

Fourth Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost July 13, 2025 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Meditation on "Brother James's Air"	
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Introit

Come, and Let Us Sweetly Join Christ	Morgan Simmons
Come, and let us sweetly join Christ to praise in hymns divine.	
Give we all, with one accord, glory to our common Lord.	

*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 (responsively)

- One: *Holy One, you provide for us in ways we never know.* All: Alleluia! We praise you!
- One: Loving Christ, you heal us, accompany us, and set us on our feet when we have fallen.

All: Alleluia! We thank you!

- One: Holy Spirit, you empower us with gratitude and compassion, with humility and courage.
- All: Alleluia! Shape us by your grace, that we may bear your love into this world.



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

Here, O Lord, your servants gather, hand we link with hand; looking toward our Savior's cross, joined in love we stand. As we seek the realm of God, we unite to pray: Jesus, Savior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.

Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands; yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's demands. While in darkness hope appears, calling age and youth: Jesus, teacher, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.

Nature's secrets open wide, changes never cease; where, O where, can weary souls find the source of peace? Unto all those sore distressed, torn by endless strife: Jesus, healer, bring your balm, for you are the Life.

Grant, O God, an age renewed, filled with deathless love; help us as we work and pray; send us from above truth and courage, faith and power needed in our strife: Jesus, Savior, be our Way; be our Truth, our Life.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy Mystery,
we confess that we reject you
even though you come to heal us;
we ignore you even though you save us.
Samaritan God, forgive us,
overcome our smugness,
and restore in us
a spirit of gratitude and compassion, we pray. Amen

Declaration of Pardon

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

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

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 text or email someone to let them know you are thinking of them.

Welcome and Announcements

Please take a moment to let us know you are with us today! There are information pads in the pews for those in person and a digital form (use the link or QR code on screen) for those online.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

One: *The Word of God for the people of God.*

All: 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.

All: and a light unto our path.

Sermon	Nancy Benson-Nicol
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Responding to the Word

*Hymn 343
Where cross the crowded ways of life, where sound the cries of race and clan, above the noise of selfish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
In haunts of wretchedness and need, on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears, from paths where hide the lures of greed, we catch the vision of your tears.
From tender childhood's helplessness, from human grief and burdened toil, from famished souls, from sorrow's stress, your heart has never known recoil.
The cup of water given for you still holds the freshness of your grace; yet long these multitudes to view the sweet compassion of your face.
O Master, from the mountainside, make haste to heal these hearts of pain; among these restless throngs abide; O tread the city's streets again;
Till all the world shall learn your love, and follow where your feet have trod; till glorious from your heaven above shall come the city of our God.
Affirmation of Faith (unison)
We give our hearts to God, Creator of all that is and all that shall be, Lover of the Universe, Womb of Grace.
We follow Jesus, the Beloved, who embodied God's love and mercy,
who emptied himself and became one who was humble, poor, and rejected.
He taught and healed; he lived among the poor and lifted up the lowly.
He proclaimed God's prophetic call for justice
and opened our eyes to God's presence in the neighbor, in the stranger, in the enemy. For his love he was crucified, and in love he was raised
and lives among us now, still among the poor and outcast.
We live by the power of the Holy Spirit, God's love alive in us.
We serve in the power of forgiveness, the mystery of resurrection, the light of eternal life.
In God's Spirit we are one body, the church, sent in love for the healing of the world,
in the name of Christ, who with the Spirit lives and reigns with God forever. 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.

Offertory Anthem

A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering. Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice.

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Gracious and strengthening God, in you,

we find the power to endure with patience and the grace to give thanks with joy.

