



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Beside the Still Waters. Gwyneth Walker

Morning Songs. G. Walker

Welcome, Day!

In This Still Room (Are Angel Voices)

Go Forth with Joy

Introit :: “Rise Up, My Love, My Fair One” Healey Willan

*Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away; for lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;
the flowers appear upon the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come.*

*Doxology

*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: Praise to the Lamb who is seated on the throne of heaven!

People: Praise be to God who offers God’s love to us!

Leader: Let us sing continually of God’s wisdom and power and might.

People: Let our voices be raised in joyful celebration!

Leader: Worthy is the Lamb to receive honor and glory and majesty.

People: Let our hearts rejoice at God’s redeeming love for us. Amen.



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

***Hymn 81** “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation’s walls surrounded, thou may’st smile at all thy foes.
Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.
See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage?
Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God, we confess that we often let hopelessness have too much power over our lives.
In the face of crisis, our faith has frequently faltered.
In the midst of calamity, our fearlessness has faded.
In the presence of tribulation, our worry has weakened our ability to act justly.
Help our unbelief, O God!
Bring us back to you, great Redeemer.
Remind us of the unfailing treasure that is in your love and care for all of creation—
for your grace is sufficient, from the valley of death to the tables you’ve prepared for us.
Embolden us, again, and revive our spirits. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Welcome and Announcements

Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem :: “Shalom” Dan Forrest

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Shalom.

Not as this world gives, I give to you; do not be afraid. Shalom.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 23

*Gloria Patri

*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 Revelation 7:9–17

Sermon :: “A Great Multitude” Nanette Sawyer

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 299** “You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

You servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad Christ’s wonderful name.

The name all victorious of Jesus extol, whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.

Ascended on high, almighty to save, he still remains nigh; his presence we have.

The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!” Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.

The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give him his right: all glory and power, all wisdom and might,

all honor and blessing, with angels above, and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

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

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) adapted from the Confession of 1967

God has created the peoples of the earth to be one universal family. In God's reconciling love, God overcomes the barriers between us and breaks down every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic difference, real or imaginary. The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold one another as persons in all relationships of life: in employment, housing, education, leisure, marriage, family, church, and the exercise of political rights. Therefore, the church labors for the abolition of all racial discrimination and ministers to those injured by it.

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

"Erschallet, ihr Lieder" from *Cantata No. 172*. Johann Sebastian Bach
Sing praises, ye faithful, join your voices together in this joyous season.
The Lord desires a temple in our soul.

***Offertory Response**. The Hymnal, 251 (*verse 5*)

Christ has arisen to set us free. Alleluia, to him praises be. Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly King. Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy. Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is living, alleluia!

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

God of all being, there is nothing we can do to surpass the grace you offer each of us and our world. But we can respond to your gifts of abundance with a love that honors and values all you have made. Receive our offering with gratitude. Let it praise your works by caring for all your beloved. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 265** “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun”

Jesus shall reign where’er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.
People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.
Blessings abound where’er he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ. Jamaican folk melody; arr. John A. Behnke

*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

Johnny Natale Coleman, child of Joseph and Elizabeth Coleman
Rowan Jean Dower, child of Matthew and Siobhan Dower
Madelyn Lorraine Fergus, child of Alexander and Rachel Fergus
Sylvia Grace Bates Myler, child of Samuel Myler and Alexis Bates
Naomie Corré Vincent, child of Tyler and Lexie Vincent



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, **masks are welcome but not required**. As a mask-welcoming campus we affirm that mask wearing continues to be an effective preventative measure for individuals. Thus we not only encourage the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one, but we are also committed to ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at the church. ✳ Since some populations are more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others, some programs on our campus may still choose to require masks. ✳ Additionally, we are continuing our practice of not checking vaccination status, but **anyone coming on site certifies** by doing so that (a) they do not currently have COVID-19; (b) they are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) they have no reason to quarantine; and (d) they will wear a mask and practice social distancing if they are not vaccinated against COVID-19. ✳ In the Sanctuary, the **front section on the pulpit side is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, and everyone sitting in that section is required to wear a mask**. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating.



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. ✳ **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 as well as Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast). ✳ You can also receive the previous Sunday's sermon text by email by subscribing 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

If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for our Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel. ✱ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. 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 to the Gratz Center. ✱ **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (*and \$18 for up to 12 hours*) 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.



