

Fourth Presbyterian Church

Reformation Day

October 31, 2021 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Toccata and Fugue in F Major Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit :: “For the Life That You Have Given” American folk hymn

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

***Doxology** (congregation is invited to sing while wearing a mask)

*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.*

*Call to Worship

Leader: *Fling wide the gate of the temple!*

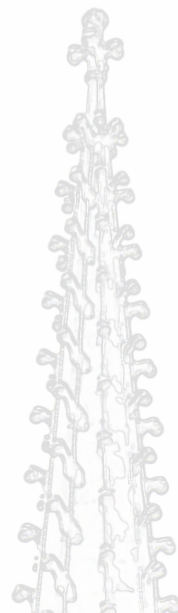
All: **Open up the ancient doors!**

Leader: *The mighty and glorious one is coming.*

All: **Who is this mighty and glorious one?**

Leader: *This is the Lord God for whom we have waited.*

All: **Let us be glad and rejoice! Let us worship God!**



**Please rise in body or spirit. †Or “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”*

***Hymn** (*congregation is invited to sing while wearing a mask*) . . “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how your wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes your glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious and assuring God, we know that your will for us is to live in unity
and peace with one another. And yet, O God, we struggle to live and believe
your good news, shown in Jesus.

We profess to be disciples, yet we are not willing to bear the cost of discipleship.
We affirm the need to be generous, and yet we withhold all except the minimum.
We set our sights on serving others, and yet we indulge in selfish desires
and seeking personal gain.

O God of grace and goodness, we are sorry.
Forgive us, we pray, and free us to follow you with joy and love.
Come close to us so that in confidence we can love others
and this world with abandon and your gracious freedom.
Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Welcome and Announcements

Anthem :: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Hugo Distler
Praise to 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.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 24

***Gloria Patri** (*congregation is invited to sing while wearing a mask*)
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 Acts 2:42–47, 4:32–35

Sermon :: “Defined by Generosity” Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

Anthem :: “I’m Going to Sing When the Spirit Says Sing” African American spiritual
arr. Ronald Anderson
*I’m going to sing when the Spirit says sing and obey the Spirit of the Lord.
I’m going to pray when the Spirit says pray and obey the Spirit of the Lord.
I’m going to shout when the Spirit says shout and obey the Spirit of the Lord.*

***Affirmation of Faith** (*responsively*) Based on *The Westminster Larger Catechism*

Leader: *Which is the Eighth Commandment?*

All: The Eighth Commandment is, “Thou shalt not steal.”

Leader: *What are the duties required in the Eighth Commandment?*

All: Truth, faithfulness, and justice in contracts and commerce between people;
rendering to everyone their due; restitution of goods unlawfully detained;
giving and lending freely, according to our abilities, and the necessities of others;
moderation of our judgments, wills, and affections, concerning worldly goods;
a lawful calling, and a diligence in it; frugality;
and an endeavor by all just and lawful means to procure, preserve, and further
the wealth and outward estate of others, as well as our own.

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.

Call to Offering

*Litany of Dedication of our Offerings and Pledges (*responsively*)

Leader: *The creator of all life and love has given our earth bountiful blessings.*

God created humanity to share in the wonder and joy of these blessings.

All thanks be to God, giver and receiver of all that is good.

All: We return to God portions of what God has given us:

our time, the fruits of our labors, our commitment.

Leader: *May the giving from the fullness of our lives be acceptable in God’s sight.*

All: May the gifts we bring show that God’s reign is at hand—both now and to come.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn** (*congregation is invited to sing while wearing a mask*). . . “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God’s own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God’s truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever

***Charge and Benediction**

*Worshipers who wish to do so are invited to sing along (while masked)
with the choir during the Benediction responses.*

Postlude

Toccata and Fugue in D Minor J. S. Bach

*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.*



We are glad to be worshipping 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 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.** ✳ 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. ✳ **The congregation is invited to sing while masked.** Singing has been identified as one of the riskiest behaviors during this pandemic, due to the high level of aerosol spread while people sing, and that risk remains. However, as COVID infection rates in Chicago continue to decrease and the vaccination rate continues to increase, we can resume singing as long as we continue to wear masks. We invite those who are concerned about being near those who are singing even though masked to consider the socially distanced seating section or join those who worship with us from home via livestream. ✳ **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.