As we offer these gifts, may they bear fruit in your kingdom,

strengthening the church, uplifting the weary,

and sharing the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

In Christ's name, we give and rejoice. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 761
Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.
Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.
Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.
So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.
*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Sonata III (Con Moto Maestoso)	 F. Mendelssohn

Baptized today

Pierce Alexander Escobar, child of MacKenzie and Paul Escobar Louise Eleanor Schumann, child of Jennifer and Peter Schumann Tatum Edwards Schumann, child of Jennifer and Peter Schumann Ivan Yuen Torres, child of Mayela Yuen Torres and Lawrence Yuen Victor Yuen Torres, child of Mayela Yuen Torres and Lawrence Yuen Margaret Macy Whittington, child of Lauren and Michael Whittington

Worship in the Reformed Tradition

- As the headings in our bulletin remind us each week, the center of our worship is **the Word**—by which we mean both Scripture and the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. Our Scripture witnesses to God and God's activity. When it is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. It is this Living Word that is the center of everything we do in worship.
- That worship follows the pattern we see in Isaiah 6 (page 597 of the Old Testament): adoration, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, and service.
- Overwhelmed by God's majesty and glory, we **gather** together in **praise** offered through song and prayer.
- In the face of that great goodness of God, we also see how we fall short of being who we were created to be and so we join in a **prayer of confession**.
- We then proclaim the **forgiveness** that we know in Jesus Christ. We live our lives in this cycle of realizing where we fall short, being honest to God about that, and then recognizing that God always forgives us, even before the words are on our lips, and lets us start new.
- As we listen for the Word of God, **Scripture** is read. The **sermon** is proclaimed. We respond to the Word with thanksgiving, joining in **song** and **affirming our faith**, using the Apostles' Creed, a Brief Statement of Faith, or another profession of faith or words taken directly from Scripture.
- Following Jesus' instruction to pray, in the **Prayers of the People** we bring human need before God in hope, trust, and thanksgiving for God's faithfulness, concluding with the **Lord's Prayer.** Our response of thanksgiving also includes the giving of our material goods, bringing to God the **offerings** of our work as symbols of our gratitude and our acknowledgment that everything we have comes from God. In prayer we **dedicate** these gifts and our lives to the work of the church and God's mission.
- God then **sends** us, like Isaiah, back out into the world in service. Our final **hymn** of grateful praise moves directly into a **charge and blessing** to take what we have heard, to take what we have learned, and to actively live it out in the world, looking for God's work all around us.



You belong here!

This may be your first time in worship at Fourth Presbyterian Church, or perhaps you worship here so often you call Fourth Church "home"; in either case, **we are grateful for your presence** today. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone without exception—into the life of this congregation. No matter where you may be in your faith journey, no matter what questions or burdens you may bring to this place, we take seriously that God loves everyone, so you belong here.

Every Sunday we read the old biblical stories and sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world we live in this minute through liturgy, prayers, and sermons. By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ's life, we discover hope and even joy, and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ to the city as we live out our calling to love God and love one another.

If you are new to us, stick around after worship. Join us for Coffee Hour, or speak to one of our pastors. We have many programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. **Give us a try; soon you too might be calling Fourth Church "home."**

Worshiping in Person at Fourth Church

Each summer Sunday our worshiping body—which is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews—gathers at 10:00 a.m.

Entering the building

The doors open at 9:30 a.m. There is an entrance without steps that leads to the Sanctuary on Michigan Avenue, through the glass Loggia doors *(next to the courtyard)*. There are also two fully accessible entrances: one at 126 E. Chestnut—where the reception desk is located and one at 115 E. Delaware.

Sound

- Worship can be heard through "T" or "T-coil" settings of hearing aids.
- Please silence electronic devices during worship.

Parking

Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$10 for 6 hours (and \$20 for up to 12 hours) and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut) for \$10 between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from ushers.

Worshiping Online

Livestream

We livestream the worship service each Sunday on our YouTube channel—bit.ly/fpcvideos—which is also accessible from the home page of our website: fourthchurch.org

Worship can be viewed anytime after the service has begun. For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning

Online extras

Links to make an online offering gift, view or print the worship bulletin, and more can be found in the descriptive text below the worship video (*after exiting full screen*) as well as on our website.

For those without Internet

Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

Podcast

Podcast offerings from Fourth Church—available on multiple platforms and at fourthchurch.org/podcasts include the Sunday worship service and sermon; weekly "Rhythm and Word" reflections; and "Bible Top Ten."

