpatterson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kpatterson@fourthchurch.org)). \* **TwentiesThirties** offers online opportunities for young adults. For details, email Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@fourthchurch.org)). \* Adults sixty and over are invited to take part in the winter term of the **Center for Life and Learning**, which offers online lectures and exercise classes; for details, email Susan Quaintance ([squaintance@fourthchurch.org](mailto:squaintance@fourthchurch.org)) or see [www.fourthchurch.org/cll](http://www.fourthchurch.org/cll)

**The First Tuesday Book Club**, hosted by the Adult Education Committee, will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss **Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation by Kristin Kobes De Mez**. For Zoom details for this conversation led by Jim Garner, register online at [www.bit.ly/firsttuesdaybooks](http://www.bit.ly/firsttuesdaybooks) \* **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss **Madame Fourcade’s Secret War by Lynne Olson**. For Zoom details, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

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**The artist Gerald Griffin** will present the program at the February 5 Zoom gathering of **Cornerstones**, a fellowship group for adults fifty and over. For Zoom details, register by Thursday, February 4 at [www.bit.ly/cornerstones0121](http://www.bit.ly/cornerstones0121) ✨ Our **Friday Noonday Concerts** take place at 12:10 p.m. each week at [www.bit.ly/fpcprograms](http://www.bit.ly/fpcprograms) as well as via Facebook Live and on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)). This week the online concert will be presented by our organist, John Sherer.

Hanging above our Sanctuary entrance is a banner with an image of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the words **“Moving the Dream Forward.”** It is a continued expression of our commitment to embrace racial equity by purposely including all people, striving for radical hospitality, and modeling an antiracist approach in all areas. We remain steadfast in our theological conviction that the lives of our Black siblings matter to both God and to us and that their lives are sacred. We are committed to putting that theological conviction into practice and continuing to express it in a variety of ways

The **Chicago Lights Gala of Hope at Home** will be on Friday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. This gala annually benefits the life-changing youth development and social service programs of Chicago Lights—the community outreach arm of Fourth Church—and the community support efforts of our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being. For more information, email Laura Woods ([lwoods@chicagolights.org](mailto:lwoods@chicagolights.org)).

**If you are looking to add devotional meditations into your daily routine this year**, we invite you to join the more than 4,000 people who use the daily devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff. These reflections are available by email (you can sign up online at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)) or read them online ([www.fourthchurch.org/devotions](http://www.fourthchurch.org/devotions)), via Facebook ([www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)), or Twitter ([www.twitter.com/fourthchicago](http://www.twitter.com/fourthchicago)).

Watch our **website** ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)) for additional resources and ways to connect. Online events are posted on the church calendar at [www.fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fourthchurch.org/calendar); we also encourage you to follow us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)) and **Instagram** ([instagram.com/fourthchurch](https://instagram.com/fourthchurch)) for updates, sermon quotes, images from Fourth Church, and more.

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## Worship Leaders

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David Handley, Julie Pfeiffer, Joseph L. Morrow, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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Members of the Morning Choir

*Kate Cole, Bill McMurray, Laura Perkett, Marshall Rollings*

David Inmon, Trumpeter

Brett Potts, Soloist

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

## Worship Notes

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OFFERING GIFTS can be made at [fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://fourthchurch.org/give-online) (or via the “To Make a Gift” button on our website: [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)); via Venmo (@Fourth-Church); or via a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

TODAY’S OFFERTORY SOLO was arranged by Moses Hogan (1957–2003), an African American composer and arranger of choral music. Born in New Orleans, he was an accomplished pianist by the age of nine and went on to study at Oberlin Conservatory of Music and Juilliard. In 1997 he formed the Moses Hogan Singers, which sang at Fourth Church shortly before his death.

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**Shannon J. Kershner** Pastor

**Lucy Forster-Smith** Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

**Matt Helms** Children and Family Ministry

**Joseph L. Morrow** Associate Pastor-Elect for Evangelism and Community Engagement

**Nanette Sawyer** Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

**Rocky Supinger** Youth Ministry

**David Handley** Interim Minister for Caring Ministries

**Jeffrey Doane** Parish Associate for Older Adults

**Maggie Shreve** Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

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TO NOTIFY PASTORAL STAFF of personal concerns, illness, hospitalization, or deaths or to request prayer, contact David Handley ([dhandley@fourthchurch.org](mailto: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.