

World Communion Sunday

October 3, 2021 • 10:00 a.m.

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 choir members if they like.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness Johann Gottfried Walther

Soul, adorn yourself with gladness; leave the gloomy haunts of sadness.

Come into the daylight's splendor; there with joy your praises render.

Bless the one whose grace unbounded this amazing banquet founded;

Christ, though heavenly, high, and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness Johannes Brahms

Sun, who all my life does brighten; light, who does my soul enlighten; joy, your wondrous gift bestowing; fount, from which all good is flowing: at your feet I cry, my Maker, let me be a fit partaker of this blessed food from heaven, for our good, your glory given.

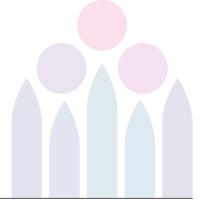
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit

Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, truest friend and dearest treasure, peace beyond all understanding, joy into all life expanding: humbly now, I bow before you, love incarnate, I adore you; worthily let me receive you and, so favored, never leave you.

*Doxology (congregation is invited to hum)

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.



^{*}Please rise in body or spirit. †Or "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

*Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus said, "All who want to come after me must say 'No"-

All: no to ourselves, our fears, and our own way.

Leader: Jesus said, "All who want to come after me must take up a cross"—

All: to identify with those who suffer unjustly.

Leader: Jesus said, "All who want to come after me must follow me"—

All: even all the way to Golgotha, but first to the table.

Leader: We are here to follow Jesus. Let us worship God together.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you.

You call, but we have not listened.

We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns.

We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

God of grace, help us to admit our sin,

so that as you come to us in mercy

we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness;

through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Welcome and Announcements

Listening for the Word

Psalter	salm 116:1–9
Gloria Patri (congregation is invited to hum)	
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: † as it was in the beginn	ing,

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson Mark 8:27–38

is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Sermon Series "Normal Never Was, God Always Is: Part Five..... Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus. Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

*Affirmation of Faith (unison) from the Confession of 1967

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We will lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to 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

Communion Anthem " "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" Harold W. Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name, two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them, alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem. As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup, alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up. All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee, that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be. Alleluia, we will serve thee faithfully.

Psalm 23 (unison)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Call to Offering

*Prayer of Dedication

O God, we pause to give you thanks for the bounty of life, for we know that every good gift comes from your hand. May these gifts multiply, by your grace, and reach those who await your loving provision; through Christ we pray. Amen.

Bearing the World into the World

*Hymn (congregation is invited to hum)..... "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 "In Thee Is Joy. Johannes Matthias Michel

We invite you to enjoy the postlude. *If you need to leave prior to the end of the postlude,* please do so quietly out of respect for those who choose to stay.

News and Resources

October 3-October 9, 2021

We are glad to be worshiping with you today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth 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 worshiping 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. * 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. Seating for Jazz at Four is set up for social distancing. * Due to health guidelines, congregational singing is not permitted in the Sanctuary or Chapel; those who would like to hum while the choir members sing the hymns are invited to do so.



Nursery care is not available at this time. * Worship can be heard in the Sanctuary and Chapel through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids. * Please silence electronic devices when in the Sanctuary or Chapel. * Following the morning service, those who would like to do so are invited to greet one another outside in the Michigan Avenue courtyard.

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**

For those who prefer to worship online or who 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 after the service, including later in the week. * 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 at this time. * 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 morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors.



Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher. ** Next Sunday, October 10 is the day of the **Chicago Marathon**. Directions on the easiest routes to get to Fourth Church that morning can be found online (www.fourthchurch.org/marathon.pdf).



This Wednesday, October 6 we launch our autumn series of "Rhythm and Word: Midweek Music and Prayer" videos, a fifteen-minute midweek worship experience weaving together scripture, prayer, and music offered by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet. You can subscribe to our YouTube channel and watch the videos there (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) or receive them by email (sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail). * Also on Wednesdays we gather for Morning Prayer via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. For details, email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org).

Today is World Communion Sunday, a day when worshipers around the world gather for the Lord's Supper, enacting the words of the hymn "Come, Risen Lord": "One church united in communion blest; one name we bear, one bread of life we break." As we celebrate our oneness in Christ with our global family, our service includes visual reminders of this unity: the cloth on the Communion Table and the stoles being worn by the pastors are from Guatemala—a frequent destination of Fourth Church service trips—and the varieties of bread on the Table represent cultures from around the world. * This Sunday also reminds us that God's love can heal our deepest divisions, and so each World Communion Sunday we receive gifts to the special Peace and Global Witness Offering. Gifts designated to this offering will be directed to efforts toward peacemaking that are supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as well as local efforts to address violence in Chicago. These gifts can be made online (noting "Peace Offering" in the comments) at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online or by a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, with "Peace Offering" in the memo line.



"Called to Be a Church Alive," our 2022 stewardship campaign, is underway, inviting all of us to pledge our support for the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights in the year ahead. Please plan to submit your 2022 pledge—which you can make online at www.bit.ly/fpcclpledge—by Reformation Sunday, October 31, a day we will also celebrate as Commitment Sunday: a day to lift up all that we are able to do together through our generous response to God's blessings in our lives.



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 **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, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, 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.

A new Thursday evening online Bible study led by Lucy and Tom Forster-Smith will begin this

Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. and examine themes and events in Genesis. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/genesisbiblestudy21 ** Men's Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and *Horizons* Bible Study for women* 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 details for Men's or Women's Bible studies, email Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). ** On Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. TwentiesThirties Bible Study for young adults meets online. For details, email Joe Morrow (*jmorrow@fourthchurch.org*). ** Written by members and staff, daily devotional meditations 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).



