



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**

As we gather with friends and strangers, family and neighbors,
come among us, Healing God, with that love which never ends.

As we gather listening, alive to your presence,
**come among us, Friend of the Broken,
with your compassion which makes us whole.**

As we gather, watching and waiting, alive to your presence,
come among us, Restorer of Hope, in word, silence, and song.

* Please rise in body or spirit

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) “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” (verse 1)

*Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!*

*Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?*

*Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.*

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**God of compassion, you stand ever ready before us:
ready to heal, to provide a pathway to peace and offer your gracious justice.
But in the ways we refuse to change, you receive our stubborn refusal.
In our selfishness, you hear apathy.
Rather than help others, we stand over them in accusation.
And so our world suffers tragedy, want, and oppression.
In this life too often marked by condemnation, we ask for the miracle of your mercy.
As we who are frail of faith receive your tenderness, may we extend it outward
until all your beloved people are restored and made whole. Amen.**

God Forgives and Blesses Us

Friends, believe the good news!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

We Proclaim the Story

Prayer for Illumination

ANTIPHON: *Hallelujah! Do not put your trust in princes. Hallelujah! Our hope is in God.*

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.
When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

ANTIPHON

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;
who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The Lord sets the captive free.

ANTIPHON

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

ANTIPHON

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

Call for Offering

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

Ever-present God, with these offerings we also present ourselves:
all that we have been, all that we are, and all that we will become.
For in sharing ourselves, we help honor the Christ who walks alongside
each of our brothers and sisters. Amen.

We Go Out with Gratitude

***Closing Song** (*congregation is invited to hum*) "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

*May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Matt Helms Associate Pastor
Paula Addington Liturgist
The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Worship Notes

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 (or via the “To Make a Gift” button on our website: fourthchurch.org) or via Venmo (@Fourth-Church).

Today’s closing song, “May the God of Hope Go with Us,” is an Argentinian folk melody with an English text written by Alvin Schutmaat, who wrote the words in 1984 while serving as a PC(USA) missionary in Argentina.

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.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather for 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, Facebook Live (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and YouTube (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).



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 by the Michigan Avenue and Delaware 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

On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer** via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. For details, email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org). * For those who would appreciate a fifteen-minute midweek worship experience, we invite you to view our summer 2021 **“Rhythm and Word: Midweek Music and Prayer”** videos, which you can find on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). **New videos in this series**, weaving together scripture, prayer, and music offered by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet, **launch Wednesday, October 6.** Sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail to receive these new videos by email. * 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 * **Daily devotional meditations** for prayer and reflection are available by email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions), Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), Twitter (twitter.com/fourthchicago), and fourthchurch.org/devotions.



This **Thursday, September 30 is the deadline** to submit recommendations to the **Officer Nominating Committee**, which 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



A Thursday evening online Bible study led by Lucy and Tom Forster-Smith and examining themes and events in Genesis will begin on Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. For Zoom details, email Lewis Hamer (lhamer@fourthchurch.org). * **Men’s Bible Study** meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and **Horizons Bible Study for women** next meets online on Wednesday, October 13 at 12:00 p.m. A **6:30 p.m. evening Bible study for women** is also being formed. For Zoom details for Men’s or Women’s Bible studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). * TwentiesThirties Bible Study for young adults meets online on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. For details, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).



To follow up on our spring classes with artist Gerald Griffin, Mr. Griffin has invited members of Fourth Church to visit the **Gerald Griffin gallery** in the Chatham neighborhood (8237 S. Princeton) on Sunday, October 3 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Individuals will need to provide their own transportation to and from the gallery, where we will learn more about Mr. Griffin’s art, the healing power of creativity, and the importance of art in the neighborhood. Those who are interested in carpooling from the church are asked to email Lewis Hamer (lhamer@fourthchurch.org) by Wednesday, September 29. * The **First Tuesday Book Club** 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).



Cate Hummel and Cindy Trowbridge will present a **flute and piano concert** this Friday, October 1 at 12:10 p.m. as part of our Friday Noonday Concert series. *Masks must be worn by all in attendance.* Our concerts can also be enjoyed online on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms, and via Facebook Live.

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**

Our **Zoom “Reconnect, Renew, and Reawaken” gatherings** are underway! Held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. each session highlights 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). This week’s gatherings will focus on **Caring Ministries** on Tuesday, September 28 at 5:30 p.m. and **Fellowship and Small Groups** on Thursday, September 30 at 5:30 p.m., both at www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21 (*the same Zoom link is used for all of the sessions*). We hope you will join us in making time to connect with friends both new and familiar this fall!



New Zoom Small Groups, which will meet weekly for six weeks, begin the week of October 11. If you would like to **connect with five to seven other people** via Zoom for **a time of fellowship, relationship building, and spiritual formation** or want to learn more about our small-group opportunities, please email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). * **Knitting and Crocheting** gathers online this Tuesday, September 28 at 4:00 p.m. for a time to work on knitting or crocheting projects while sharing in conversation. * **Cornerstones’** online October gathering for those fifty and over will feature Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry, moderating a panel of high school students discussing **“How Has the COVID Pandemic Impacted Your High School Experience?”** For Zoom details for the event, which will be held this Friday, October 1 at 5:30 p.m., register online at www.bit.ly/cornerstones1021



Effective October 15, 2021, **all Fourth Church volunteers serving in person must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19**. If you are volunteering this fall please send a copy of your vaccination certification to vaxproof@fourthchurch.org by October 15. Your information will be received directly by our Human Resources Department and kept confidential, only used to confirm your ability to volunteer with the church. Please direct questions about to Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org). * Starting on October 10 **Meals Ministry** will offer limited indoor dining—in addition to the to-go option—for Sunday Night Supper That means **additional volunteers are needed to help serve Supper guests on Sundays**. You can sign up to volunteer on Sundays or for other Meals Ministry programs using VOMO, our Volunteer Ministry sign-up platform, at www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers * Do you have time one evening a week to **mentor a student through Chicago Lights Tutoring?** Tutoring will take place online this fall, and the Tutoring Volunteer Application can be completed at www.bit.ly/cltutorapp21; for more information, contact Mark Dennison (mdennison@chicagolights.org).



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 * **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence for those experiencing life’s challenges. To learn more, 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** or notify the pastoral staff of personal concerns, prayer requests, illnesses, or deaths, please call the church (312.787.4570).

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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