



*Due to health concerns about the transmission of COVID-19, we are not engaging in congregational singing. During hymns, worshipers are invited to hum along with the soloist if they like.*

## **We Approach God**

### **Gathering Music**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **\*Call to Worship**

God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**Our hearts are stirred by this powerful reminder!**

Yes, before the mountains were brought forth or before you formed the earth,

**you, O God were there, bringing life.**

Satisfy us this very morning with your Holy Presence and your love,

**that our lives may resemble your love**

**and we would hold out our hand to receive your bounty.**

**Let us worship God!**

\* Please rise in body or spirit

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*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.*

**\*Opening Song** (congregation is invited to hum) . . . . . “O Day of Peace” (verse 1)

*O day of peace that dimly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,  
guide us to justice, truth, and love, delivered from our selfish schemes.  
May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from envy find release,  
till by God’s grace our warring world shall see Christ’s promised reign of peace.*

## **We Tell the Truth about Ourselves**

### **Prayer of Confession** (unison)

**Giver of Life, every day you rain down manna from heaven  
and often we fail to receive it.**

**We shrug away the bounty,  
relying on the small morsels we think will sustain us.**

**We grumble about the challenges of our lives  
and spend hours trying to manage things on our own.**

**We neglect the needs of others because we don’t think we have anything to offer.**

**We shrink back from what might lead to the promised land of truth and hope,  
taking the path of least resistance.**

**Gracious God, forgive us.**

**Strengthen us by your mighty Spirit,  
that we would be the community you have called us to be.**

**Meet us in the wildernesses of our lives with courageous might and joyful perseverance;  
through Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### **God Forgives and Blesses Us**

Friends, believe the good news!

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**Hymn** (congregation is invited to hum) . . . . . “O Day of Peace” (verse 2)

*Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
as beasts and cattle calmly graze, a little child shall lead them all.  
Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord;  
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.*

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

## We Proclaim the Story

### Prayer for Illumination

**Psalter** ..... Psalm 145:1–8

**ANTIPHON:** *I will exalt you, my God and king, and praise your name forever.  
Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever.*

I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.  
Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.  
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.  
One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.  
I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

#### ANTIPHON

They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.  
They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.  
The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

#### ANTIPHON

**Scripture** ..... Exodus 16:1–21

**Sermon** “Normal Never Was, God Always Is” ..... *Lucy Forster-Smith*

## We Offer Ourselves

### Musical Reflection

## 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!**

**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**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Minute for Mission**

**Stephen Minister Leader Commissioning**

**Call for Offering**

**\*Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

Gracious God, our hearts overflow with gratitude for all your blessings to us.  
Now receive these gifts of thanksgiving  
as a sign of the greater gift of our entire lives dedicated to glorifying you.  
We give them in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**We Go Out with Gratitude**

**\*Closing Song** (*congregation is invited to hum*) . . . . . "Live into Hope"

*Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.  
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!*

*Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,  
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.*

*Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,  
the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.*

*Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.  
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.*

**\*Benediction**

**Sending Music**

## Worship Leaders

**Lucy Forster-Smith** Senior Associate Pastor  
**Joseph L. Morrow** Associate Pastor  
**David Handley** Interim Minister for Caring Ministries  
**Barbara Anderson** Liturgist  
**The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet**

## Worship Notes

**Today's Minute for Mission** is presented by Colleen Mraz on behalf of Stephen Ministry.

**Offering gifts** to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in an offering box at the exit to the Chapel. They also can be given online at [www.fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online) (or via the "To Make a Gift" button on our website: [fourthchurch.org](http://fourthchurch.org)) or via Venmo (@Fourth-Church).

**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  
**Matt Helms**, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry  
**Joseph L. Morrow**, Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Community Engagement  
**Nanette Sawyer**, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry  
**Rocky Supinger**, Associate Pastor for 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

# 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 Presbyterian 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.



On the Fourth Church campus, including in worship, **everyone is required to wear masks, fully covering the nose and mouth, regardless of vaccination status.** Anyone not vaccinated against COVID-19 is also required to practice social distancing. \* For those worshipping with us in person, we are not checking vaccination status, but **by entering the Fourth Church campus you certify** that (a) you do not currently have COVID-19; (b) you are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) you have no reason to quarantine; and (d) you will practice social distancing if you are not vaccinated against COVID-19.



Our **two in-person worship services** are a **10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary** and a **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel.** \* Seating in the Chapel is set up for **social distancing.** In the Sanctuary, the front section is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, with seating by households. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating, with masks required wherever one sits. \* Due to health guidelines, **congregational singing is not permitted;** those who would like to hum while the soloist sings are invited to do so. \* **Worship can be heard** through hearing aids' "T" or "T-coil" setting. \* **Please** silence electronic devices when in the Chapel.



**For those who prefer to worship online** or are unable to join us in person, we continue to livestream our morning worship service at 10:00 a.m. at [www.bit.ly/FPCworship](http://www.bit.ly/FPCworship), Facebook Live ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and YouTube ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)). (*The prelude begins at approximately 9:45 a.m.*) The service is also available for viewing afterwards. \* **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 888.916.9166 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](http://www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast)).



