



Second Sunday after Epiphany

We Approach God

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

We come to worship God in our need,

bringing with us the needs of the world.

We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus,

and who knows by experience what human life is like.

We come with our faith and with our doubts;

we come with our hopes and with our fears.

We come as we are because God invites us in,

and God has promised never to turn us away.

* 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*) “While We Are Waiting, Come”

While we are waiting, come;
while we are waiting, come.

Refrain:

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come;
with power and glory, come. (*Refrain*)

Come, Savior, quickly come;
come, Savior, quickly come. (*Refrain*)

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people.
You have called us to be the church,
to serve as your witnesses in a hurting and broken world.
Yet we acknowledge that we are more apathetic than active,
isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient.
Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins.
Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit.
We pray this in Jesus' name. 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 36:5–10

ANTIPHON: *All may take refuge, feast on abundance, drink from the fountain of life.
All may take refuge, feast on abundance, in your light we see light.*

Let them be like chaff before the wind,
and let the angel of the Lord drive them away.
Let their way be dark and slippery,
and let the angel of the Lord pursue them.

ANTIPHON

For they have secretly laid a trap for me without cause;
for no reason they have hunted me down.
Let ruin come upon them unawares; let them be caught in the net they hid;
let them fall into their own ruin.

ANTIPHON

Then I will be joyful in you, O Lord; I will glory in your victory.
My very bones will say, "Lord, who is like you?
You deliver the poor from those who are too strong for them,
the poor and needy from those who rob them."

ANTIPHON

Scripture Lesson Mark 8:31–36

Sermon Things Jesus Never Said: "Follow Your Heart" Shannon J. Kershner

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

***Litany of Dedication and Commitment**

God of all races and nations, we praise you for all your faithful servants
who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with you.

For apostles, martyrs, leaders, and saints and for humble folks
whose names never made the news but are recorded in your book of life,

we give you thanks, O God.

Especially this day we thank you for our brother Martin,
for his courage and conviction, for his passion for peace,
and for his tireless quest of a nation that keeps faith with its promises;

we give you thanks, O God.

For the countless saints who stood in the front lines and marches, integrated schools,
restaurants, and churches, or sat in buses and at lunch counters and refused to move,

we give you thanks, O God.

For nameless multitudes who suffered the tortures of slavery and the tyranny of oppression,
who were beaten and lynched, and for the nameless multitudes today
whose lives are stunted and cut short by our structures of brutality,

we grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.

And for our siblings of every race and nation who long
for safety, freedom, and hope in our community and land,

we grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.

Lead and guide us, that we may follow the way of Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***Closing Song** (*congregation sings while masked*) “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. (*Refrain*)

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. (*Refrain*)

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God’s mercy must deliver us from the conqueror’s crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. (*Refrain*)

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Matt Helms Associate Pastor
Joanne Gaines Liturgist
The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Worship Notes

This weekend we join churches and communities across the nation in honoring the life and legacy of Dr Martin Luther King Jr , who was born ninety-three years ago, on January 15, 1929. As we do so, we turn again to these words Dr. King wrote from the Birmingham Jail in April 1963, excerpted from his letter that was first printed in the *Christian Century*: “Human progress never rolls in on the wheels of inevitability; it comes through the tireless effort of men and women willing to be coworkers with God, and without the hard work, time itself becomes an ally of the forces of stagnation We must use time creatively, in the knowledge that the time is always ripe to do right.”

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).

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 and Worship

Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation
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**. 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 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**. * **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. * **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). * To **receive the sermon text by email**, subscribe online at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons

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**

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



Men's Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. **Horizons Bible Study for women** will host two online sessions on Wednesday, January 26, 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). * **Daily devotions** written by Fourth Church members and staff as a **resource for meditation and prayer** are available **daily by email** (*sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions*).



A four-session class on **"The 1619 Project,"** discussing slavery's continuing legacy of injustice and inequality, meets on Sunday mornings at 11:15 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel 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 are leading 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. * **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



For those who are facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence. To have a one-time phone conversation with a Stephen Minister or arrange for ongoing talks, 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 at 312.787.4570. * **If you have a prayer request**, Jeff Doane (jdoane@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 view video messages. * On **Sunday, February 13** we will conclude our sesquicentennial year with a festive service of worship at 10:00 a.m. **John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus, will preach**, and we hope current and former members and staff will worship with us—whether online or in person—as we celebrate this congregation's legacy and look toward our future.