

Fourth Presbyterian Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 13, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Introit

"Jehovah, Let Me Now Adore Thee" German chorale/arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel Jehovah, let me now adore thee, for where is there a God such, Lord, as thou? With songs I fain would come before thee; O let thy Holy Spirit teach me now to praise thee in his name through whom alone our songs can please thee, thy blessed Son!

*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: Here, in this place,

People: God's goodness delivers us and rescues us.

Leader: Here, in this place,

People: God hears us and we are saved.

Leader: Here, in this place,

People: God is our hope and our trust.

All: Let us praise God together!



*Please rise in body or spirit. [†]Or "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

- Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- We are the young; our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.
- Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
- Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away: here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you.
You call, but we have not listened.
We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns.
We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.
God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you. We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ,"

and encourage those online to use this time to share your presence with us, using the online form.

Welcome and Announcements

The Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem

"Wade in the Water". African American spiritual/arr. Aaron David Miller Wade in the water, children; God's going to trouble the water. Now see that host all dressed in white, the leader looks like the Israelite. Look over yonder, what do I see? The Holy Spirit's coming for me. Come on and wade in the water. Now see that band all dressed in red, it looks like the band that Moses led. If you don't believe just follow me down to Jordan's stream.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.
*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
Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.
People: Thanks be to God.
Sermon

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

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 693
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.
*Affirmation of Faith (unison)
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.
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

"Die Ehre Gottes aus der Natur"..... Ludwig van Beethoven/arr. Peter W. Dykema The heavens resound with God's eternal praises, in might and glory they join to tell God's name through the earth and oceans that all may hear the word divine. God holds the sun in the blue vaulted heavens, God plants his foot upon the world; the myriad stars bow in willing subjection; the universe displays God's wonders unfurled.

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

O God, bless these gifts that we have given as expressions of our love for you and our neighbors, that they may bring closer to fulfillment your reign of peace and love; through Jesus Christ, our sovereign. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 731
Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all around seems bleak:
on God's good promise they rely, so while they live and when they die
how forcefully they speak: the strong, who once were weak!
Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, beyond mere mortal sight:
who seek the city God has planned, the true, eternal promised land,
and steer on toward that light, a beacon ever bright.
Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a sparkling precious stone:
they show by what they say and do an inward beauty, warm and true,
for God's concerns they own: God's love through them is known.
Give thanks for saints of ages past and saints alive today:
though often by this world despised, their hearts by God are richly prized.
Give thanks that we may say we share their pilgrim way.
*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Finale from <i>Symphonie No. 2</i>	Charles-Marie Widor
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Baptized in Today's Service

Bradley Vincent Horn, child of Leahanna Horn John Robert Frank Sabine, child of John and Karen Sabine Henry Winston Sage, child of Lucas and Stephanie Sage

News and Opportunities



We are glad to be worshiping 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.



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 via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the livestreamed service.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. ****** On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. There are three fully accessible entrances, without steps, that lead to the Sanctuary: on Michigan Avenue *(through the glass Loggia doors located between the courtyard and the main Sanctuary doors);* at 126 E. Chestnut; and at 115 E. Delaware. **** Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan *(access from Rush or Walton)* at the rate of \$9 for 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. ****** In the Sanctuary **worship can be heard** through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids. ****** Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.

Children are always welcome in worship! **If you need to step out to comfort your child,** the Hospitality Suite, on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed. During the morning service **nursery care** for infants through two-year-olds is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. **** Sunday School** does not meet in August; we look forward to it resuming on Sunday, September 10.

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**

We ask all who are worshiping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information form.** Those worshiping with us via livestream will find **a link to the online form**—which takes only 20 seconds to complete!—included in the descriptive text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the "Welcome and Announcements" that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form. Those worshiping with us in person are asked to use the **information pads in the pews,** passing them down the pew so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following the service. ***** Following the service, those worshiping in person are also invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour,** which during the summer is held outdoors if weather and air conditions permit or in Anderson Hall and the Commons.



