



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 30, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude :: Sonata No. 2 Edward Elgar

I. Introduction

II. Toccata

III. Fugue

IV. Cadenza

V. Coda

Introit :: “Beloved, Let Us Love” Austin C. Lovelace

Beloved, let us love, for love is of God; in God alone hath love its true abode.

Beloved, let us love; for they who love, they only are God’s own, born from above.

Beloved, let us love; for love is light, and they who love not dwell in night.

Beloved, let us love; for only thus shall we behold that God that loveth us.

***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: *God alone is our refuge and hope,*

People: **God is our shelter and protection.**

Leader: *From our very first breath to our last,*

People: **God’s love and compassion never fail.**

Leader: *We gather to lift our voices in praise of God.*

People: **We bear witness to God’s acts of mercy and love.**

Leader: *Proclaim God’s glory to all who will listen.*

People: **Together, let us worship God.**



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

***Hymn 693** (*congregation sings while masked*) “Though I May Speak”

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O Holy God, forgive us when we fail to respond to your call with faith.
Forgive us when we are held captive by our narrow understanding of discipleship
and our clouded sense of purpose.
Although you have promised us your empowering love,
we have sometimes been frightened of the future
and have failed to sense your presence in our past.
Help us to feel your grace in the present moment and to trust you,
to trust that you will be with us, no matter what happens in our future. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Welcome and Announcements

Anthem :: “Set Me As a Seal” René Clausen

*Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 71:1–6

***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 John 8:1–11

Sermon

Things Jesus Never Said: “Hate the Sin, Love the Sinner” Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 79** (*congregation sings while masked*) “Light Dawns on a Weary World”

Light dawns on a weary world
when eyes begin to see all people’s dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world:
the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain:

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

Love grows in a weary world
when hungry hearts find bread
and children’s dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world:
the promised feast of plenty comes. (*Refrain*)

Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes. (*Refrain*)

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

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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

Offertory Anthem :: "Ubi Caritas" Ola Gjeilo

*Where charity and love are, there God is. The love of Christ has gathered us into one.
Let us exalt and in God be joyful; let us love the living God, and from a sincere heart
let us love each other. 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**

Gracious God, receive our offering. Guide those who use it, that it may bring
fullness of life to those who live in need and long for our care. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 300** (*congregation sings while masked*) "We Are One in the Spirit"

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (*Refrain*)

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (*Refrain*)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (*Refrain*)

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude :: Toccata on "Love Divine, All Love's Excelling" Christopher Pardini

*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.



All seating for worship is 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 service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. *For those who have been viewing at www.bit.ly/FPCworship, we will be discontinuing availability at www.bit.ly/FPCworship mid-February and livestreaming only on our YouTube channel.* ✳ **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).

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.



For those who are seeking a time for prayer, on Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. We are also holding **in-person Morning Prayer** on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel. Buchanan Chapel is also 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 ✱ Devotions written by 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 at fourthchurch.org/devotions ✱ You can also receive the previous Sunday's **sermon text by email** by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons



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 email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency or requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call. ✱ If you would like to **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org.

This morning we conclude our 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 is 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 have been 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. **Today’s speaker is Bradford Hunt,** History Department Chair at Loyola Univeristy.



The Mark Lomax Quartet will be in concert at Fourth Church this Friday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. Their performance of **“Let There Be Light”** will welcome in-person attendance as well as be livestreamed on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). “Let There Be Light” was written by Dr. Lomax, a critically acclaimed composer, recording artist, and drummer. He is also an activist and educator specializing in the sociopolitical and spiritual aspects of African American art, music, and race, as well as the role of the arts in building community. A seven-movement tone poem inspired by the biblical creation story found in Genesis, “Let There Be Light” is presented through an aleatoric compositional technique that presents unstructured themes to the musicians, who interpret them in real time based on the macro narrative of the work. Each of the themes suggests a soundscape particular to each day of creation and evolves as a collective artistic creation to reflect the act of divine creation. ✨ Our **Friday Noonday Concerts** continue this week with our flutist **Elise Blatchford** and pianist **Maria Lyapkova** presenting the in-person concert at 12:10 p.m. on Friday, February 4. The concerts are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel (to which you can subscribe to receive notification of our new concerts) and are available to view afterwards. For a complete concert schedule, see www.fourthchurch.org/concerts



The annual Chicago Lights Gala of Hope will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Chicago (*160 E. Pearson*) on Friday, March 4, beginning at 5:30 p.m. To **reserve tickets or become an event sponsor**, visit bidpal.net/clgala2022; this annual event supports the life-changing work of Chicago Lights—the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church, which includes the **Tutoring and Summer Day, Urban Farm, Dance Academy, and Social Service Center programs**—as well as the work of the **Reprogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being**. ✨ The Gala is looking for individuals to **donate unique items and services for the silent auction**. If you have something you would like to offer or would like details about the Gala, please email Laura Woods (lwoods@chicagolights.org).

