



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Baptism of the Lord

January 9, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Christ, Our Lord, Came to the Jordan River Johann Sebastian Bach

Deep River. African American spiritual; arr. Hans Uwe Hielscher

Shall We Gather at the River Robert Lowry; arr. John Ferguson

Introit :: “Take Me to the Water” African American spiritual

Take me to the water to be baptized, glory hallelujah, to be baptized!

***Doxology** (*congregation sings while masked*)

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: *What does the Holy One require of us?*

All: To do justice, to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God.

Leader: *Praise the Lord.*

All: The Lord’s name be praised.

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

All: And also with you.

Leader: *Let us worship God.*



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

***Hymn 475** (*congregation sings while masked*) “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of God’s unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I’m come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here’s my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world
where all will be fed and have dignity,
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.

You call us to seek justice and peace,
but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.

You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,
but we do not insist on freedom for all.

Forgive us, O Lord.

Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit
so that all may know your justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Welcome and Announcements

Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem :: “Vidi Aquam” Iain Quinn
*I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia;
and all to whom this water came were saved and will say, alleluia.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 105:1–6, 37–45

***Gloria Patri** (*congregation sings while masked*)

*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 Matthew 20:1–16

Sermon :: Things Jesus Never Said: “You Get What You Deserve” Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 484** (*congregation sings while masked*). “Out of Deep, Unordered Water”

Out of deep, unordered water God created light and land,
world of bird and beast and, later, in God’s image, woman, man.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

Water on the human forehead, birthmark of the love of God,
is the sign of death and rising; through the seas there runs a road.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

Standing round the font reminds us of the Hebrews’ climb ashore.
Life is hallowed by the knowledge God has been this way before.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: there is water in the font.

†Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

Moment for Gratitude

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem :: "I Will Set His Dominion in the Sea" Bruce Neswick

I will set his dominion in the sea, and his right hand in the floods. And he shall call me, "Thou art my Father, thou art my God, and my strong salvation." And I will make him my first born, higher than the kings of the earth. The Lord hath chosen Zion to be an habitation for himself. I will bless her victuals with increase and will satisfy her poor with bread. I will deck her priests with health, and her saints shall rejoice and sing. Praised be the Lord forevermore. Amen.

***Offertory Response** (*congregation sings while masked*) The Hymnal, 712 (*verse 3*)

In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

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

Generous and gracious God, for the life you have given to us and for your love made known in Jesus we are so grateful. We are so honored to give back to you a portion of what you have given to us. Bless these gifts as tangible ways we reach together to this world; through Christ we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 485** (*congregation sings while masked*) “We Know That Christ Is Raised”

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold, and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!

We share by water in his saving death. Reborn we share with him an Easter life as living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

The Father’s splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit’s power shakes the church of God. Baptized we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia!

A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ’s new body takes on flesh and blood. The universe, restored and whole, will sing: Alleluia!

***Charge and Benediction**

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

Postlude :: All Who Believe and Are Baptized. Richard Proulx

*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.*

Baptized in Today’s Service

Ainsley Tan Lohmeier, child of Michael Lohmeier and Ainah Tan Lohmeier

Graeme William Stewart, child of Robert and Kristi Stewart

Harriet Ann Stewart, child of Robert and Kristi Stewart



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.



Beginning today **all seating for worship will be socially distanced**, in both the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. and Buchanan Chapel at 4:00, p.m. as we as a community respond to the current COVID-19 surge.

✳ On the Fourth Church campus, including in worship, **everyone continues to be required to wear masks, fully covering the nose and mouth**. Anyone not wearing a mask fully covering their nose and mouth will be asked to leave, as we know that some people make the decision to worship with us in person—or participate in other in-person activities—based on the knowledge that everyone will be fully masked. This is but one of the ways we continue to live out our commitment to value the health and safety of all. ✳ 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 during your time on the Fourth Church campus if you are not vaccinated against COVID-19.



The **congregation is invited to sing while masked**. We encourage those who are concerned about being around those who are singing to join those who worship with us from home via livestream. ✳ **For those who prefer to worship online** or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning worship service at 10:00 a.m. at www.bit.ly/FPCworship and on our YouTube channel (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). ✳ You can also subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons to **receive the sermon text by email**.

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

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. ✨ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. 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. ✨ **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.



During this time of increased social distancing, Deacons will not be available in Stone Chapel as prayer partners on Sunday mornings. For those who are seeking a time for prayer, on Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. In January we are also holding **in-person Morning Prayer** on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel. Also during January, Buchanan Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays. For Zoom details or information about walking the labyrinth or in-person Morning Prayer, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesday mornings (7:45 a.m.) and Saturday mornings (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing



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, please 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 at 312.787.4570. ✨ **If you have a prayer request**, Jeff Doane (jdoane@fourthchurch.org), our Parish Associate for Caring Ministries, is receiving these requests as part of our Morning Prayer and Deacon Prayer Ministries.

During worship this morning we will be expressing our gratitude to two staff members who are leaving us this month. Today **Dave Handley** is ending his term as Interim Minister for Caring Ministries. We give thanks for Dave and all that he has brought to Fourth Church caring ministries and spiritual formation—and for his time with us as Associate Pastor from 1973 to 1981! Then later this month **Carol Allerton** will be retiring from her role as Administrative Assistant for Caring Ministries. We are deeply grateful to Carol for her long and faithful twenty-five years of service on staff. Since we will not be gathering to greet one another following worship during this current COVID surge, we will not have opportunity for each of us to individually thank Dave and Carol in person. But we encourage you to **email your messages of gratitude and well wishes** to Dave (dhandley@fourthchurch.org) and Carol (callerton@fourthchurch.org).
✳ Beginning this week **Jeff Doane**, our Parish Associate for Older Adults, will be taking on the role of Parish Associate for Caring Ministries, while the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee continues its search for a candidate they would recommend serve as our Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation.