During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service and sermon available via podcast on multiple podcast platforms and at www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts ***** You can also receive the previous Sunday's sermon text by email by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons.



Following worship a pipe organ tour begins at the front of the Sanctuary. ** Also following the service
Deacons are available in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) to pray with those who would like to offer prayers of praise or concern. ** We 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. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ** Our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being hosts virtually a Sacred Pause time of meditation at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and also on Saturdays (8:30 a.m.). ** Buchanan Chapel is open for opportunity to walk the labyrinth between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursday.

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 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 *** For those facing life's challenges,** Stephen Ministers provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. *** To explore options for teletherapy or in-person conversations with a counselor,** call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. **Today we are delighted to have as our guest preacher Paul Brandeis Raushenbush,** president and CEO of Interfaith Alliance. An ordained Baptist minister, he is a longtime leader in the interfaith movement working to protect an inclusive vision of religious freedom for people of all faiths and none. He has also served as senior vice president of the Auburn Seminary, the founding and executive editor of HuffPost Religion, associate dean of religious life and the chapel at Princeton University, and a founding editor of Beliefnet.com. Please join us in extending a warm Fourth Church welcome to him this morning!



Also today we invite you to join us for a festive picnic following worship! We will be gathering in the Michigan Avenue courtyard for BBQ and optional simple yard games. We'll also have popsicles, bubbles, and hula hoops for the kids, with grown-ups with playful spirits also welcome to join in those activities as well!



Come enjoy the outdoor concerts of our Music by the Fountain series on August Fridays at 12:10 p.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. This Friday, August 18 **Kathleen Monson and Riko Higuma will be performing Gershwin tunes.** Next week, on Friday, August 25 our outdoor series will conclude with a performance by the **Juan Pastor Trio.** A full listing of concerts at Fourth Church is available on our website at www.fourthchurch.org/concerts

This week, in conjunction with the 2023 Parliament of the World's Religions being held in Chicago and at which our guest preacher Paul Raushenbush is speaking—Fourth Church and Second Presbyterian Church are hosting **a series of free noonday organ concerts** on themes of global justice and peace. The August 14–18 concerts will be presented by organist Michael Shawgo at 12:00 p.m. at Second Presbyterian *(1936 S. Michigan)* on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and by John Sherer at Fourth Church at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 15, and Thursday, August 17.

After Labor Day we will be adding a second Sunday morning worship service. Beginning September 10, we will be worshiping at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Also on September 10 our afternoon service will resume. Until then we continue to worship at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. **
 Save the date for our Neighborhood Block Party / Get Connected Sunday, which will also take place Sunday, September 10. It will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. Watch for details! For more information, contact Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

We need you to help shape the future of Fourth Church! The Long-Range Planning Task Force asks that you please take 15 minutes to **complete a survey online** at www.bit.ly/fpcsurvey823; the task force will also be available at Coffee Hour today to help you access the survey. Your responses will be anonymous and are important in setting our course for the next five years and laying the foundation for calling our next senior pastor. The survey deadline is Thursday, August 24 at 5:00 p.m.

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LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome (WOW) gathers for brunch next Sunday, August 20; those who would like to join in this time of fellowship are invited to meet at the reception desk following worship next week to walk together to a nearby restaurant. **** Men's Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. **** Knitting and Crocheting** meets via Zoom on Tuesday, August 22 at 4:00 p.m. For Zoom details for Bible study or Knitting, email Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). ****** For additional ways to connect with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, as well as for various resources and opportunities, watch our website (*www.fourthchurch.org*). ****** Events are posted online on our church calendar, accessible from our website's home page and at fourthchurch.org/calendar ****** We invite you to follow us on Facebook (*facebook.com/fourthchurch)* for updates, photos, and favorite quotes from recent devotions, sermons, and prayers. You can also find us on Instagram (*instagram.com/fourthchurch*) and Threads (*www.threads.net/@fourthchurch*).



