



First Sunday after Christmas

We Approach God

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

God is here! The Messiah has come!

We open our eyes to see him and lift our eyes to worship him.

We lift our voices in prayer.

We lift our voices in praise.

We have come giving thanks for Jesus, our Savior and King. Come, let us worship.

Come, let us adore him: Christ the Lord!

* 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 sings while masked*) "Joy to the World"

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**O Lord, even as the joy of Christmas continues to reverberate all around us,
we confess that we have not always lived lives
that proclaim your joy or witness to your hope.**

**We have not searched for signs of your love in the world
or trusted your good news to be good.**

**We ask you to make us humble and loving like Jesus—
who did not come to be served but to serve,
and who said that it is better to give than to receive—
so that in his name we may devote ourselves
to the care and service of all who are in need.**

**We ask all this in the name of the one
who came to show us how to walk in your ways. Amen.**

God Forgives and Blesses Us

Friends, believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

We Proclaim the Story

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*congregation sings the antiphon while masked*) Psalm 148

ANTIPHON: *Praise the name of the Lord, whose splendor is over earth and heaven!*

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights. Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven. Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars. Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created, who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law which shall not pass away.

ANTIPHON

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will; mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds; sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; young men and maidens, old and young together.

ANTIPHON

Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven. The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!

ANTIPHON

Scripture Lesson Luke 2:41–52

Sermon *Rocky Supinger*

Musical Reflection

We Feast Together

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

We Offer Ourselves

Call for Offering

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy.
Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches
of your love in the Word-made-flesh. Amen.

We Go Out with Gratitude

***Closing Song** (*congregation sings while masked*) "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger Associate Pastor

Matt Helms Associate Pastor

Paula Addington Liturgist

The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Worship Notes

Our annual “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout the Christmas season. Gifts to “Light Up a Life” support the mission and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights as they extend mercy, kindness, and love to those who are most vulnerable. You can make a gift to this offering by noting “Light Up a Life” in the comments section (when giving online via Venmo or the Fourth Church website: www.fourthchurch.org/give-online) or on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Gifts can also be placed in the offering boxes at the exit of the Chapel.

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.

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.** * 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 each Sunday 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. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating. * **Worshippers are invited to sing while masked.** We invite those who are concerned about being near those who are singing to worship with us from home via our 10:00 a.m. livestream, which is also available for viewing later in the week, or our weekly **"Rhythm and Word"** videos. * **Worship in the Chapel can be heard** through hearing aids' "T" or "T-coil" setting. * **Please** silence electronic devices when in the Chapel. * The **doors open for worship** on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. For the 4:00 service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. * **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. Validation tickets for the garage must be picked up from an usher.



For those who prefer to worship online or are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning worship service at 10:00 a.m. at www.bit.ly/FPCworship 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). * Also available will be our **Christmastide "Rhythm and Word" video.** This brief worship experience, which weaves together scripture, prayer, and music by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet, will be released on Wednesday, December 29 at 6:00 p.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where it will also be available for viewing afterwards. Our "Rhythm and Word" video series will then take a break during January and return on Wednesdays in February. To receive the videos by email, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail

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**

As a **resource for meditation and prayer** in this season, Fourth Church members and staff have written **Christmas devotions** you can **receive daily by email** (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) or read online (fourthchurch.org/devotions). * If you haven't yet had time to listen to **the new podcast "Bible Top Ten" hosted by Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger**, we invite you to take twenty minutes to enjoy one of the episodes in this lively, often lighthearted, always interesting podcast about the Bible as explored through a rotating series of top ten lists. You can find it at fourthchurch.org/podcast



Men's Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and **Horizons Bible Study for women** will host two online sessions on Wednesday, January 12, one at 12:00 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. For details for these Bible studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). * For information about **TwentiesThirties Bible Study** for young adults, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).



A four-session class on **"The 1619 Project,"** discussing slavery's continuing legacy of injustice and inequality, begins Sunday morning, January 9. Guest speakers will lead conversation about the history of slavery; cultural and religious practices brought to America from Africa; the history of the Great Migration in Chicago; the 1919 race riot and its origins; and present-day socioeconomic struggles in America's and Chicago's Black community. For details, register at www.bit.ly/1619class * **First Tuesday Book Club** will discuss ***On the Spectrum: Autism, Faith, and the Gifts of Neurodiversity*** by Daniel Bowman Jr. on January 4 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. For details, register online at www.bit.ly/firsttuesday122 * On Tuesday, January 11 **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. to discuss ***Nine Tailors*** by Dorothy Sayers. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



While we will not be gathering for a New Year's Eve service this year, we invite you to find time on Friday, December 31 to **watch our 2020 online New Year's Eve Taizé service**, which was cohosted by Holy Name Cathedral. This worship experience invites you to **reflect on the year past and the year to come**. You can find the video, to watch whenever it fits your schedule, on our YouTube channel at www.bit.ly/newyearstaize2020 * For those wanting **to make a year-end gift or fulfill their 2021 Stewardship pledge by credit card**, charges must be made to the card by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, December 31 in order for those gifts to be credited on 2021 giving statements. For those wanting **to make a gift or pledge fulfillment by check** and have the gift credited on 2021 giving statements, please be sure the envelope is postmarked December 31.



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 view video messages. * On **Sunday, February 13, 2022**, we will conclude our sesquicentennial year with a festive service of worship at 10:00 a.m. **John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus, will preach** that morning, and we hope that current and former members and staff will come together in worship that today—whether online or in person—as we celebrate this congregation's legacy and look toward our future.



The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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