Youth programs meet on Sunday mornings, with **eighth-grade Confirmation** meeting at 9:00 a.m. in Room 5G, **Junior High Youth** at 10:00 a.m. in the Bumpus Room, and **Senior High Youth** at 11:15 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. For youth group details, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). ✱ **Sunday School** (ages 3 through grade 5) meets **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.



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. ✱ 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 Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ The **First Tuesday Book Club** will meet via Zoom this Tuesday, February 1 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss ***Sanctuary: Being Christian in the Wake of Trump*** by Heidi Neumark, which explores what it looks like to live out essential Christian convictions in community with others. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/firsttuesday222 ✱ **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom on Tuesday evening, February 8 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss ***The Girl Who Wrote In Silk*** by Kelli Estes. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ **Cornerstones**, a fellowship group of those fifty and over, will meet via Zoom on Friday, February 4 at 5:30 p.m. for a presentation by Joe Morrow, Associate Pastor, 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 resources and additional 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 by signing up at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

A new adult education course begins next Sunday, exploring the **Presbyterian Church (USA)'s A Brief Statement of Faith**. To register for this class, which will meet in person and via Zoom on Sundays, February 9–20 following morning worship, register online at www.bit.ly/briefstatement222



Those interested in joining the new Fourth Church Gospel Choir, which will be directed by Bryan Johnson, are asked to contact John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org). The choir, which will sing monthly in Fourth Church worship services, will begin with Zoom gatherings to get to know one another, and when COVID numbers improve, rehearsals will be held on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. ✨ For those who would appreciate a **fifteen-minute midweek worship experience**, we invite you to explore our “Rhythm and Word: Midweek Music and Prayer” videos, which you can find on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). New videos in this series—which weave together scripture, prayer, and music offered by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet—will launch on Wednesday, February 2. To **receive these new videos by email** each week, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail



The Chicago Lights Elam Davies **Social Service Center** is in need of **men's pants, sweaters, coats, gloves, scarves, and backpacks**. New and gently used donations that are clean and free from any rips, stains, or tears can be dropped off at the church reception desk on Mondays through Fridays between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. For details, email Lynn Milligan (lmilligan@chicagolights.org).



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 also needs volunteers to help with **sorting, sizing, and organizing** donated clothes for distribution to participants. If you are interested in volunteering on weekdays between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., please sign up at www.bit.ly/sscsorting2022



Fourth Church currently has a variety of **job openings**. If you know someone who would be a good fit for one of the roles, please let them know about the postings, which can be found online at www.fourthchurch.org/about/employment.html and via www.facebook.com/fourthchurch

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 celebrations 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 give thanks for this congregation’s legacy and look toward our future. The service will be followed by the **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**, at which we will elect new officers. The meeting will be held in person and via Zoom at 11:15 a.m. on February 13. The Zoom link will be posted on our website closer to the date of the meeting. The recommended slate of officers that will be presented by the Nominating Committee will also be posted on our website prior to the meeting.



If you are interested in **becoming a member of Fourth Church**, we invite you to join us online for a one-session Inquirers’ Class next Sunday, February 6 at 9:00 a.m. To register for this class (*required for membership*) and discover more about Fourth Church, and the Presbyterian Church (USA), sign up at www.bit.ly/inquirersclass221; for more information about membership, email Joe Morrow (jmorrow@fourthchurch.org).

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer, Larry Kerley, Rocky Supinger, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Members of the Morning Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

TODAY'S CLOSING HYMN, "WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT," is also known by the words of its refrain "And they'll know we are Christians by our love." The text and music of this hymn were written by Peter Scholtes, a priest at St. Brendan's Catholic Church on Chicago's South Side. Scholtes was very involved in the civil rights movement of the 1960s and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing that fit his needs, he wrote this hymn in a single day.

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 and Worship

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Caring Ministries
and Spiritual Formation

Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is based on Psalm 71 and adapted from re:Worship Blogspot (re-worship.blogspot.com). "Thou I May Speak" words copyright © 1972 Hope Publishing Company; "Light Dawns on a Weary World" words copyright © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.; "We Are One in the Spirit" words copyright © 1966 F.E.L. Publications, assigned 1991 to The Lorenz Corp. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340. The Prayer of Confession is adapted from *Prayers and Readings for Worship, Volume 2*.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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