Next Sunday, August 20 Stephen Ministry invites you to an informational pizza-and-salad lunch in Borwell Dining Room following worship. Are you interested in learning how to serve as a Stephen Minister? Would you like to explore whether a caring connection with a Stephen Minister might be a fit? Come hear from current and past Stephen Ministers about this ministry of Christcentered, compassionate listening and prayer. RSVP for lunch at www.bit.ly/stephenministry823

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Our School Supply Drive is in need of monetary gifts that will be used to purchase the remaining classroom supplies needed by **Chicago Lights Tutoring.** Contributions can be made by designating a check (*payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church*) or an online gift (*www.fourthchurch.org/give*) to "School Supply Drive." For more information, contact Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*).

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If you have an eighth grader interested in participating in Confirmation this year, please register at www.bit.ly/confirmation2324 by Sunday, September 10, when we will have a kickoff gathering of students and parents at 9:30 a.m.

Those who would like to **learn more about this congregation** or **become a member** of Fourth Church are invited to a one-session Inquirers' Class on Sunday, August 20 in person from 11:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Room 5F (*register at www.bit.ly/inquirers823*). For more information about the class or membership, email member@fourthchurch.org



Our **daily devotions** (*fourthchurch.org/devotions*) are available by email as a resource for your **personal reflection and prayer:** subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ***** Also available by email (*subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail*) is our weekly **"Rhythm and Word" video series**, which offers **ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer.** New and previous videos can be viewed on our YouTube channel: www.bit.ly/fpcvideos



Encore! returns to Fourth Church on Saturday, August 26 at 4:00 p.m. This annual fundraising event for our Center for Life and Learning supports CLL programming and provides scholarships that make it possible for more adults sixty and over to participate in CLL activities. To join in this evening of fun, which will feature local singer Peter Oprisko and his jazz ensemble, make your reservations at www.fourthchurch.org/cll; for more information, call the Center at 312.981.3391.
 **** Registration for the Autumn Session** with the Center for Life and Learning is now open. The session begins on Monday, September 11 and features twenty weekly classes, including fitness offerings, as well as Special Topic classes and events throughout the fourteen-week term. Learn more about the classes and register for membership at www.fourthchurch.org/cll

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Two new 10-foot-long banners hang on the pillars in the back of the Sanctuary. Representing Illinois **prairie grasses and sky**, they are part of the Ordinary Time banner collection commissioned in 2021 for our 150th anniversary. Designed by Ellie Cotey, with additional sewing done by members of the Benevolent Guild, **the collection evokes this congregation's call to be a light in the city.** The pulpit parament, which **incorporates a map of Chicago**, is created from 150 pieces, one for each year of our sesquicentennial history. In it, the rays of light radiate from the church location and spread throughout Chicago's neighborhoods, representing an impact that stretches beyond the borders of our great city. The bright colors are inspired by and celebrate **Chicago's native landscape:** the blue of Lake Michigan and the green of prairie grasses encompass a city composed of both the colors of six native wildflowers and the colors present in Fourth Church's logo. The banners hanging from the balconies offer images of those local wildflowers.

Worship Leaders

Lucy Forster-Smith, Robert Crouch, Nanette Sawyer, Paul Brandeis Raushenbush

The Music Today

The Men's Choir Michael Rees, Organ Scholar John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

- THE ANTHEM "Wade in the Water," based on the African American spiritual of that title, was arranged in 2008 by Aaron David Miller, who dedicated the arrangement to the singers at Fourth Church. Aaron was Associate Organist here from 1999 to 2001 and currently serves as Organist and Director of Music at the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul Minnesota.
- THE HYMN "Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm" lifts up, in each of its first three stanzas, one of the three great virtues—faith, hope, and love—that are mentioned in our 1 Corinthians 13 scripture text today. The final stanza expresses gratitude for all the faithful people of God who have embodied those virtues—today and throughout history.
- 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

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation Matt Helms Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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