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.



Each Wednesday we release a new video in our **“Rhythm and Word: Midweek Music and Prayer”** series, a fifteen-minute worship experience weaving together scripture, prayer, and music by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet. You can **subscribe to our YouTube channel** and watch the videos there (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on Wednesday evenings or during the week or **receive them by email** *(sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail)*. ✨ Also on Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. For details, email Carol Allerton (callerton@fourthchurch.org). ✨ 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/reproglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing. ✨ 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).

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

On this **Reformation Day**, as we give thanks for the Reformation leaders and all others who have kept the faith, we recall the ways in which the Presbyterian Church (USA) grew out of the Reformation of the sixteenth century under leaders such as John Calvin and Scotsman John Knox. As part of the remembrance of our denomination's Scottish roots, **bagpiper Brian McKee is playing outside the Sanctuary** both before and after today's 10:00 a.m. service.



Today is also Commitment Sunday, the day we lift up our pledges to “**Called to Be a Church Alive,**” our 2022 stewardship campaign for Fourth Church and Chicago Lights. During worship we will dedicate our pledges to the work of God's kingdom, as we each answer the invitation to join in God's re-creating and reconciling work in this world through our financial support. **If you have not already made your pledge for 2022** indicating your support for and investment in the work of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights, we encourage you to take this opportunity to do so online at www.bit.ly/fpcclpledge; additional details are posted at www.fourthchurch.org and are also available from Andrea Miller (amiller@fourthchurch.org).



Next Sunday, November 7 is All Saints' Sunday, a day when we remember the faithful who have gone before us and honor departed loved ones. As part of that observance, the names of all Fourth Church members who have entered the Church Triumphant in 2021 will be read during morning worship.



Daylight Saving Time ends next Sunday; be sure to **set your clocks back** an hour!



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.

Our congregation is **celebrating its sesquicentennial!** During this 150th anniversary year we encourage you to visit the web page www.fourthchurch.org/150 to read **historical accounts** and letters from **Chicago's faith leaders**. There you can also hear greetings from **Fourth Church friends from across the globe** and view videos of **pastors who formerly served at Fourth Church** as they share memories of their time with our congregation. These collections continue to grow, so do check back periodically.



As part of our sesquicentennial celebrations, a **Michigan Avenue Forum** on Tuesday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary (*and livestreamed*) will present **“Is the Church a Light in the City? Faith in the Twenty-First Century,”** a conversation among notable church and community speakers that commemorates our 150th anniversary and looks at Fourth Church's history as a citizen of Chicago. Moderated by Lucy Forster-Smith, this panel discussion will bring together **Shannon Kershner**; Pastor Emeritus **John Buchanan**; **Felicia Davis Blakley**, President and CEO of the Chicago Foundation for Women; and **William Schweiker**, Professor of Theological Ethics at the University of Chicago Divinity School. ✨ This Michigan Avenue Forum will be followed by an in-person **“The Next 150 Years”** program on Saturday morning, November 13. This opportunity to further explore the topics discussed on Tuesday evening will invite participants to exchange ideas in conversations led by Fourth Church members and program partners focusing on **arts and culture, community, racial justice and diversity, equity and inclusion, and well-being**. After an introductory greeting from Shannon Kershner, two breakout sessions will be held, and after a break, a second pair of sessions will convene. For more information, contact Lewis Hamer (lhamer@fourthchurch.org).



John Buchanan and Tom Dozeman conclude their class on the Old Testament figure **David: “Shepherd, Warrior, Monarch”** this morning at 11:15 a.m. This class meets in person in Borwell Dining Room and is also recorded for viewing online at a later date. ✨ Next Sunday, November 7 at 11:15 a.m. Lois Snively will lead us in looking at **how to discern vocational calling** in a secular workplace, what unique **“ministerial” challenges we may face at work**, and how to bring the church out into the world in the days, weeks, months, and years ahead. Cohosted by the Adult Education Committee and the TwentiesThirties fellowship group., this three-week “Discerning Vocation” class will meet via Zoom on November 7 (*email Lewis Hamer at lhamer@fourthchurch.org for details*) and then meet in person the following two Sundays.

