



# Fourth Presbyterian Church

*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**August 27, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.**

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

In Quiet Mood . . . . . Florence B. Price

Precious Lord . . . . . Thomas Dorsey/arr. Wilbur Held

Variations on “Kum Ba Yah” . . . . . African American spiritual/arr. John A. Behnke

1. Someone’s Praying, Lord • 2. Someone’s Crying, Lord • 3. Someone’s Singing, Lord

### Introit

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone” . . . . . John Darwall/arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel

*Christ is our cornerstone, on him alone we build; with his true saints alone the courts of heaven are filled. On his great love our hopes we place of present grace and joys above.*

### \*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 . . . . . adapted from Psalm 90

Leader: *Almighty God, you have been our dwelling place through all generations.*

People: Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Leader: *A thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past,  
like a watch in the night.*

People: Our days are like grass that sprouts in the morning and flourishes  
and in the evening it fades and withers.

Leader: *Teach us to count our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

All: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

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



**\*Hymn 716** . . . . . “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,  
nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, grave’s shattered door:  
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.  
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:  
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ’s ageless call,  
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

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

God of compassion and grace,  
we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens,  
wider than our wanderings,  
deeper than all our sin.

Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes,  
our refusal to relieve the suffering of others,  
our envy of those who have more than we have,  
our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure,  
our indifference to the treasures of heaven,  
and our neglect of your wise and gracious law.

Help us to change our way of life  
so that we may desire what is good,  
love what you love,  
and do what you command,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

### Anthem

“Come Sing to Me of Heaven”. . . . . J. Aaron McDermid  
*Come sing to me of heaven, when I am called to die. Sing songs of holy ecstasy to waft my soul on high. When the last moment comes let one sweet song begin. Let music cheer me last on earth; to greet me first in heaven.*

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

**First Lesson** . . . . . Exodus 1:8–20

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:<sup>†</sup>  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**Second Lesson** . . . . . Romans 12:1–8

Leader: *Holy wisdom, holy word.*

People: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** :: Whose Body? . . . . . Joseph L. Morrow

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<sup>†</sup>Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

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## Responding to the Word

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**\*Hymn 727** . . . . . “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we’re together on the road.

We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear.

I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I’ll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,

born of all we’ve known together of Christ’s love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) . . . . . Apostles’ Creed

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**

"Ain't-a That Good News" . . . . . African American spiritual/arr. William A Dawson  
*I got a crown up in that kingdom, ain't-a that good news! I'm going to lay down this world,  
going to shoulder up my cross, going to take it home to my Jesus, ain't-a that good news!  
I got a harp up in the kingdom, ain't-a that good news! I got a robe up in the kingdom,  
ain't-a that good news! I got a Savior in the kingdom, ain't-a that good news!*

**\*Offertory Response** . . . . . Hymn 717

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*)

God of grace and God of glory,  
you pour your strength and love into our lives.  
As we dedicate this offering today,  
we dedicate our lives to your service in this, your world.  
Through Christ we pray. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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**\*Hymn 733** . . . . . “We Are All One in Mission”

We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission compels us from above  
to plan and work together that all may know Christ’s love.

We all are called for service to witness in God’s name.  
Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:  
to touch the lives of others by God’s surprising grace,  
so every folk and nation may feel God’s warm embrace.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel for God’s redeeming word.  
We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

**\*Charge and Benediction**

### Postlude

This Little Light of Mine . . . . . African American spiritual/arr. John A. Behnke

# News and Opportunities

August 27–September 2, 2023



**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.



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

We ask all who are worshipping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information form.**

Those worshipping 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 worshipping 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 worshipping 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](http://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](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)). ✱ Our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being hosts virtually a **Sacred Pause time of meditation** at [facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing](https://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



**Thank you to all who completed the survey** prepared by the Long-Range Planning Task Force and to all who added your thoughts, ideas, and comments! The survey is now closed, and as the results are compiled, the task force wants you to know how deeply grateful they are for your input, which will be invaluable in shaping together our vision for the future. If you have additional comments, please send them to [longrange@fourthchurch.org](mailto:longrange@fourthchurch.org)



**After Labor Day we will be adding a second Sunday morning worship service.** Beginning September 10, we will be worshipping at **9:30 and 11:00 a.m.** on Sunday mornings, with the Morning Choir singing at 9:30 and the Chancel Choir singing at 11:00. **The 9:30 service will be livestreamed** and available for viewing at 9:30 and any time afterwards. Also on September 10 **our afternoon service will resume at a new time with a new name. The Gathering: 2:00 p.m. Communion** will be a more casual, intimate service than worship in the morning and will also take place in the Sanctuary. **The afternoon service will also be livestreamed.** We hope you will come experience it!



