



**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

## **We Approach God**

### **Gathering Music**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **\*Call to Worship**

The earth has brought forth its increase.

**God, our own God, has blessed us.**

Let your way be known upon the earth, your saving health among all nations.

**Let the people praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy.

**Pray to God. Praise God. Be glad and sing for joy.**

\* Please rise in body or spirit

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*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** . . . . . "I'll Praise My Maker"

I'll praise my Maker while I've breath; and when my voice is lost in death,  
praise shall employ my nobler powers. My days of praise shall ne'er be past  
while life and thought and being last, or immortality endures.

How happy they whose hopes rely on Israel's God, who made the sky  
and earth and seas with all their train; whose truth forever stands secure,  
who saves the oppressed and feeds the poor, and none shall find God's promise vain.

The Lord pours eyesight on the blind; the Lord supports the fainting mind  
and sends the laboring conscience peace. God helps the stranger in distress,  
the widowed and the parentless, and grants the prisoner sweet release.

I'll praise my Maker while I've breath; and when my voice is lost in death,  
praise shall employ my nobler powers. My days of praise shall ne'er be past  
while life and thought and being last, or immortality endures.

## **We Tell the Truth about Ourselves**

### **Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**Merciful God, we confess all the ways  
we overlook the needs of those around us  
and put our own needs first.**

**For our selfishness and self-centeredness,  
those times when we prefer to stand by  
instead of stirring up the status quo, forgive us.**

**Help us to learn from our mistakes,  
and strengthen us so that we don't make them again. Amen.**

### **God Forgives and Blesses Us**

Friends, believe the good news!  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

## We Proclaim the Story

### Prayer for Illumination

**Psalter** ..... Psalm 67

**Song** ..... "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

*Refrain:* Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. (*Refrain*)

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. (*Refrain*)

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. (*Refrain*)

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. (*Refrain*)

**Scripture Lesson** ..... John 5:1–9

**Sermon** ..... Rocky Supinger

### Musical Reflection

#### Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

## 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!**

## **Sanctus**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## **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**

### **Prayer after Communion**

## **We Offer Ourselves**

### **Call for Offering**

### **Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious and generous God, thank you for our many blessings.  
We thank you for providing us with supportive friends and family.  
Please bless our gifts, time, and talents to provide joy and comfort to others.  
We ask this in your name. Amen.

**\*Closing Song** ..... “Take Me to the Water”

Take me to the water.

Take me to the water.

Take me to the water to be baptized.

I love Jesus.

I love Jesus.

I love Jesus, yes, I do.

He’s my Savior.

He’s my Savior.

He’s my Savior, yes, he is.

Glory hallelujah.

Glory hallelujah.

Glory hallelujah to be baptized.

**\*Benediction**

**Sending Music**

## Worship Leaders

**Rocky Supinger** Associate Pastor

**Nancy Benson-Nicol** Associate Pastor

**The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet**

## Worship Notes

### **Baptized in today's service**

Margot Frances Van Bel, child of Maxime and Emily Van Bel

**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.

**Offering gifts to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church** can be placed in the offering plate at the time of the offering or, after the service, in the offering box at the exit from the Chapel. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at [www.fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online) (or via the "To Make a Gift" button at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)).

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## **PASTORAL STAFF**

**Shannon J. Kershner**, Pastor

**Lucy Forster-Smith**, Senior Associate Pastor

**Nancy Benson-Nicol**, Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

**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

**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.



Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be **a mask-welcoming campus**, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. Now with the COVID risk level in Chicago increased to "medium," we are going a step further to **not just encourage but to recommend** (*though not require*) **that individuals wear masks** while on campus. This is consistent with city health officials recommending that—in light of the "medium risk" level—individuals wear masks indoors when they are not certain of the vaccination status of others present. As a mask-welcoming—and now recommending—campus, we also remain committed to **ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church**. ✱ Since some populations are more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others, some programs on our campus 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.



If you like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather on Sundays for a **10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary** and the **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel**. ✱ **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 a half hour before each service. 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 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (and \$18 for up to 12 hours). 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 service on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)).



Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to **connect with one another**. Online and in-person events are posted on **our church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at [www.fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fourthchurch.org/calendar). ✱ For **resources** as well as additional ways to connect with the church and one another, watch our website ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)) and Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)).

**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](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)**

We invite you to use our **devotions for the Easter season as a resource for meditation and reflection.**

Subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) to receive the meditations daily via email. \* On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. and for **in-person Morning Prayer** at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel. The chapel is also 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 or information about walking the labyrinth, email Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)).



As we return to more on-site programming, Fourth Church and Chicago Lights have implemented **a new safety and security practice.**

**Anyone present on the Fourth Church campus is 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 upon their arrival to **pick up a single-day badge at the 126 E. Chestnut reception desk.** Reusable badges are issued by some programs with regular, ongoing weekly programming, such as Chancel Choir. These reusable badges are only available from the staff of those programs, not from the reception desk. Anyone who does not bring their reusable campus badge is 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 is through the 126 E. Chestnut entrance only,** except for worship, concerts, and Meals Ministry. Our ongoing commitment to the safety and security of all on our campus undergirds this practice, which has 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!



Shannon Kershner is on sabbatical and will return August 15. While she is away, Lucy Forster-Smith is acting Head of Staff, and we also look forward to welcoming **Amantha Barbee**, Senior Pastor of Oakhurst Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Georgia, as our guest preacher on Sunday morning, June 5. For more information about this sabbatical time, see [www.fourthchurch.org/about/sabbatical.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/about/sabbatical.html) \* To **learn more about Fourth Church** or **become a member** email [member@fourthchurch.org](mailto:member@fourthchurch.org)