Realtor to Represent Fourth Church

Because our new pastor's family will not be living in the Fourth Church-owned Walton Manse at 220 E. Walton, the Board of Trustees is investigating selling that property.

If you are a licensed Realtor and would like to be considered to represent the church in this matter, please email a brief bio to Allison MacDonna (amacdonna@ fourthchurch.org) by next Sunday, July 20.

The three most-qualified candidates will be selected to present to the Manse Disposition Task Force, which will select one to represent the church.

Let Us Know You're Here!

We are grateful to be worshiping with you today and would welcome knowing you are here. Please take a moment to fill out an information form.

In person

Those worshiping with us in person are asked to add their names to the pads in the pews, passing the pads to the center of the row and then back again so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following worship.

Online

Those worshiping via livestream will find a link to the online form in the 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.

Joining the Fourth Church Family

If you are interested in becoming a member of Fourth Church, please join us for a one-session Inquirers' Class on either Wednesday, August 7 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom (register at bit.ly/inquirers82025) or in person on Sunday, September 21 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 5F (register at bit.ly/inquirers92025).

For more information, contact Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org), Senior Associate Pastor, who would welcome hearing from you!

Welcoming Camille Cook Howe: Sept. 21

Be sure to mark Sunday, September 21 on your calendar, as that will be the day when the Reverend Dr. Camille Cook Howe, our next Pastor, preaches and leads us in worship for the first time.

Sunday, October 19 will also be a special day in our relationship with Camille: she will be officially installed as Pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago during the 9:30 a.m. service that morning. Please plan to be with us to celebrate this exciting new chapter in the life of our congregation!



Connections and Belonging

Come connect with others as we foster a welcoming and inclusive community where everyone feels supported in building meaningful relationships

In-Person Coffee Hour

If you are worshiping with us in person, we invite you to stop by Anderson Hall and the Commons after the service for our weekly Coffee Hour, an opportunity to greet each other and learn about ways to connect with one another and Fourth Church.

Online Coffee Hour

If you are worshiping with us via livestream, we would be delighted if you would also join us for opportunity to connect with one another in our online Coffee Hour. We gather via Zoom at 11:00 a.m., following the livestream of worship, for a time of fellowship.

Zoom link: bit.ly/coffeehourfpc; passcode: 676359

Connecting Online

Whether you are traveling this summer, live out of town, or have difficulty getting to Fourth Church, we invite you to explore our wide variety of ways to connect online with one another and Fourth Church, many of which are details in these pages. Browse fourthchurch.org/online/connections to learn more.

Summer with Center for Life and Learning

The summer session of the Center for Life and Learning has a wide variety of programming for adults sixty and over. The summer offerings include exercise classes, meditation, improv, current events, movies, and more. See fourthchurch.org/cll for details about the wide variety of offerings and sign-up information.

News, Updates, and Snapshots

Look for information, updates, and snapshots of life at Fourth Church in our weekly email newsletter. Subscribe at bit.ly/newsfromfpc and visit our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news

Join Us for Picnic after Worship!

We're having a picnic today! Following worship join us in Anderson Hall, Borwell Dining Room, and the Commons for a festive time of fellowship and connection over a shared meal.

If you can't be with us today, be sure to mark Sunday, August 10 on your calendar so you won't miss out on our second summer picnic.

Get Connected

TwentiesThirties Brunch

Young adults are invited to Sunday brunch today. Meet in the Commons following worship and connect with others for a time of catching up with old friends and meeting new ones.

Women at Fourth's Paint-n-Sip

Women are invited to "Paint-n-Sip," hosted by Women at Fourth on Thursday, July 24 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. There will be refreshments and professional instruction in painting a one-of-a-kind "masterpiece." Registration is required at bit.ly/waf20256

Caring for One Another

Pastoral care

If you would like to talk to a pastor or notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email Gloria Fleming (gfleming@ fourthchurch.org). If the situation requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

Stephen Ministry

For a one-to-one listening presence through life challenges, we invite you to consider being paired with a Stephen Minister. To learn more about this resource, contact Associate Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org), or to request support from a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.