**Save the date for our Neighborhood Block Party / Get Connected Sunday,** which will 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](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)).  
✳ On September 10 we will also **kick off a new year of Sunday School, Youth gatherings, and Sunday morning Adult Education classes.** The first of those classes will be **“Celtic Spirituality” taught by Vicky Curtiss** on Sundays, September 10–24 at 11:00 a.m., both in person and via Zoom. For details, register at [www.bit.ly/aeceltic923](http://www.bit.ly/aeceltic923)



The **Fourth Church Day School is enrolling children** ages 1–4 years old for the 2023–2024 school year. More information about our part-time preschool programs can be found at [www.bit.ly/fpcdayschoolprograms](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdayschoolprograms) ✳ **If you have an eighth grader interested in participating in Confirmation** this year, please register at [www.bit.ly/confirmation2324](http://www.bit.ly/confirmation2324) by Sunday, September 10, when we will have a kickoff gathering of students and parents at 9:30 a.m. ✳ **Registration for the Autumn Session** with the Center for Life and Learning is now open. Learn more about the classes and register for membership at [www.fourthchurch.org/ccl](http://www.fourthchurch.org/ccl) ✳ 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 via Zoom next Wednesday, September 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (*register at [www.bit.ly/inquirers923](http://www.bit.ly/inquirers923)*). For more details about the class or membership, email [member@fourthchurch.org](mailto:member@fourthchurch.org)

The **Chicago Lights Social Service Center** has an **immediate need for men's casual clothing** (*gently worn or new*) in all sizes. ✱ **Fourth Church Shower Ministry** is in need of **unused, hotel-sized toiletries**, specifically bottles of body wash, shampoo, conditioner, and deodorant; razors; toothbrushes; and lip balm. Items can be dropped off at the church reception desk seven days a week between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Please mark them "Attn. Shower Ministry" or "Attn. Social Service Center." ✱ The number of guests attending **Fourth Church Meals Ministry Bag Lunch** has increased to 80 to 90 guests per day, sometimes to as many as 121. **Sunday and Monday Night Suppers** are also seeing greater attendance, and thus the need for food items has grown. **Food needed by Meals Ministry** can be ordered and shipped directly to the church using the links on [www.fourthchurch.org/meals](http://www.fourthchurch.org/meals)



**Men's Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). ✱ This week our **free Friday Noonday Concerts** move **back indoors** to the Sanctuary, from where they will also be livestreamed. See [www.fourthchurch.org/concerts](http://www.fourthchurch.org/concerts) for details. ✱ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets in person on Tuesday, September 5 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. ✱ **Benevolent Guild**, which has counted among its projects making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital, resumes its weekly Wednesday gatherings on September 6 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. No sewing experience is necessary. ✱ The **Cornerstones fellowship group for those fifty and older** will gather for dinner and a program on Friday, September 8 in Borwell Dining Room. That evening Jay Tunney will talk about his book *The Prizefighter and the Playwright* and its **recounting of the close friendship between his father, boxer Gene Tunney, and the playwright George Bernard Shaw**. To attend, register (*required*) at [www.bit.ly/cornerstones923](http://www.bit.ly/cornerstones923) ✱ **Books by Women** will discuss *Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. ✱ A four-week **Grief Support Group** hosted by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being begins Wednesday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. To learn more or to register (*required*), email Sharon Crawford Tucker at [stucker@fourthchurch.org](mailto:stucker@fourthchurch.org), call the Center at 312.787.8425, or visit [www.reploglecenter.org](http://www.reploglecenter.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](http://www.fourthchurch.org)). ✱ Events are posted online on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at [fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://fourthchurch.org/calendar) ✱ We invite you to follow us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://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](https://instagram.com/fourthchurch)) and **Threads** ([www.threads.net/@fourthchurch](https://www.threads.net/@fourthchurch)).

Our **daily devotions** ([fourthchurch.org/devotions](http://fourthchurch.org/devotions)) are available by email as a resource for your **personal reflection and prayer**: subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) ✨ Also available by email (*subscribe at [www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail](http://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](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)



The **Interim Pastor Nominating Committee** (IPNC) is having conversations with candidates to consider for the role of Interim Pastor. The Interim Pastor, who will be hired by Session, will not be our next Senior Pastor. Rather they will be someone to guide us during the year or more when we are searching for the next Pastor. You can read about the IPNC work and find the latest transition updates at [fourthchurch.org/transition](http://fourthchurch.org/transition); if you have questions or comments about the transition, please email them to [transition@fourthchurch.org](mailto:transition@fourthchurch.org)



**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.



The **scaffolding** on the exterior of the Fourth Church campus is to enable tuckpointing, flashing, and window repair being done this summer. The scaffolding in the North Balcony of the Sanctuary is to assist in addressing the gradual delamination of a few of the Bartlett murals on the ceiling.

## Worship Leaders

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Matt Helms, Pamela Spann, Lucy Forster-Smith, Joseph L. Morrow

## The Music Today

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The Men's Choir

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

## Worship Notes

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THE FIRST PRELUDE PIECE, "In Quiet Mood," was composed by Florence B. Price. Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, she earned degrees in organ and piano from the New England Conservatory of Music before moving to Chicago in 1927. While in Chicago she studied with Leo Sowerby, who had been Associate Organist at Fourth Church. Florence Price became the first African American woman to have her music played by a major orchestra when in 1933 the Chicago Symphony Orchestra presented her *Symphony in E Minor*, one of her more than 300 compositions.

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](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give)

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**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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### THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014

[www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org) [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)

312.787.4570 Voicemail: 312.787.2729 Fax: 312.787.4584

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