



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Three Prayers without Words Jean-Michel Damase

I. Moderato

Andante con moto Max Reger; arr. Alfred Piguet

Introit ✠ “Here I Am, Lord” Daniel Schutte

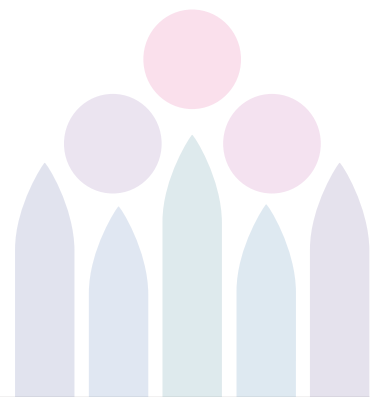
I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me; I will hold your people in my heart. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain. I have wept for love of them; they turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them.

*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 “When the Lord Redeems the Very Least”

When the Lord redeems the very least, we will rejoice.

When the hungry gather for the feast, we will rejoice.

Refrain

We will rejoice with gladness. We will rejoice.

All our days we'll sing to God in praise. We will rejoice!

When the Lord restores the sick and weak, we will rejoice.

When the earth is given to the meek, we will rejoice. *Refrain*

When the Lord revives the world from death, we will rejoice.

When the word of God fills every breath, we will rejoice. *Refrain*

When the Lord returns in victory, we will rejoice.

When we live in glorious liberty, we will rejoice. *Refrain*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of love, Jesus commands us to love one another
as you have loved us, to even lay down our lives for one another.

We confess that we have not loved one another well enough,
and we have loved those on the margins of society even less.

We speak when we should listen,
and we too easily accept an inequitable distribution of resources.

Hear our prayer and forgive us.

Renew our hearts and minds
so that we might love with Jesus' love and in his name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, abide in this good news:*

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem # “With a Voice of Singing” Martin Shaw

*With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends
of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands;
O sing praises to the honor of his name, make his praise to be glorious.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 98

Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
who comes to judge the earth.
The Lord will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

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 John 15:9–17

Sermon *Fourth Church Senior High Youth*
Katie Reome, Addie Cook, and Maddie Pieper

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

Responding to the Word

Hymn “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

Mothering God, you gave me birth
in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of every breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,
offering me your food of light,
grain of life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one,
in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow
until I flower, until I know.

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 :: “Invocation” B. Lakshmi; Lakshmi Mesmin

*Who wrote nature’s laws? Who controls the direction of the wind?
Who knows the currents of the ocean? Who knows the origin of life?
For every question, to whose presence does it float? It is my God.*

Bearing the Word into the World

Hymn “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. *Refrain*

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere! *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude ♯ Festive Trumpet Tune David German

Baptisms in Today's Service

Lucy K. Anderson Cichowski, child of Marla Cichowski

Andrew Michael Gholson, child of Lee and Angela Gholson

Brooks Alan Weddige, child of Christopher and Meghan Weddige

Jackson Kingsley Cotey, child of Michael and Eleanor Cotey



We are grateful to our **Senior High youth** for leading worship this morning! Following the service we invite you to **join the youth online as they also host our virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom**. This time of online fellowship takes place each Sunday following the postlude and can be found at www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship (Zoom details are also posted at www.fourthchurch.org). You can take part in Coffee Hour **by phone** as well: dial 312.626.6799 and enter meeting ID number 963 5583 1751#. * Another opportunity to connect with others is through our small groups, which meet once a week for four weeks. To learn more or express interest in being part of a new small group, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org). **New small groups will be launched the week of May 17.**

“His Truth Is Marching On: The Life of John Lewis”—an adult education class led by Jeff Doane and drawing on Jon Meacham’s *His Truth Is Marching On: John Lewis and the Power of Hope*—concludes today at 9:30 a.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/truthmarching0421
* **“The Bible as a Weapon: Disarming the Clobber Passages”** is the latest three-week theme of the **“Foundations of Faith: An Hour a Week with the Bible”** Zoom class. It meets this Sunday and next at 12:30 p.m. Nanette Sawyer is leading this look at reading the Bible from within its own historical context and addressing how Christians today can use the Bible as a tool for justice, not a weapon of oppression. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/fpcf20
* **Men’s Bible Study** meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and **Horizons Bible Study for women** meets online this Wednesday, May 12 at 12:00 p.m. Email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org) for Zoom details