Following worship, Deacons are available in Stone Chapel (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) to pray with **individuals who would like to offer prayers** of praise or concern. ✱ We also gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** and at 10:00 a.m. for **in-person Morning Prayer** in Buchanan Chapel. The chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 9:00 and 9:45 a.m. on Wednesdays and between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. For Zoom details, 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 Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing. ✱ We invite you to use our **Eastertide devotions**, written by members and staff, **as a resource for meditation and reflection**. These devotions are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions; to receive the meditations daily via email, simply subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. 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. ✱ 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. ✱ To **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org

Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to connect with one another, whether in person or online.

Those worshipping with us in person are invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall or the Commons** following worship. **Fair Trade coffee and tea** are being served in Anderson Hall. ☼ There is still opportunity to join a **new Zoom Small Group** this month. If you would like to connect with five to seven other people weekly via Zoom for a month or two for a time of fellowship, relationship building, and spiritual formation or simply want to learn more about our small-group opportunities, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Benevolent Guild—which has counted among its projects making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital—meets in person this Wednesday morning. ☼ **Women at Fourth** will meet on Sunday, May 22 at 11:15 a.m. for a time of crafting with the Benevolent Guild as we work on projects to support area dementia organizations and HelloBaby. **Beginning crafters** are especially welcome! ☼ **Knitting and Crocheting** will meet in person on Sunday, May 22 at 11:15 a.m. and will include opportunity to pick up yarn for the next project. Knitters and crocheters will then meet again, this time via Zoom, on Tuesday, May 24 at 4:00 p.m. To sign up to participate in any of these activities—or to learn more about them—email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Those who are interested in singing with a Fourth Church Choir are invited to consider joining the **Fourth Church Gospel Choir**, which sings in morning worship and at Jazz at Four once a month each; the **Men's Choir**, which will sing in morning worship from May 29 through July 17 (*rehearsing on Thursday evenings, May 26 and June 16*); or the **Women's Choir**, which will sing in morning worship from July 24 through September 4 (*rehearsing on Thursday evenings, July 21 and August 18*). For more information about the choirs, email John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org). Our **Friday Noonday Concerts** continue with **Nebraska Wesleyan University Choir** (*Tom Trenney, conductor*) presenting our in-person concert at 12:10 p.m. this Friday, May 13. Our concerts are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos).



Fourth Church's **Michigan Avenue Forum** Steering Committee would appreciate your input! As they plan future events that feature important religious and secular thinkers discussing current civic, ethical, and religious issues, they would like to hear **what topics and formats would interest you**. **Please take a moment to complete their brief survey** at www.bit.ly/forumsurvey22

Men's Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and **Horizons Bible Study for women** will host two online sessions this Wednesday, May 11, one at 12:00 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. ✱ This Tuesday, May 10 **Books by Women** will discuss **Flights** by Olga Tokarczuk at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. For details for the Bible studies or book discussion, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ The adult education class **"Earth-Keeping as a Spiritual Practice"** continues today at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and also via Zoom. For Zoom details and information about this class led by Amy Pagliarella, register at www.bit.ly/earthkeeping22 ✱ Next Sunday, May 15, Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to attend a **live taping of the podcast, "Bible Top 10"** at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room, as they talk about "Top 10 Mysteries in the Bible." To listen to previous episodes of their podcast, see www.fourthchurch.org/podcast ✱ Beginning the following Sunday, May 22, Lucy Forster-Smith and Jim Ford will be leading a Sunday morning class exploring **Barbara Brown Taylor's book *The Luminous Web***, which looks at the dialogue between science and faith. That class will meet at 11:15 a.m. both in person and via Zoom.



The World Mission and Social Justice Council of Fourth Church is seeking volunteers to **assist sponsored refugee families** coming from conflict areas around the world. Also needed will be items to help these families settle into a new home. **Those who are interested in helping** are asked to email refugeeproject@fourthchurch.org ✱ The **Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in particular need** of the following items, either new or gently used: brown paper grocery bags; large cloth bags for groceries and clothing; adult backpacks; push carts for groceries; suitcases; men's jeans and casual pants (*sizes 34–42 waist*); white socks for men and women, sizes L and XL; men's tennis shoes (*sizes 10–14*); and women's tennis shoes (*sizes 8–13*). Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk (*enter via the Chestnut Street doors*) or shipped, if ordered online, to Chicago Lights Social Service Center, c/o Theresa Thornburg, 126 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, IL 60611.2014. ✱ **Fourth Church Shower Ministry is in need of hygiene items**, specifically unused travel-size toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, bandages, and combs. Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk, to the attention of "Shower Ministry."



