

October 1, 2023



The Gathering

Communion at 2:00

We Gather.

Call to Worship "Open My Eyes, Lord"

Open my eyes, Lord Help me to see Your face

Open my eyes, Lord Help me to see

Open my ears, Lord Help me to hear Your voice

Open my ears, Lord Help me to hear

Open my heart, Lord Help me to love like You

Open my heart, Lord Help me to love

Welcome

***Song** "We Are Called" (Hymnal 749)

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.

(Continued on following page)

**Please rise in body or spirit.*



FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
A Light in the City

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.

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*)

***Confession and Assurance** (*unison*)

O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel,
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,
but we are content to live in separation.
You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.
Forgive us, O Lord.
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,
and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.
and grant us grace to grow more and more
in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

***Response** "Glory to God" (Hymnal 582)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
World without end... (without end...) Amen.

***Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

We Hear.

Scripture Psalm 25:1–9

Sermon by Nancy Benson-Nicol

We Respond.

Offering

The gifts we share to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in the offering plate or, upon leaving today, in the offering boxes at the Sanctuary exits. Gifts also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give

Song “There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit” (Hymnal 408)

There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord;
there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Refrain:

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive till you know him in his fullness and believe;
you’re the one to profit when you say, “I am going to walk with Jesus all the way.”
(*Refrain*)

Communion

*Communion will be served by intinction (dipping the bread into the juice).
Gluten-free bread is available.*

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Communion Song “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” by Thomas Dorsey

We Go.

*Song “Every Time I Feel the Spirit” (Hymnal 66)

Refrain:

Every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.

Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke,
out of God’s mouth came fire and smoke.
Looked all around me, it looked so fine,
till I asked my Lord if all was mine.
(Refrain)

Jordan River, chilly and cold,
it chills the body but not the soul.
There ain’t but one train upon this track.
It runs to heaven and then right back.
(Refrain)

*Blessing

Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger, Nancy Benson-Nicol

The Music Today

Beena David, vocals; Bryan Doherty, bass; Kevin Fort, piano; Neal Wehman, drums

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.

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News and Opportunities

October 1–7, 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 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where they can be viewed at any time after the services begin. *(For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service in progress, see www.fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning)* ✳️ **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen via phone to the morning service by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather 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, for the morning only, 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 garage 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.



We ask all who are worshipping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information card** found in your bulletin. 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” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form.

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

Today is World Communion Sunday, a day when worshipers around the world gather for the Lord's Supper, enacting the words of the hymn "Come, Risen Lord": "One church united in communion blest; one name we bear, one bread of life we break." ✱ This Sunday reminds us that God's love can heal our deepest divisions, and so each World Communion Sunday we receive a **Peacemaking and Global Witness Offering**. Gifts designated to this offering will be directed to efforts toward peacemaking that are supported by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as well as local efforts to address violence in Chicago. These gifts can be made at www.fourthchurch.org/give; by a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, with "Peace Offering" in the memo line; or by using the Peacemaking envelopes in the pew racks.



Calling all creatures great and small! We're having our annual **Blessing of the Animals** service on Saturday, October 7 at 10:00 a.m. outdoors in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. All pets on leashes or in carriers are welcome. You can also bring your pet's photo to be blessed instead.



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 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.



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



Men's Bible Study meets via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. **Horizons Women's Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Wednesday, October 11 at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✱ Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to tune into the new season of their **"Bible Top Ten" podcast** (www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts). This lively, informative, and occasionally funny podcast about the Bible as explored through a rotating series of top ten list has as its current theme **"Top 10 Biblical Movie Adaptations."**

The Officer Nominating Committee needs your recommendations of individuals to serve in leadership positions opening in 2024 for Elder, Deacon, Trustee, Nominating Committee, and Chicago Lights Board. If you know Fourth Church members—including yourself!—who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and ministry, please offer those names online at www.bit.ly/nominating2024 or by using the paper forms in the pew racks. **Please submit your recommendations today!**



Our 2024 stewardship campaign is underway, inviting us to reflect on **“How is Fourth Church home to me? To others?”** and **“What will my 2024 pledge be** in support of the life-giving mission, ministry, and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights?” Please plan to submit your 2024 pledge—which you can make using the form mailed to member homes and also available in the pew racks and online at www.bit.ly/fpcpledging—by **Commitment Sunday, October 29**, when we will celebrate all we are able to do together through our generous response to God’s blessings in our lives.



Also on October 29 we look forward to welcoming to our pulpit the **Reverend Tom Are Jr., who is joining us as our Interim Pastor!** Read more at www.fourthchurch.org



Knitting and Crocheting meets this Tuesday, October 3 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. ✨ **Cornerstones**, a group for those fifty and over, meets this Friday, October 6 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room for dinner and a program by Nanette Sawyer, who will talk about religious icons and her personal practice of creating contemporary icons. Register (*required*) at www.bit.ly/cornerstones1023 ✨ **“Foundations of Islam: Discovering Common Ground and Debunking the Myths,”** taught by Nanette Sawyer, Arshan Khalid, and Aisha Subhan, meets on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/aeislam1023



Voices of Light, our Gospel choir, invites singers to join them in rehearsing on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. in Room 4G. ✨ All who enjoy singing are encouraged to join the **Fourth Church Choral Society**, with rehearsals beginning this Thursday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel in preparation for a November 10 **concert honoring Morgan Simmons**, former Fourth Church Organist and Choirmaster. ✨ **The Handbell Choir**, which rehearses on Sundays at 12:15 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel Loft, welcomes newcomers to join in ringing. ✨ This week’s **free Friday Noonday Concert**, which takes place in the Sanctuary and is also livestreamed, will be cosponsored by Musicans Club of Women and feature cellist Jean Hatmaker, violinist Eleanor Bartsch, and pianist Jessica Choe. For a schedule of upcoming Noonday performances, see www.fourthchurch.org/concerts

Tutors are needed on weekday evenings to partner with **Chicago Lights Tutoring** students. For details or to sign up, see www.chicagolights.org/youth-programs/#tutoring ✱ **If your child is attending college** this fall, please email their address to Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org) by Sunday, October 15, as our youth groups will be assembling care packages for them the following week.



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



Those who would like to **learn more about this congregation** or **become a member of Fourth Church** are invited to a one-session in-person Inquirers' Class on Sunday, October 15 at 11:15 a.m. (*register at www.bit.ly/inquirers1023*). For details, email member@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**, see 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), Instagram (instagram.com/fourthchurch), and Threads (www.threads.net/@fourthchurch).

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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