Faith Formation

Join us on our journey to grow spiritually through worship, educational opportunities, and programs that nurture faith across all ages

Children, Youth, and Family

Children in 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.

Also during morning worship, nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center for infants through two-year-olds.

Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School takes place throughout July at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

Bible Studies via Zoom

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study—which focuses on recent or upcoming scripture readings from the pulpit—welcomes new participants to join them for their weekly gathering via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. For details, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org).

Women's Summer Bible Study

Women's Summer Bible Studies meet via Zoom on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, with the next study on Wednesday, July 25, at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.

The noon gathering is studying the *Horizons* Bible Study "Dispatches to God's Household: The General Epistles" by Associate Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol.

The evening gathering is studying the Sunday lectionary readings, with passages from the Old Testament, Psalms, a non-Gospel New Testament book, and a Gospel.

For Zoom details for either group, contact Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org).

April Ajoy on Christian Nationalism

Next Sunday, July 20, Matt Helms will talk with April Ajoy about her book *Star-Spangled Jesus: Leaving Christian Nationalism and Finding a True Faith* during an 11:00 a.m. Adult Education class in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom.

Part memoir, part guidebook, part call to action, *Star-Spangled Jesus* recounts April's journey from growing up in an Evangelical church to finding her views of faith challenged and the world widened from a variety of personal experiences.

Today April is a voice for inclusivity and tolerance in the church, and her book offers a way for us to reflect on what "the intersection between faith and life" might look like for Fourth Church in a time when Christian Nationalism has been on the rise.

You can register for the class at bit.ly/aprilajoy20257

Prayer

Sunday Morning Prayer with Deacons

If you would like to offer individual prayers of praise or concern with a Deacon, you are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) following worship.

Wednesday Morning Prayer

On Wednesdays we gather for Morning Prayer via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. to remember in prayer members of the congregation, all those who are in need, and mission partners around the world. Email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org) for details.

Prayer requests

If you would like to submit a prayer request to our Deacon and Morning Prayer Ministries, please email Gloria Fleming (gfleming@fourthchurch.org).

Daily Devotions

Daily devotions

We invite you to use our daily devotions—written by Fourth Church members and staff—for your personal reflection. To receive them by email, subscribe at bit. ly/fpcdevotions; you can also find them online at fourthchurch.org/devotions as well as on Facebook.

"Rhythm and Word" Videos and Podcast

Each week we share a five-minute video and podcast reflection by one of the pastors. This month Joe Morrow invites us into an exploration of the writings of Trappist monk Thomas Merton and other mystics. Sign up at bit.ly/rhythmandword to have the videos sent to your inbox on Wednesdays or subscribe to our YouTube channel (bit.ly/fpcvideos). You can also listen to these reflections via podcast (fourthchurch.org/podcasts).



Community Engagements and Partnerships

Come alongside us as together, through programs and collaboration with partners, we advocate for social and community needs

"Repair of Historical Harms"

This year's Paul Galloway Lecture will take place this Saturday, July 19 at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel and via Zoom. To attend, register at bit.ly/galloway25

The 2025 speaker, the Reverend Jermaine Ross-Allam—a Presbyterian minister, social ethicist, and scholar—will talk about "Repair of Historical Harms," as he engages us in further understanding the Christian church's role in creating and perpetuating transgenerational injustice.

Acknowledging complicity and responsibility in past actions and inactions and the harm caused to Indigenous peoples, African Americans, and other marginalized groups in the United States, we pave the way for repair—for healing, reconciliation, and positive change in us and in our communities.

Block Party in Auburn Gresham

The Mission and Justice Committee invites you to join them in walking in the Friday evening St. Sabina Parish Peace Walks in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood on August 1 and 15 at 7:00 p.m.

