

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024 • 12:10 p.m.



Prelude

Choral dorian Jehan Alain
Out of the Depths Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit

“The Glory of These Forty Days” Josquin des Prez
The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise; for Christ, by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

Call to Worship from Psalm 51:15–17

One: *O Lord, open my lips,*
All: **and my mouth will declare your praise.**
One: *For you have no delight in sacrifice;*
All: **if I were to bring a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.**
One: *The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;*
All: **a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

Prayer for the Day

***Hymn 649.** “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

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.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Joel 2:12-17

Second Lesson. Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Homily Matt Helms

***Hymn 824.** “There Is a Place of Quiet Rest”

There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.
Refrain:
O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.
There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God. (*Refrain*)
There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God. (*Refrain*)

An Invitation to Observe a Holy Lent

Litany of Penitence *(silence is kept after each petition)*

One: *Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.*

All: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.*

All: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness.
For the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *For our self-indulgent appetites and ways
and our exploitation of other people,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *For our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *For our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *For our negligence in prayer and worship,
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

(Continued on following page)

One: *Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done.*

*For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,*

All: **have mercy on us, O God.**

One: *Restore us, O God of our salvation, and show us your steadfast love.*

All: **Turn to us in your mercy and redeem us.**

The Imposition of Ashes

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee” German chorale/arr. Jody W. Lindh

If thou but suffer God to guide thee, and hope in him through all thy ways, he'll give thee strength, whatever betide thee and bear thee through the evil days; who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on the rock that naught can move. Only be still and wait his leisure in cheerful hope, with heart content to take whatever thy Father's pleasure and all-discerning love hath sent; nor doubt our inmost wants are known to him who chose us for his own. Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving; in all thy labor faithful be. And trust his word, though undeserving, thou yet shalt find it true for thee. God never yet forsook in need the soul that trusts in him indeed.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord, our 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, 565

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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, 566

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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

“Lead Me, Lord” Samuel Sebastian Wesley
*Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou Lord only that makest me dwell in safety.*

“Turn Thy Face from My Sins” `Arthur Sullivan
*Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds. Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy
Holy Spirit from me.*

Prayer after Communion (unison)

God of compassion,
through your Son, Jesus Christ, you brought us to this table of grace.
Now that we have been fed by you,
we ask that you continue to sustain us for the journey ahead,
so that we might follow you with willing hearts,
ready to love and serve all we meet. Amen.

*Hymn 167 “Forty Days and Forty Nights”

Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.
Shall not we your sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with you to suffer pain?
Then if Satan on us press, flesh or spirit to assail,
victor in the wilderness, grant that we not faint nor fail!
So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.
Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by your side,
that with you we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.

*Charge and Benediction

—DEPART IN SILENCE—

Welcome!

We are grateful to be worshipping with you on this solemn day on the church calendar. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church. ✨ 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.

Join our Lenten Journey

In this Lenten season of self-reflection and nurturing our spiritual growth, we invite you to use our daily **Lenten devotions as a resource for prayer and reflection.** They are available via email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions or send email addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org) and online (www.fourthchurch.org/devotions). ✨ Also available for your reflection during the season is our **Lenten "Rhythm and Word" video series.** These ten-minute worship experiences are released on **our YouTube channel** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. To **receive them by email**, sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail ✨ Our **Lenten Path of Discipleship** series, which will explore James Martin's book *Jesus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage*, will gather on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. beginning February 20. The February 20 and March 26 sessions will be both in person and via Zoom; the February 27–March 19 sessions will meet via Zoom. To participate, please register online at www.bit.ly/fpcpod24 by Monday, February 18.

Resources for worship, prayer, and meditation

A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. ✨ 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. The chapel is also open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. ✨ **On Sundays we gather for worship** at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and for The Gathering: Communion at 2:00; the 9:30 and 2:00 services are also livestreamed.

Get Connected

For resources and additional ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another as well as to see **snapshots of life in this community**, see our **weekly email newsletter** (subscribe online at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc) and watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org). ✨ Online events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from the home page of our website and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar ✨ We also invite you to follow us on **YouTube** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and **Instagram** (instagram.com/fourthchurch).

Worship Leaders

Amy Pagliarella, Matt Helms

The Music Today

Members of the Morning Choir
Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

TODAY'S SERVICE INCLUDES THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES. These ashes serve as a sign of human mortality and penitence—and the eternal life that is ours by God's grace alone.

WE WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER. Communion is not only for Presbyterians or "members of the church." Even those who doubt or whose trust is wavering are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper, in which we are assured of God's love and grace.

WE ARE RECEIVING THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and Elam Davies Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a "One Great Hour of Sharing" gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks or designate "One Great Hour of Sharing" (OGHS) when giving at fourthchurch.org/give or on the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Tom Are Jr. Interim Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

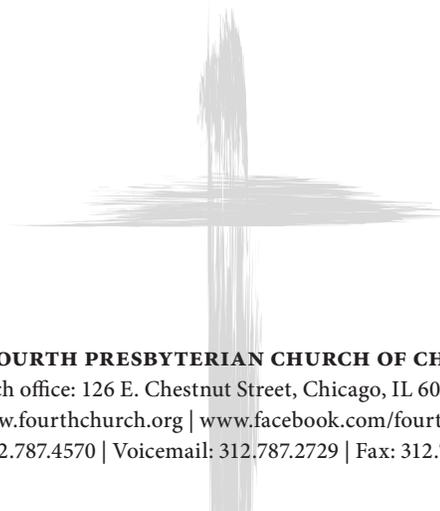
Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship

Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus



THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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