Those who would like to **take part in Fourth Church Jail Ministry** are invited to attend an informational meeting on Sunday, May 22 at 11:15 a.m. in Room 4F or email jailministry@fourthchurch.org ✱ **Are you interested in volunteering with Fourth Church?** We invite you to explore additional volunteer opportunities, which are listed on VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers), our Volunteer Ministry software platform, or contact Robert Crouch (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org; 312.981.3382).

This morning **Shannon Kershner is preaching at the First Presbyterian Church in New York City** as part of the sermon series “Shall the Fundamentalists Win?” which commemorates the 100th anniversary of Harry Emerson Fosdick’s groundbreaking sermon by that name. Shannon’s sermon will be available to view online at fpcnyc.org/worship/live-streaming ✱ Following her preaching at First Presbyterian Church today, Shannon Kershner begins her three-month **sabbatical** (fourthchurch.org/about/sabbatical.html). We hold Shannon in our prayers during this time of renewal and this fall look forward to learning from her experiences. During Shannon’s time away, Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor, is serving as Head of Staff.



During this sabbatical time, we look forward to welcoming three guest preachers. The first, **Barbara Lundblad, will preach next Sunday morning, May 15.** The Joe R. Engle Professor Emerita of Preaching at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, Barbara Lundblad served sixteen years as a parish pastor in New York City, as well as campus pastor at Lehman College and New York University. She has taught preaching at Yale Divinity School, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Hebrew Union College and has served as president of the Academy of Homiletics. She is also author of *Transforming the Stone: Preaching through Resistance to Change* and *Marking Time: Preaching Biblical Stories in Present Tense*. We hope you will join us for this opportunity to hear Barbara Lundblad preach—and also mark your calendars for Sunday morning, June 5 when **Amantha Barbee** will preach and Sunday morning, July 10 when **Patrick Daymond** (*whom many will remember as serving Fourth Church as a Pastoral Resident*) will be with us.



Fourth Church Day School is currently accepting applications for fall enrollment in **our half-day preschool programs**. For more information and an application, please contact Director Kathy Hager (312.640.2579).



For additional resources and ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) and **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch). ✱ Online events are posted on our **church calendar**, which is accessible from the home page of our website and at fourthchurch.org/calendar ✱ To **receive the latest updates** from Fourth Church, including our **weekly email newsletter**, subscribe at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc ✱ To **learn more about Fourth Church** or **become a member**, email member@fourthchurch.org

As we return to more on-site programming, Fourth Church and Chicago Lights are also implementing, **effective Monday, May 16, a new safety and security practice.**

Beginning May 16, **anyone present on the Fourth Church campus will be required to wear a campus badge while on site**, *except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals.* Anyone who does not already have a campus badge (*except for those exceptions noted above*) will be asked to pick up a single-day badge at the 126 E. Chestnut reception desk.

Reusable badges will be issued by some programs with regular, ongoing weekly programming, such as Chancel Choir. These reusable badges will only be available from the staff of those programs, not from the reception desk. Anyone who does not bring their reusable campus badge will be able to pick up a single-day badge.

To facilitate this process—as well as for safety and security reasons—**all access to the building will be through the 126 E. Chestnut entrance only**, *except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals.* Our ongoing commitment to the safety and security of all on our campus undergirds this practice, which was been under discussion since prior to the pandemic. (*Implementation was set aside while the campus was largely closed.*)

The campus badges and single-entry access point were strongly encouraged by our safety and security consultants and advisors and are also consistent with practices at other large, spread-out, multi-use buildings with spaces and uses like ours. They enable us to know who is in the building throughout the day. (*Previous unlimited access has at times resulted in unknown individuals hiding in corners of the campus.*) They also ensure that should we ever have to evacuate the buildings, we will know who was on site and needs to be accounted for.

As a congregation, **we value radical hospitality and welcome for all**, and we believe one expression of that is our care for the well-being of those who are present with us. **This safety and security practice is but one expression of that.** For those who will be joining us on site as programming on campus continues to expand, we look forward to seeing you!

Worship Leaders

Nancy Benson-Nicol, Ruben Harris, Joseph L. Morrow, Nanette Sawyer

The Music Today

Morning Choir

Carla Janzen, flutist

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

Worship Notes

TODAY'S PRELUDE MUSIC is written by Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947), who taught music at Hartt School of Music for fourteen years and now lives on a dairy farm in Vermont, where she devotes her life to composing music of many genres. The recipient of numerous awards, she based the first piece in the prelude, "Beside the Still Waters," on Psalm 23.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

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

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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