To take part, sign up at bit.ly/peacewalks2025 or, for details, email Nancy Davis (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

School Supply Drive

Our annual School Supply Drive organized by Women at Fourth is underway, as we collect school supplies for students of the Chicago Lights Urban Farm, Summer Day, and Tutoring. You can find a list of needed supplies at bit.ly/schoolsupplydrivefpc; you can also make a monetary gift at fourthchurch.org/give to help with our purchase of needed items. For more information, contact Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org).

Volunteering with Meals Ministry

Fourth Church Meals Ministry has openings for volunteers to serve between now and September 30. You can sign up for them at bit.ly/fpcvolunteers; please sign up for no more than two roles per program per month so as to allow opportunities for all who want to support Meals Ministry in this way. For more information, contact Mike Usiak (musiak@ fourthchurch.org), Meals Ministry Manager.

Art Exhibition in the Loggia

The summer art exhibition in our Loggia Gallery features works by Charlene Moy, a Chicago-based Chinese American artist who assembles and weaves artificial materials with artist media to draw attention to the impact plastics have on our environment.

Calendar for July 13–19, 2025

Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Worship
July 13	10:00 a.m.	Infants/Parents Comfort Room Hospitality Suite
	10:00 a.m.	Nursery
	10:00 a.m.	Summer Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	A Time of Prayer
	11:00 a.m.	All-Church Picnic
	11:00 a.m.	Online Coffee Hour.
	12:00 p.m.	Chicago Exchange Japanese Fellowship Manse
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30)
	-	Meals Ministry Medical ServiceBorwell Dining Room
	4:00 p.m.	
Monday	8:30 a.m.	Summer Day
July 14	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Bastille Day Party
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Sit Down and Tap!
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Bridge
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Yoga
Tuesday	7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
July 15	8:30 a.m.	Summer Day
·	9:00 a.m.	CLL: Bingocize
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors
	9:00 a.m.	Heartland Alliance Medical Clinic
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Program
	9:30 a.m.	Together We Play
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00) Buchanan Chapel
	1:00 p.m.	Shower Ministry
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Improv
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi
	6:30 p.m.	Connecting Ministries Committee Zoom
	0.00 p.m.	
Wednesday	7:30 a.m.	Men's Faith StudyOff-site
July 16	8:30 a.m.	Summer Day Classrooms
	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Program
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Yoga for Osteoporosis Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Zing
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Midweek Meditation
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch

Calendar for July 13–19, 2025

	12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	CLL: Current Events
Thursday July 17	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 2:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Summer Day Classrooms
Friday July 18	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m.	Summer DayFifth FloorSSC: Drop-In ProgramMorse LoungeCLL: NiaZoomMusic by the FountainMichigan Avenue Courtyard
Saturday July 19	10:00 a.m. (No other et	"Repair of Historical Harm" Buchanan Chapel vents are scheduled for Saturday)
	Sunda	y, July 20 • 10:00 a.m. • Amy Pagliarella preaching

Worship Leaders

Joseph L. Morrow, Tomoko Kizawa, Nancy Benson-Nicol

The Music Today

The Summer Choir and Quartet Doug Cleveland, Interim Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

FOURTH CHURCH INCLUDES THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM in worship on the second Sunday of the month. Baptism is the sign and seal of God's grace and covenant in Christ. As The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA) explains, baptism signifies the faithfulness of God, the washing away of sin, rebirth, putting on the fresh garment of Christ, and adoption into the covenant family of the church.

The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God's love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The congregation, on behalf of the whole church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life, and it is for this reason that the congregation makes such a promise during the service.

As we celebrate the baptism of these children, we also remember that we too were baptized and as children of God are part of the worldwide family of faith.

GIFTS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION of Fourth Church can be placed in the plates passed during the service, or, afterwards, in an offering box at the exit from the Sanctuary. They also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at fourthchurch.org/give

Rocky Supinger Senior Associate Pastor

Nancy Benson-Nicol Associate Pastor Matt Helms Associate Pastor Joseph L. Morrow Associate Pastor Nanette Sawyer Associate Pastor

Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014 www.fourthchurch.org • www.facebook.com/fourthchurch 312.787.4570 Voicemail: 312.787.2729

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