Sunday School and family activities meet online. For details about these opportunities, email Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). * For details about **youth groups**, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). * Adults sixty and over are invited to take part in the **Center for Life and Learning**; for details, email Susan Quaintance (squaintance@fourthchurch.org) or see www.fourthchurch.org/cll

Books by Women will meet via Zoom to discuss *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman this Tuesday, May 11 at 6:00 p.m. * **Nanette Sawyer** will present the program at the monthly **Women at Fourth** gathering on Thursday, May 27 at 6:00 p.m. For Zoom details about these online fellowship opportunities, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

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. * **To explore options for teletherapy**, call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260.
* **If you would like to talk to a pastor**, please call the church (312.787.4570). * **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.

Looking for plant starts for your home garden? Our **Chicago Lights Urban Farm** is taking **online orders through Wednesday, May 12** at chicagolights.org/plantsale; curbside pickup of the fulfilled orders will take one Saturday only: this Saturday, May 15 at designated times at the Farm (444 W. Chicago Ave.). All proceeds support the Urban Farm, which cultivates a thoughtful and engaged community of youth and adults through educational and economic opportunities, hands-on learning experiences, and access to local and sustainably grown produce. * You are invited to **learn about the Chicago Lights Dance Academy** this Wednesday, May 12 at 5:30 p.m. when the program's director, Patty Mendez, presents the latest in the Zoom series "**True Impact: Inside Chicago Lights.**" For details, see chicagolights.org/trueimpact

Carol Carpenter, a longtime member of the Morning Choir, will present this week's **online Friday Noonday Concert**, which takes place at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms at 12:10 p.m. as well as on Facebook Live and our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). * A **Music Mission Trip to the Middle East** is being planned for 2022. To learn more or express interest, contact John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org) or Nanette Sawyer (nsawyer@fourthchurch.org).

The **Benevolent Guild**, which has been making face masks, meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. * **Knitting and Crocheting** gathers online on Tuesday, May 25 at 4:00 p.m. for a time to work on knitting or crocheting projects while sharing in Zoom conversation. For Zoom details about these online gatherings, email Anne Ellis (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

If you are looking for **devotional meditations for your personal time of prayer and reflection**, 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 (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) as well as online (www.fourthchurch.org/devotions), via Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and Twitter (twitter.com/fourthchicago). * On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. Email Carol (callerton@fourthchurch.org) for details.

Each week we gather for **online-only worship**. That online service is streamed at 11:00 a.m. at www.bit.ly/FPCworship (where the service is available throughout the week) as well as via **Facebook Live** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **YouTube** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). * 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. * During the week we make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify** (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast).

Watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) and follow us on **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and **Instagram** (instagram.com/fourthchurch) for resources and ways to connect. Online events are posted on the church calendar at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar

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

Fourth Church Senior High Youth

Oliver Grusin, Addison Morley, Teddy Chong, Miles Grusin, Sophie Nunziati, Harrison Stracks, Anneke Stracks, Katie Reome, Addie Cook, Maddie Pieper, Teddy Chong, Vera Tax, Gavin Daniels

The Music Today

Members of the Morning Choir

Beena David, Todd DeStigter, Kimberly Gunderson, Brett Potts

Members of the Youth Choir

Matthew Lee, Trumpet; Thilo Wilhelmsen, Tanpura; Beena David, Soloist

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Hsing-Huei Huang, Pianist

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

Worship Notes

TODAY THE YOUTH CHOIR HONORS SEVEN GRADUATING SENIORS: Eddie Kening, Dawson Kimbell, Samuela Kosipa, Emily Reome, Katie Reome, Sara Thomas, and Graham Waterstraat. They have sung in the Children's and Youth Choirs over the past fifteen years, and we thank them for sharing their musical gifts.

OFFERING GIFTS can be made 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.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Joseph L. Morrow 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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