The church campus remains closed. \* On Sundays the **doors open for worship** at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (*a half hour before each service starts*). For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the morning service, access is only by the Michigan Avenue doors. \* **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garage must be picked up from an usher. \* **Nursery care is not available.**

**You can read more** about the guidelines in place for in-person worship as well as information about continued online opportunities at [www.fourthchurch.org/reopening](http://www.fourthchurch.org/reopening)

On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer** via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. For details, email Carol Allerton ([callerton@fourthchurch.org](mailto:callerton@fourthchurch.org)). \* We also invite you to view our summer 2021 **“Rhythm and Word: Music and Prayer” videos**, which you can find on YouTube ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)). The autumn series—weaving together scripture, prayer, and music offered by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet—will launch on October 6. To receive the October videos by email, sign up at [www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail) \* A **virtual Sacred Pause** time of meditation is hosted by our Replogle Center on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at [facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing](https://facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing) \* Written by members and staff, **daily devotional meditations** for prayer and reflection are available by email (sign up at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)) and Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)), Twitter ([twitter.com/fourthchicago](https://twitter.com/fourthchicago)), and online ([fourthchurch.org/devotions](http://fourthchurch.org/devotions)).



We invite you to join us for our **Zoom “Reconnect, Renew, and Reawaken” gatherings** that kick off this Tuesday, September 14! Eight different Zoom gatherings will be held between September 14 and October 7, with one at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday. The same Zoom link—[www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21](http://www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21)—will be used for all of them, and each session will highlight a different area of opportunity at the church, areas in which you are invited to learn more, become engaged, get involved, and connect with one another. The complete schedule is posted on our website: [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)



Do you have children who are Sunday School-aged or youth who are in junior high or senior high? Or are you interested in what’s involved in being a Sunday School teacher or youth or Confirmation leader? Or maybe you’re looking to connect with other parents and families. Join us for **our first Zoom “Reconnect, Renew, and Reawaken” gathering—“Children, Youth, and Families”**—this Tuesday, September 14 at 5:30 p.m. at [www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21](http://www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21)



**Our second Zoom “Reconnect, Renew, and Reawaken” gathering—“Education and Spiritual Formation”**—will take place at [www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21](http://www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21) this Thursday, September 16 at 5:30 p.m. Come learn about Bible study opportunities, our adult education classes, Center for Life and Learning weekday offerings for those sixty and over, and spiritual formation practices and experiences that deepen our relationship with God, self, and one another. A wide variety of resources is available to you for your ongoing exploration and spiritual growth!



**The class “Understanding Gender Identity as a Church Community”** meets via Zoom on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Hosted by the Adult Education and Youth Committees, it is led by Community Outreach staff from Lurie Children’s Hospital. For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/aflgenderidentity](http://www.bit.ly/aflgenderidentity) \* **Adults sixty and over** are invited to take part in the **Center for Life and Learning**, which offers online weekday courses, lectures, and exercise classes beginning this week; for details, email Susan Quaintance ([squaintance@fourthchurch.org](mailto:squaintance@fourthchurch.org)) or see [www.fourthchurch.org/cll](http://www.fourthchurch.org/cll)

**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)**

The **Officer Nominating Committee** is gathering recommendations of individuals to serve in positions opening in 2022 for Elder, Deacon, Trustee, and Nominating Committee as well as the Chicago Lights Board. If you know any Fourth Church members—including yourself—who have demonstrated **gifts for leadership and ministry**, please offer your leadership recommendations via the online form: [www.bit.ly/nominating2022](http://www.bit.ly/nominating2022)



For those who are facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. 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 **Replegle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. \* If you would like to **talk to a pastor** or notify the pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please call the church (312.787.4570). \* **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.



**Men's Bible Study** meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.; **Horizons Bible Study for women** meets online on Wednesday, September 22 at 12:00 p.m. For Zoom details for either study, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). \* **TwentiesThirties Bible Study** for young adults meets online on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. For details, email Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@fourthchurch.org)). \* **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom this Tuesday, September 14 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss **Caste: Origins of Our Discontents** by Isabel Wilkerson. Newcomers are always welcome to join in the conversation. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). \* **The First Tuesday Book Club**, hosted by the Adult Education Committee, will discuss **Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life** by Tish Harrison Warren on Tuesday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. For Zoom details, email Lewis Hamer ([lhamer@fourthchurch.org](mailto:lhamer@fourthchurch.org)).



Our **Friday Noonday Concerts** continue this week with pianist Mio Nakamura and trombonist Hugo Saavedra presenting our in-person concert at 12:10 p.m. Masks must be worn by all in attendance. The concerts are also **livestreamed** on YouTube ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)), via Facebook Live, and at [www.bit.ly/fpcprograms](http://www.bit.ly/fpcprograms) and are available to view afterwards as well.



Watch our **website** ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)) and follow us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)) and **Instagram** ([instagram.com/fourthchurch](https://instagram.com/fourthchurch)) for resources and ways to connect. \* Online events are posted on the **church calendar** at [www.fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fourthchurch.org/calendar) \* **If you are interested in becoming a member of Fourth Church**, we encourage you to email Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@fourthchurch.org)). \* **Fourth Church Meals Ministry** is looking for individuals to help with Saturday breakfast, weekday Bag Lunch, and Sunday Night and Monday Night Suppers. If you are able to help or are interested in other volunteer opportunities, please let us know via **VOMO, our Volunteer Ministry sign-up platform at [www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers)**

