



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2023 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Prelude in E-flat Major Alexandre Guilmant
Offertory in A Major A. Guilmant
Elevation in F Major A. Guilmant
Communion in D Major A. Guilmant

Introit

“O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” Plainsong
*O Jesus, joy of loving hearts, the fount of life and our true light, we seek the peace your love
imparts and stand rejoicing in your sight. O Jesus, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm
and bright; O chase the night of sin away; shed o’er the world your holy light.*

*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: *We gather hoping to see God;*

People: *here in worship, we realize that we see God in one another.*

Leader: *We can see God*

People: *when we show one another honor,*

Leader: *when we pursue hospitality to strangers,*

People: *when we live in harmony with one another,*

Leader: *when we rejoice in hope.*

People: *Let us worship the visible God among us.*



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

***Hymn 320** “The Church of Christ in Every Age”

The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.
Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.
Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ’s sacrifice, and clothed in Christ’s humanity.
For Christ alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.
We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve, and spread Christ’s liberating word.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of love,
you ask us to love one another from the center of who we are;
you tell us to bless one another;
you encourage us to do good.
But we have not listened to your words:
instead of loving, we have practiced hatred;
instead of blessing, we have perfected cursing;
instead of doing good, we have sought to get even.
Forgive us for giving up.
Give us grace to try again
and encouragement to make your ways our ways.
We pray, we wait, and we hope. 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

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 105:1–6, 23–26, 45b

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 Romans 12:9–21

Leader: *Holy wisdom, holy word.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rocky Supinger

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

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 372** “O for a World”

O for a world where everyone respects each other’s ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God’s glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) based on Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God,
who are called according to God’s purpose.

We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

“The King of Love and Grace” . . . Irish and American folk tunes/arr. Christopher Aspaas
The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth, and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever, and he is mine forever.

*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.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: We will lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: *Let us give thanks to God.*

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer

Leader: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .*

. . . forever singing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus *(sung)* The Hymnal, 552

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, hosanna in the highest.

Leader: . . . Great is the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation *(sung)* The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. *(repeat)*

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

Communion Anthems

“Lamb of God” Nikolaus Decius/arr. F. Melius Christiansen
Lamb of God most holy and lowly! Who on the cross didst suffer, patient, still, and lowly; thyself to scorn didst offer. Our sins by thee were taken, or hope had us forsaken. Have mercy on us, O Jesu.

“We Shall Walk through the Valley in Peace” African American spiritual
arr. William Appling
We shall walk through the valley of the shadow of death; we shall walk through the valley in peace! And if Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace! There will be no sorrowing there, and if Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace!

Psalm 23 *(unison)*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want;
he maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
he leadeth me beside the still waters; he restoreth my soul.
He leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

(continued on facing page)

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***Prayer after Communion** (*unison*)

Holy One, all that we have comes from you.
You bless our lives with the joy of thanksgiving
and shower upon us the help we need every hour.
Lead us, guide us; use us and these gifts for the sake of the life of the world,
in the name of the One who died and rose. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 310** “I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”

I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,
the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.
I love thy church, O God. Her walls before thee stand,
dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.
For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers ascend;
to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.
Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways:
her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given
the brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: Rejoice, the Lord Is King! Franklin Ritter

News and Opportunities

September 3–9, 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 are livestreaming today's 10:00 a.m. service on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. Beginning next Sunday, we will be livestreaming the 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services. ✧ **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**, beginning next Sunday we will gather each Sunday at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. ✧ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to each 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. ✧ **Worship can be heard** through "T" or "T-coil" settings 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.

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 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 Sunday morning **service and sermon available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts ✱ You can also receive the previous Sunday morning’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.

Beginning next Sunday, 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 beginning next Sunday **our afternoon service will resume at a new time with a new name.** **The Gathering: Communion at 2:00** 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!



Also next Sunday we are hosting our annual Neighborhood Block Party / Get Connected Sunday!

The festivities will take in the Michigan Avenue courtyard from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will include games, music, ice cream treats, a pet blessing, and more! For additional information or to **help set up on Saturday, September 9**, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ☼ Next Sunday we will also **kick off a new year of Sunday School** (9:30 and 11:00 a.m.), **Youth gatherings, and Sunday morning Adult Education classes** (11:00 a.m.). 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



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 ☼ **If you have an eighth grader interested in participating in Confirmation** this year, please register at www.bit.ly/confirmation2324 by next 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 underway. Learn more about the classes and register for membership at www.fourthchurch.org/cll ☼ 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 this Wednesday, September 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (*register at www.bit.ly/inquirers923*). For more details 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 in September is **led by Matt Helms** and offers **ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer**. New and previous videos can be viewed on our YouTube channel: www.bit.ly/fpcvideos

The **Chicago Lights Social Service Center** is in **need of men's casual clothing** (*gently worn or new*) in all sizes. ✱ **Fourth Church Shower Ministry** is in **need of unused, hotel-sized toiletries**. Items can be dropped off at the church reception desk seven days a week (*except Labor Day*) between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Please mark them "Attn. Shower Ministry" or "Attn. Social Service Center." ✱ **Food items for Fourth Church Meals Ministry**, which has seen an increase in guests, is also needed and can be ordered and shipped to the church using the links on 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). ✱ This week's **free Friday Noonday Concert**, which takes place in the Sanctuary and is also livestreamed, will feature pianist Amy Wurtz. See fourthchurch.org/concerts for details. ✱ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets in person this 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, meets on Wednesdays 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 this 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 ✱ **Books by Women** will discuss *The 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. ✱ **Zoom Small Groups** will begin at the end of September. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ 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 register (*required*), email Sharon Crawford Tucker (stucker@fourthchurch.org), call the Center at 312.787.8425, or visit 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). ✱ 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).

Worship Leaders

Nancy Benson-Nicol, Susan Wulczyn, Nanette Sawyer, Rocky Supinger

The Music Today

The Men's Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE MEN'S CHOIR for sharing their musical talents during our worship services the second half of the summer. If you would like to sing with our Gospel or Chancel Choirs or the Choral Society this fall, please contact John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org).

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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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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