This Tuesday, October 5 the First Tuesday Book Club will discuss Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life by Tish Harrison Warren at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/firsttuesday1021 ** On Tuesday, October 12 Books by Women will meet via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. to discuss A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf. Newcomers are always welcome to join in these conversations. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ** 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 small-group opportunities, please email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Next Sunday, October 10, **Jeff Doane** will teach a Zoom class at 11:15 a.m. on "Presbyterian Witness, Part 1: The Apostles' Creed," an opportunity to explore the history and language of one of the earliest statements of faith and its importance for what we believe. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/creed1021 ** On Sunday, October 17 at 11:15 a.m., **John Buchanan and Tom Dozeman** will begin teaching a three-week class on the Old Testament figure **David:** "Shepherd, Warrior, Monarch." For details, email Lewis Hamer (*lhamer@fourthchurch.org*). ** Adults sixty and over are invited to take part in the **Center for Life and Learning's** online weekday classes, lectures, and exercise opportunities. For details, email Susan Quaintance (*squaintance@fourthchurch.org*).

Our congregation is **celebrating its sesquicentennial!** We encourage you to visit the web page www.fourthchurch.org/150 to read **historical accounts** and also view **videos of pastors who formerly served at Fourth Church** as they share memories of their time with our congregation. ** On Tuesday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary **Shannon Kershner** will lead a discussion commemorating our 150th anniversary. Pastor Emeritus **John Buchanan; Felicia Davis,** President and CEO of the Chicago Foundation for Women; and **William Schwieker,** Professor of Theological Ethics at the University of Chicago Divinity School, will talk about "Is the Church a Light in the City? Faith in the Twenty-First Century." This Michigan Avenue Forum looking at the responsibility of church to the community will also be livestreamed.



Sunday School (ages 3 through grade 5) meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Gratz Center. For details about online Sunday School, email Briana Belding-Peck (bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org). * Today eighth-grade Confirmation meets at 9:00 a.m. in Room 5G. * Junior High Youth meet today at 9:15 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, where Senior High Youth meet at 11:15 a.m. For additional details about about youth groups, including Sunday evening Junior High Zoom time, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). * Cherub and Children's Music Time (ages 3 through grade 5) meets on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in Room 4F, where the Youth Music Time (grades 6–12) meets at 10:45 a.m. * Youth parents are invited to a time of fellowship on Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the fifth floor lobby. * Next Sunday on October 10 there will be no Confirmation, Junior High, or Senior High in-person gatherings because of the Marathon.



Organist Christopher Urban will present an organ concert this Friday, October 8 at 12:10 p.m. as part of our weekly Friday Noonday Concert series. *Masks must be worn by all in attendance*. Our concerts can also be enjoyed online live as well as afterwards at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms, on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), and on Facebook Live. ** Online events are posted on the church calendar, which is accessible from the home page of our website and at www. fourthchurch.org/calendar ** For resources and ways to connect, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org) and follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and Instagram (instagram.com/fourthchurch) ** If you are interested in becoming a member of Fourth Church, we encourage you to email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).

This Tuesday, October 5 at 5:30 p.m. join us via Zoom (www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21) for our next "Reconnect, Renew, and Reawaken" gathering—"Racial Equity, LGBTQIA Welcome, and Partnerships" as we hear from our Racial Equity Council and LGBTQIA: Widening Our Welcome group about ways in which you can be part of Fourth Church's welcome of all into the life of the congregation. Learn too how our call to reflect the inclusive love of God shapes our interfaith activities, as we embrace our neighbors and celebrate our differences.



Have you ever wondered what committees at Fourth Church do and how they work—or how you might serve on one? Or perhaps you'd like to learn how to keep up to date on volunteer opportunities and needs—and sign up for them! Join us this Thursday, October 7 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom (www.bit.ly/fpcgetconnected21) for our final "Reconnect, Renew, and Reawaken" **gathering—"Volunteer Service and Nominating Committee."** ★ Beginning next Sunday, October 10 Meals Ministry is planning to offer limited indoor dining—in addition to the current to-go option—for Sunday Night Supper. To make that happen, additional volunteers are needed to help serve Supper guests on Sundays. You can sign up to volunteer with Meals Ministry by using VOMO, our Volunteer Ministry sign-up platform, at www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers ** By 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 this to Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org). * 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)

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Those attending a Fourth Church worship service in person are entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur on behalf of Fourth Church—including the weekly live stream of the Sunday morning service. By entering the worship service, you consent to the non-commercial use of the resulting visual and audio records; you waive all rights you may have to any claims of compensation for the use of these records; you release Fourth Church from any liability for the use of these records; and you waive the right to inspect or approve any of these records.

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Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger, Ruben Harris, Lucy Forster-Smith, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Members of the Morning Choir, Cherub Choir, Children's Choir, and Youth Choir Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth Michael Rees, Organ Scholar John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING'S PRELUDE alternates between the hymn "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" and arrangements of the hymn by various composers. We welcome the Cherub, Children's, and Youth Choirs this morning as they add movement and gestures to the Doxology and Opening Hymn. Today's service concludes with the Jamaican folk melody "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" followed by an Afro-Cuban arrangement of the Italian hymn tune "In Thee Is Joy," arranged by German composer Johannes Matthias Michel.

WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER during worship this morning. Those worshiping in the Sanctuary who did not receive individually prepackaged Communion elements upon entering the Sanctuary can request those elements from an usher prior to Communion; after the service, please drop off the recyclable cup and packaging at the exit. Those worshiping at home are encouraged to have bread and juice on hand as we share in this meal together.

OFFERING GIFTS to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in one of the offering boxes at the exit from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online (or via the "To Make a Gift" button on our website: www.fourthchurch.org).

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 SOURCES AND CREDITS: "Seek Ye First" words and music copyright © 1972 Brentwood Publishing/Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa dba CCCM Music (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com).

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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