This morning we also begin a four-session class on “The 1619 Project,” discussing slavery’s continuing legacy of injustice and inequality. It takes place at 11:15 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel (*seating will be socially distanced*) and via Zoom. (*For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/1619class; the class will also be available for viewing on our website in the days ahead.*) 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. The speakers will be Joseph L. Morrow, Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Community Engagement; Natalie Moore, WBEZ journalist and author of *The South Side: A Portrait of Chicago and American Segregation*; David Daniels III, Professor of Church History, McCormick Theological Seminary; and Bradford Hunt, History Department Chair, Loyola University.



Men’s Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and **Horizons Bible Study for women** hosts two online sessions this Wednesday, January 12, one at 12:00 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. For details for these studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✳ Devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff for you to use as a **resource for meditation and prayer** are available **daily by email** (*sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions*) and online (fourthchurch.org/devotions).

Sunday School (ages 3 through grade 5) meets on Sundays **via Zoom** at 9:00 a.m. (email Briana Belding-Peck at bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org for details) and **in person** at 10:00 a.m. in the Gratz Center.

✱ Youth programs also meet on Sunday mornings, with **eighth-grade Confirmation** meeting at 9:00 a.m. in Room 5G, **Junior High Youth** at 9:15 a.m., in the Bumpus Room, and **Senior High Youth** at 11:15 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. For details about youth groups, 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. and **Youth Music Time** (grades 6–12) meets at 10:45 a.m., both in Room 4F. ✱ Youth ministry has three trips planned for this summer; a **Junior High mission trip to St. Louis** (June 26–July 1), a **Senior High mission trip to Memphis** (July 9–15), and the **Presbyterian Church (USA) Youth Triennium** (July 24–27). The registration deadline for the trips is January 31. Details and registration links are available online: www.fourthchurch.org/youth



Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to **connect with one another online**. In response to the COVID surge, we will not be inviting in-person worshipers to greet one another in Anderson Hall or the Commons following the 10:00 a.m. service. Instead we **encourage you in the coming week to make a point of reaching out and connecting with someone via text, a phone call, or a written note**—be it someone from Fourth Church, someone with whom you have not been in touch for a while, or someone you think might be feeling lonely or isolated. ✱ **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom this Tuesday evening, January 11 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss **Nine Tailors** by Dorothy Sayers. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ **Cornerstones**, a fellowship group of those fifty and over, will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, February 4 at 5:30 p.m. for a presentation by Joe Morrow, Associate Pastor for Young Adults and Community Engagement, and Jose Morales, Professor of Church History at Chicago Theological Seminary, about **recent debates over Critical Race Theory**. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/cornerstones221



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 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! ✱ **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 day—whether online or in person—as we celebrate this congregation's legacy and look toward our future.

Volunteers are needed to **help with the Meals Ministry Bag Lunch program**. Bag lunches and hot drinks are served in Anderson Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with limited seating to allow for social distancing. You can sign up to help with Bag Lunch or with Sunday Night Supper by using VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers), our Volunteer Ministry platform. *All individuals volunteering in person must be vaccinated against COVID-19; proof of vaccination can be sent to vaxproof@fourthchurch.org* ✱ The Social Service Center (SSC) needs volunteers to **help with sorting, sizing, and organizing donated clothes** for distribution to participants. If you are interested in volunteering on Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. please contact Lynn Milligan (lmilligan@chicagolights.org; 312.981.3591). ✱ The **Benevolent Guild**—which has counted among its projects sewing face masks and making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital—meets on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Chicago Lights, the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church, is in need of donors of **unique items and services for the silent auction of the Gala of Hope 2022**, which will be held on Friday, March 4. If you have something you would like to offer, please email Laura Woods (lwoods@chicagolights.org). ✱ The Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center is in need of **men's pants, sweaters, coats, gloves, scarves, and backpacks**. They are accepting new and gently used donations that are clean and free from any rips, stains, or tears. Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. If you have clothes to donate but are unable to do so during that time, please reach out to Lynn Milligan (lmilligan@chicagolights.org) to coordinate a drop-off time.

Our **Friday Noonday Concerts** continue this week with **organist Jacob Reed** presenting our in-person concert at 12:10 p.m. on Friday, January 14. The concerts are also livestreamed on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) and at [www .bit .ly/fpcprograms](http://www.bit.ly/fpcprograms) and are available to view afterwards. For a complete concert schedule, see www.fourthchurch.org/concerts



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, February 6 at 9:00 a.m. To register for this class (*required for membership*) and discover more about Fourth Church as well as the Presbyterian Church (USA), sign up at www.bit.ly/inquirersclass221; for more information about membership, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).



Fourth Church has a variety of **job openings**, including for an administrative assistant, a worship coordinator, and a staff accountant. If you know someone who would be a good fit for one of the roles, please let them know about the postings. Job descriptions and application details can be found online at www.fourthchurch.org/about/employment.html



For resources and ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org), **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 ☼ To ensure you **receive the latest updates from Fourth Church**, including our **weekly email newsletter**, add your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger, Reb Banker, David Handley, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL “DEEP RIVER,” heard in this morning’s prelude, is a well-loved and well-known spiritual that was sung by enslaved people in the South long before the American Civil War. It was first printed in 1867 and sung by the Fisk University Jubilee Singers as they toured American and Europe. It was later sung in 1939 by Marian Anderson on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.

OFFERING GIFTS to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in one of the offering plates, which will be passed at the time of the Offering, or, after the service, 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

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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