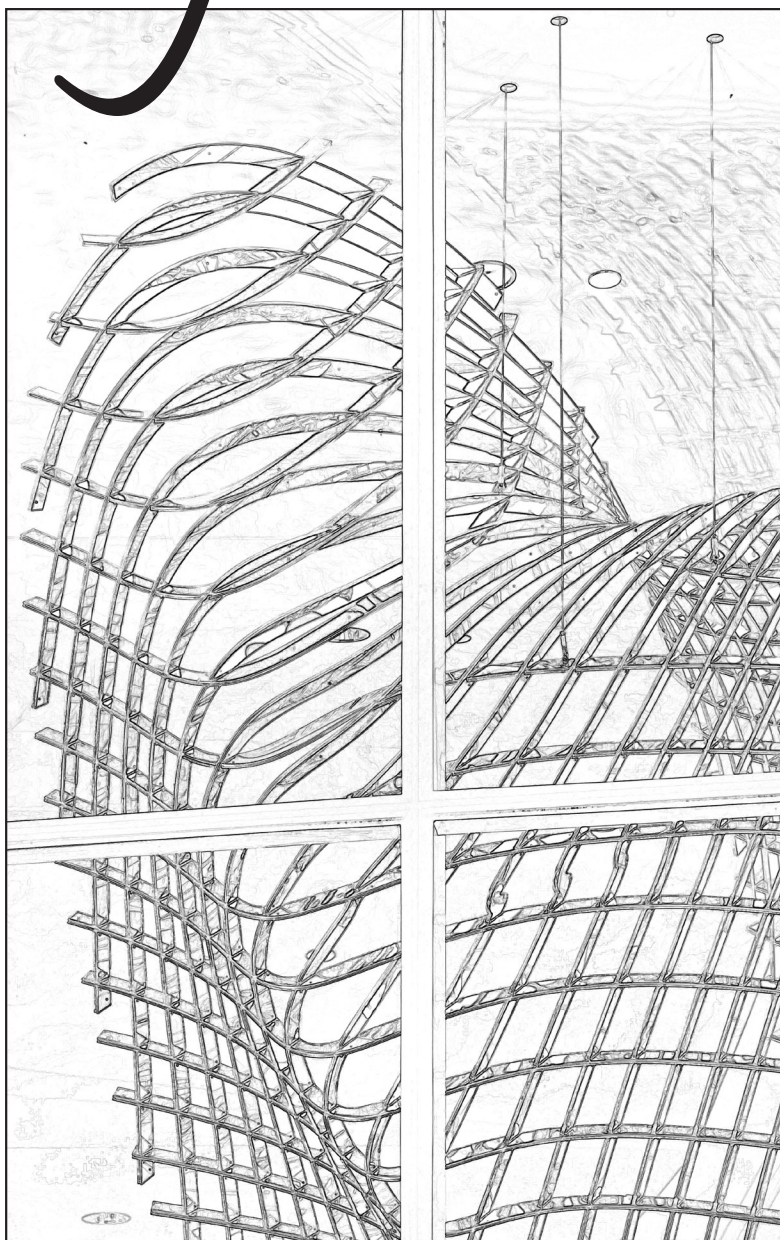




jazz at four



4:00 p.m. • December 4, 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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.

We Approach God

Gathering Music

Call to Worship

***Opening Song** "Canticle of the Turning"

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 one who waits.
You fixed your sight on the 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 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 be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.
(*Refrain*)

We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

Prayer of Confession

Patient God, you know how often we make decisions from a place of fear rather than love.
You know how often we allow fear to take the place of logic,
fanning unhealthy fires in our lives.
So often we tuck your words "Do not be afraid" on dusty shelves
and in the back of closets, stubbornly holding onto our own point of view.
Silence inner voices of scarcity, shame, and rejection,
which spark and feed so much of our fear.
Recenter us in love. With hope we pray. Amen.

God Forgives and Blesses Us

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

We Proclaim the Story

The Jesse Tree

Leader: We gather round the Jesse Tree

People: and recall the story of Ruth,

Leader: the stranger in a strange land

People: who was welcomed.

Leader: A woman with no resources

People: who was provided for by the community.