This Tuesday, November 2 the **First Tuesday Book Club** will discuss ***A Gentle Answer: Our “Secret Weapon” in an Age of Us against Them*** by Scott Sauls at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. For Zoom details, register online at www.bit.ly/firsttuesday1121 ✱ Next Tuesday, November 9 **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. to discuss ***Cher Ami and Major Whittlesey*** by Kathleen Rooney. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). Newcomers are always welcome to join in these conversations ✱ **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) or see www.fourthchurch.org/cfl



Men’s Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and the **Horizons Bible Study for women** offers two online sessions on Wednesday, November 10: one at 12:00 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. 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. Email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org) for details.



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). ✱ **Eighth-grade Confirmation** meets at 9:15 a.m. on the fifth floor. ✱ **Junior High Youth** meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, where **Senior High Youth** meet at 11:15 a.m. For details about youth groups, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). ✱ **Youth parents** gather for fellowship at 9:15 a.m. on the fifth floor. ✱ **Cherub and Children’s Music Time** (*ages 3 through grade 5*) meets on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 4F, where **Youth Music Time** (*grades 6–12*) meets at 10:45 a.m.



An organ concert by Aaron David Miller on Friday, November 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary will celebrate the sixth anniversary of the dedication of the Andrew Pipe Organ and the twenty-fifth anniversary of John Sherer as Organist and Director of Music at Fourth Church. This in-person concert will also be livestreamed and will include Aaron David Miller premiering his composition **“Sonata for a Sacred Space,”** commissioned by the congregation in honor of John Sherer’s twenty-five years at Fourth Church. ✱ This Friday **mezzo-soprano Anna Christine Laurenzo and pianist Shannon McGinnis** will present our weekly Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m., in a performance cosponsored by Musicians Club of Women. *Masks must be worn by all in attendance.* Our concerts are also livestreamed and available at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms, on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), and on Facebook Live.

An **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome** Happy Hour will be held via Zoom this Tuesday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ At the **Cornerstones'** online November gathering for adults fifty and over, author Greg Borzo will be talking about his book **Lost Restaurants of Chicago** this Friday, November 5 at 5:30 p.m. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/cornerstones1121 ✱ On Saturday, November 20 at 5:00 p.m. we will be **singing carols** (*while masked*) on the steps of the Sanctuary as part of the **Michigan Avenue Lighting Festival**.



The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in need of **donations of clean, gently used adult clothing and men's shoes**. (*We are not accepting children's clothing, household supplies, or used underwear or used socks at this time.*) Donations can be dropped off inside the entrance at 126 E. Chestnut on Sundays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Please do not leave donations on the church steps. Ring the receptionist bell to be buzzed in. *Masks are required while on the campus.* ✱ **Volunteers are needed to serve Sunday Night Supper** in upcoming weeks. You can sign up to help with Meals Ministry by using **VOMO, our Volunteer Ministry platform** (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers). All individuals volunteering in person must be vaccinated against COVID-19; proof of vaccination can be sent to vaxproof@fourthchurch.org



If you are interested in **becoming a member of Fourth Church**, we invite you to join us online for a one-session Inquirers' Class on Sunday, November 7 at 9:00 a.m. To register for this class (*required for membership*), sign up at www.bit.ly/inquirersclass1121; for more information about membership, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ For resources and ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org) and follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch) and Instagram (instagram.com/fourthchurch) ✱ Online events are posted on our **church calendar**, which is accessible from the home page of our website and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar



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.



Worship Leaders

Anneke Stracks, Lucy Forster-Smith, Barbara Pearce, Rocky Supinger, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Members of the Morning Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

TODAY IS REFORMATION DAY, a day when we recall the rich heritage of the Protestant tradition.

The Presbyterian Church (USA) grew out of the Reformation of the sixteenth century under leaders such as John Calvin and John Knox. It was on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther posted his ninety-five theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany, the watershed event sparking the Reformation. Luther later authored today's closing hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." The pastors' stoles are red to symbolize the Holy Spirit's work in reforming the church.

THE ORDINARY TIME BANNERS, commissioned for our 150th anniversary, evoke this congregation's call to be a light in the city. The pulpit parament, incorporating a map of Chicago, is created from 150 pieces, one for each year of our history. The use of blue and green represents Lake Michigan and the prairie surrounding the city, while the hanging banners offer images of local wildflowers.

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