Leader: We celebrate Ruth

**People: and pray that we will find welcome when we need it
and extend it to others in need.**

Leader: There is no place we can go

People: where the love of God is not.

Leader: There is no place we can flee

People: to escape God's care and concern.

Leader: There is nothing we can do

People: to separate us from the love of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Song “Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Scripture Lesson Ruth 1:1–18

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 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

Offering

Musical Offering

Prayer of Dedication

Blessed are you, God of all creation;

through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory

and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God forever. Amen.

We Go Out with Gratitude

***Closing Song** "Come! Live in the Light!"

Come! Live in the light!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

Refrain:

We are called to act with justice;
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!

Show your mercy to all those in fear!

We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and violence will be no more. (*Refrain*)

Sing! Sing a new song!

Sing of that great day when all will be one!

God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love. (*Refrain*)

***Benediction**

Sending Music

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. As a mask-welcoming 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.**



If you would 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 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).



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. Email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org) for Zoom information. * The chapel is also open for opportunity to **walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For details, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). * To **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org * For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. To arrange conversation with a Stephen Minister, leave a message in the confidential voicemailbox at 312.573.3365. * To explore options with a counselor, call our **Reprogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260.



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 * For **resources** as well as additional ways to connect with the church and one another, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org) and Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch). * To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. To receive them in your inbox, sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions
* Also available as a resource for your Advent prayer and reflection is our weekly **Advent “Rhythm and Word” video series**, which weaves together scripture, prayer, and music by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet. A new video is released each Wednesday evening on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos); to receive them by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail



Women at Fourth is coordinating our **annual Christmas Wishes project** to provide **gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students**. To support this project we are collecting gift cards to Best Buy, Starbucks, McDonald's, Uber, Target, and Amazon (*and giving a total of \$25 worth of cards to each student*). Gift cards can be dropped off at the church reception desk to the attention of Simon Crow by Thursday, December 8. (*Please designate the amount on the cards.*) Monetary contributions can also be made to support the purchase of a book for each student. Gifts can be made online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online



We invite you to remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward the Christmas flowers, wreaths, and garlands that will decorate Fourth Church this Advent and Christmas. A list of those individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made online at www.bit.ly/fpcgift and must be received by next Sunday, December 11 for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, contact Gloria Vicente (312.252.3571; gvicente@fourthchurch.org).



Our **Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** takes place next Sunday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary (*in person and livestreamed*). This year instead of the cookies-and-cocoa reception afterwards, the seasonal treats will be packaged for worshipers to take home with them. * The **“Longest Night” service**, for those experiencing grief and sadness, will be held Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel (*in person only*). * On Saturday, December 24 we will gather for **four Candlelight Christmas Eve services**: Children's Pageant (4:00 p.m.), Family Service (6:00 p.m.), and Service of Lessons and Carols (8:00 and 10:00 p.m.; *the 8:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed*). * On **Christmas Day** we will gather for one service only, at 10:00 a.m. (*in person and livestreamed*). There will be no Jazz at Four service on Sundays, December 25 and January 1. After that two-week break, Jazz at Four will resume on Sunday, January 8. * Our **New Year's Eve Taizé service** will take place on Saturday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.



Fourth Church Meals Ministry is in need of volunteers to assist in helping our neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. To explore these volunteer needs, see our Volunteer Ministry platform, VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers) or email Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

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**

Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger Associate Pastor

Nancy Benson-Nicol Associate Pastor

Louise Gram Liturgist

The Fourth Church Gospel Choir

Bryan Johnson, Director

The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Leslie Beukelman, vocals

Bryan Doherty, bass

Marcus Evans, percussion

Amr Fahmy, piano

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.

Our annual “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. Gifts to “Light Up a Life” support the mission and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights as they extend mercy, kindness, and love to those who are most vulnerable. You can make a gift to this offering by noting “Light Up a Life” in the comments section (*when giving online via Venmo or the Fourth Church website: www.fourthchurch.org/give-online*) or on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. You can also use the special offering envelopes found near the chapel entrance.

Acknowledgments

“The Jesse Tree” liturgy is adapted from www.doubtingbeliever.com/resources/liturgy-for-narrative-lectionary-ruth-series. “Come! Live in the Light!” text © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.; music © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.

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

John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus
