



# Fourth Presbyterian Church

*First Sunday of Advent*

November 30, 2025 • 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Sonata II . . . . . Felix Mendelssohn

Puer Nobis Nascitur . . . . . John Behnke

### Introit

Prepare the Way of the Lord . . . . . Richard Proulx

*Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths. Rejoice, the Lord is at hand! Prepare.*

### \*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.<sup>†</sup> Amen.

### \*Call to Worship *(responsively)*

One: *We gather in preparation*

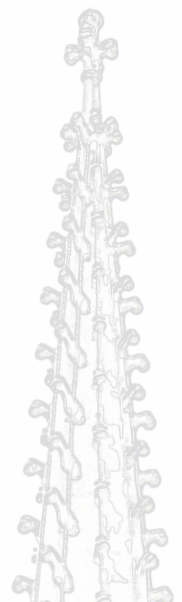
All: for good news is about to be proclaimed.

One: *We gather in anticipation*

All: for the days of joy are surely coming.

One: *We gather in expectation*

All: for we are a people of hope.



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

**\*Hymn 87** . . . . . “Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.  
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.  
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.”

For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near,  
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.  
O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.  
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.

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

Holy One, in the coming of Jesus you call us to trust in your promises  
before they are fully revealed.  
Yet truthfully we trust in what we can see and experience now.  
We silence visions that go beyond current thoughts and trends.  
Instead, we turn toward cynicism, ready for every calamity  
but unable to see glimmers of the possible.  
Or we turn to false positivity to insulate ourselves from the suffering of others.  
Help us, O God, to avoid these hazards.  
Fill us with the hope that comes from waiting faithfully on you.  
Now, in silence, we share with you the sin we hold in our hearts  
and open ourselves to the gift of your consolation . . .

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Hymn 88** (*verse 1*) . . . . . “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**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.*

*(9:30) Children age three through grade five are invited to come forward during the passing of the peace.*

**Time with Children (9:30)**

**Welcome and Announcements**

*(9:30) Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers.*

*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.*

**Anthem**

“E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come” . . . . . Paul Manz  
*Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins; who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; sing Holy, Holy Lord. Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell within. Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon. E’en so Lord Jesus, quickly come and night shall be no more They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all!*

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**Listening for the Word**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Scripture Reading** . . . . . Psalm 122

One: *The Word of the Lord.*

All: 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 Scripture Reading** . . . . . Matthew 24:36–44

**Sermon** . . . . . Camille Cook Howe

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## Responding to the Word

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**\*Hymn 105** . . . . . “People, Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) . . . . . from A Brief Affirmation of Faith (PCUSA)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children, healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

*(continued on facing page)*

God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.

**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**

“In the Beginning Was the Word” . . . . . Rosephanye Powell  
*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God. The same was  
in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made  
that was made.*

**\*Offertory Response** . . . . . Hymn 144, v. 4

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

**\*Prayer of Dedication** *(unison)*

God of our future, we wait with anticipation for the coming of your Son.  
Yet we know you have already promised and given us abundance.  
Through our offering may we love generously, enabling the vulnerable to live well.  
And may we prepare our world for the arrival of your reign. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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**\*Hymn 83** . . . . . “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.

Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

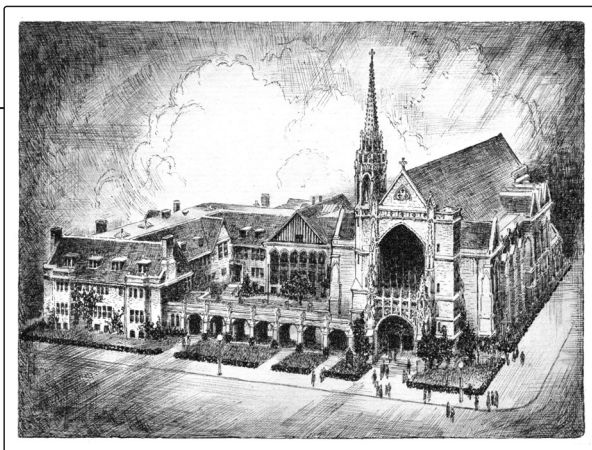
**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Choral Benediction**

God Be with You Till We Meet Again. . . . . Ralph Vaughan Williams

**Postlude**

Fanfare . . . . . C. S. Lang



## 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.**

Guided by our Antiracism Covenant, we seek to embrace values and practices that enable us to experience Beloved Community, where **differences are seen as assets that are celebrated and experienced as strengths.**

**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.”**

### Worshipping in Person at Fourth Church

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. If you like to worship with us in person, we gather weekly at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

#### Entering the building

A half hour prior to each service the doors open for worship. On Michigan Avenue, through the glass Loggia doors there is an entrance without steps that leads to the Sanctuary. There are also two fully accessible entrances: at 126 E. Chestnut and 115 E. Delaware.

#### Parking

Information on discounted parking is on the back cover. If you have not set up an online payment account for discounted parking at the 900 garage, ushers have information cards to help. Volunteers at the Coffee Hour Connection Corner are available to assist as well.

#### Sound

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



## Worshipping Online

### Livestream

We livestream the 9:30 a.m. service on our YouTube channel at [bit.ly/fpcvideos](https://bit.ly/fpcvideos), which is also accessible from the home page of our website: [fourthchurch.org](https://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](https://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.

## Prayer

### Personal Prayer with a Deacon following Worship

If you would like to meet with a Deacon to pray, you are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) following worship.

### Praying Each Week for Our Members

Fourth Church maintains a practice of praying for each member's household throughout the year.

On Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. you are invited to gather for Morning Prayer via Zoom to pray for members by name, all those who are in need, and mission partners around the world. For details, email Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)).

### Requests for Prayer

If you would like to submit a prayer request for our prayer ministries, please email Gloria Fleming ([gffleming@fourthchurch.org](mailto:gffleming@fourthchurch.org)).

## 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](https://bit.ly/newsfromfpc) and visit our news archive at [fourthchurch.org/news](https://fourthchurch.org/news)

## Let Us Know You're Here!

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

### In person

Those worshipping 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 worshipping 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.

## 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 ([gffleming@fourthchurch.org](mailto:gffleming@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, consider being paired with a Stephen Minister. For information, leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365 or contact Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)).

## Podcasts from Fourth Church

Podcasts from Fourth Church—available on multiple platforms and at [fourthchurch.org/podcasts](https://fourthchurch.org/podcasts)—include

- the Sunday worship service
- the Sunday sermon
- weekly "Rhythm and Word" reflections
- "Bible Top Ten," a lively, informative, and often lighthearted exploration of the Bible through a series of top ten lists—including "Passages on Heaven and Hell" and "Sibling Rivalries in the Bible"—hosted by Pastors Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger.





## 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

All who are worshipping with us in person are invited to stop by Anderson Hall and the Commons after the service for our weekly Coffee Hour opportunity to greet each other and learn about ways to get connected with one another and Fourth Church!

### Online Coffee Hour

If you are worshipping 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 immediately following the livestream of worship for a time of fellowship.

Zoom link: [bit.ly/coffeehourfpc](https://bit.ly/coffeehourfpc)

### Pastor Camille's Thanksgiving Message

If you have not yet seen Pastor Camille's Thanksgiving message, which was emailed to the congregation on Wednesday, you can view it at [bit.ly/cchvideo112625](https://bit.ly/cchvideo112625)

To ensure you don't miss future messages from Pastor Camille, we encourage you to sign up at [bit.ly/newsfromfpc](https://bit.ly/newsfromfpc) if you do not already receive our weekly email newsletter.

### 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 via Zoom on Wednesday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. (register at [bit.ly/inquirers012026](https://bit.ly/inquirers012026)).

For more information about membership at Fourth Church, please contact Dave Canfield, Director of Connecting Ministries ([dcanfield@fourthchurch.org](mailto:dcanfield@fourthchurch.org)).

### Center for Life and Learning

To explore the fitness classes as well as lectures and arts courses offered by the Center for Life and Learning for adults sixty and over—with both in-person and online opportunities — see [fourthchurch.org/ccl](https://fourthchurch.org/ccl).

### Christmas Flowers

We invite you to remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward this year's Christmas flowers that will decorate the Sanctuary. A list of those individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin.

Contributions can be made at [bit.ly/fpcgift](https://bit.ly/fpcgift) and must be received by next Sunday, December 7 for names to appear in the bulletin.

### Tutoring Students' Christmas Wishes

Women at Fourth invites you to take part in our Christmas Wishes project to provide gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring.

We are collecting gift cards (up to \$25) to Target, Amazon, Walmart, Starbucks, and McDonald's. They can be dropped off at the church (attention: Nanette Sawyer), with the amount designated on the card(s).

We are also collecting monetary contributions for the purchase of books for the youth. Please note "Christmas Wishes" in the designation of an online gift at [fourthchurch.org/give](https://fourthchurch.org/give) or in the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

### Light Up a Life

Our annual "Light Up a Life" offering is being received throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. Gifts designated to this offering provide funds for Fourth Church programs that support our neighbors and congregation and for Chicago Lights, as it extends kindness and love to those who are most vulnerable.

You can make a gift to "Light Up a Life" by selecting that designation from the drop-down menu when giving via [fourthchurch.org/give](https://fourthchurch.org/give) (also accessible by using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin).

If giving by check, please make the check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church and write "Light Up a Life" on the memo line. Those worshipping in the Sanctuary can also use the offering envelopes from the pew racks.

## Opportunities to Connect

### Knitting and Crocheting

Knitting and Crocheting, which supplies partners in the city with handcrafted items for warmth and comfort, meets Tuesday, December 2 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B.

### Benevolent Guild

Benevolent Guild, which creates items for those in need, meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B.

### Cornerstones Christmas Sing-Along

Cornerstones (a fellowship opportunity for adults fifty and over) will gather for a Christmas Dinner and Sing-Along on Friday, December 5 at 5:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall, with Interim Organist Doug Cleveland leading the singing. Registration is required at [bit.ly/cornerstones202512](http://bit.ly/cornerstones202512)

### Books by Women

Books by Women, which invites readers into a monthly conversation about a selected work, will discuss *The Reading List* by Sara Nisha Adams on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

### Women at Fourth Holiday Party

Save the date—Thursday, December 11—for the annual Women at Fourth holiday gathering; details to come!

### Deep Listening Dinner: Holiday Traditions

Our next Deep Listening Dinner—an opportunity to get to know one another over a shared meal and conversation—will take place on Friday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Our December conversation will center around sharing holiday traditions that we remember or are meaningful to us.

Details about registration (required) will be available in the coming week.

### Artist Talk

Artist Nora Moore Lloyd, whose exhibition “Native Legacies: Past Present Future” is currently on display in our Loggia Gallery, will be with us following 11:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 14 to talk about her art.

### TwentiesThirties Holiday Party

Young adults are invited to a TwentiesThirties Holiday Party—complete with a gingerbread house decorating contest—on Tuesday, December 16 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Manse. Register at [bit.ly/2030christmas25](http://bit.ly/2030christmas25)

## Connecting Online

Whether you live out of state, are unable to be with us in person, or find online opportunities to be a meaningful complement to your in-person experiences, we invite you to explore our online opportunities for deepening your connections with your faith and with others: [fourthchurch.org/online/connection](http://fourthchurch.org/online/connection)

## Organist and Director of Music Search

Fourth Church is blessed to have Doug Cleveland serving as our talented Interim Organist and Director of Music through at least May 2026. As planned when Doug joined us, a search for a permanent Organist and Director of Music will be conducted, and Doug will be invited to be among the applicants.

We are looking for individuals to be part of the search committee for this position and would welcome your nominations of a fellow member—or yourself—to serve. Nominations are due by Friday, December 12 and can be made using the form [bit.ly/organistsearch](http://bit.ly/organistsearch)

## Free Friday Concerts

The December 5 free Friday Noonday Concert features flutist Nicaulis Alliey, in a performance cosponsored by Musicians Club of Women, at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and via livestream: [fourthchurch.org/concerts](http://fourthchurch.org/concerts)

## Christmas with Tower Brass

Join us Saturday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m. for the music of the season when our brass ensemble presents their festive “Christmas with Tower Brass” concert in the Sanctuary and via livestream.

## Christmas Cantata: Bach’s Magnificat

On Sunday morning, December 21 the magnificent strains of Bach’s *Magnificat*—a musical setting of Mary’s song, as recorded in Luke 1:46–55—will be presented by the Morning Choir and members of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship. The 9:30 cantata will also be livestreamed.



## 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.

#### Sunday School

Children from three years old to fifth grade join their parents in the Sanctuary for the beginning of 9:30 a.m. worship before departing for their classrooms on the fourth floor.

Following Sunday School, families with young children are invited to make an Advent wreath as a family in Room 5C, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

#### Youth

On Sundays the Junior High Youth group (grades 6–8) meets in the South Balcony of the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. before moving to the Bumpus Room following the Passing of the Peace. Senior High Youth (grades 9–12) meet in the South Balcony of the Sanctuary at 11:00 a.m. before moving to the Fifth-Floor Lounge following the Passing of the Peace.

#### Confirmation

The Confirmation cohort of eighth graders meets next Sunday, December 7 at 11:00 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. The Confirmation parent group meets at 12:00 p.m. in Room 4G.

### TwentiesThirties Bible Study

Young adults are invited to a TwentiesThirties Advent Bible Study that will take place weekly at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5B through December 21.

Together we will experience God's disruptive but transformative love for us in our world as we dig into Tracy Daub's *Holy Disruption: Discovering Advent in the Gospel of Mark*. For more information or to order the book, email Nance Bartell ([nbartell@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbartell@fourthchurch.org)).

### Today: "Wall of Prayer" Spiritual Practice

When you listen to your deepest and truest self, what longings and desires for Advent do you bring to God in prayer?

This afternoon start your Advent season with a dynamic spiritual practice known as the "Wall of Prayer," which we will share when we gather at 4:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. This tangible experience led by Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol will spark creativity through writing and visual media as we pray with our heart and hands in response. Crafting materials will be provided.

Registration is required at [bit.ly/fpcwallofprayer](http://bit.ly/fpcwallofprayer)

### Bible in 100 Passages

#### Monthly Bible studies

Our final in-person Bible study focusing on the themes of our "Bible in 100 Passages" series will be this Tuesday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall (in-person only; register at [bit.ly/decbible100](http://bit.ly/decbible100)).

The final Zoom Bible study in the series will be next Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. For details and the Zoom link, register at [bit.ly/decbible100zoom](http://bit.ly/decbible100zoom)

#### Daily readings

Our "Bible in 100 Passages" series invites you to join our congregational reading of the Old Testament, as we cover all of its thirty-nine books through 100 key texts. Each day we share the daily readings, in addition to reflections on them, as part of our Daily Devotions.

To receive them, subscribe at [bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://bit.ly/fpcdevotions); you can also read them online at [fourthchurch.org/bible100](http://fourthchurch.org/bible100), where you can find an overview for each week, as well.

#### Weekly video and podcast reflections

Each week Pastor Matt Helms offers a brief "Rhythm and Word" video and podcast reflection on the passages.

To receive these reflections in your inbox on Wednesday evenings, sign up at [bit.ly/fpcrandw](http://bit.ly/fpcrandw); you can also view them on our YouTube channel ([bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://bit.ly/fpcvideos)) and listen to them via multiple podcast platforms and at [fourthchurch.org/podcasts](http://fourthchurch.org/podcasts)

## What Is a Presbytery?

The class “What Is a Presbytery and Why Should We Care?” is taking a break this weekend and will resume next Sunday, December 7 at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and online at [bit.ly/fpconline](https://bit.ly/fpconline)

The Reverend Ken Hockenberry, Stated Clerk and Business Manager of the Chicago Presbytery, will share insights about the role and function of a presbytery, the polity and governance system of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and current and optimal connections between the local congregation member and the larger PC(USA).

Register at [bit.ly/presbytery2025](https://bit.ly/presbytery2025)

## Zoom Bible Studies

For details about the following Zoom Bible studies, email Pastor Nanette Sawyer ([nsawyer@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nsawyer@fourthchurch.org)).

### Men’s Bible Study

Men’s Bible Study—which focuses on scripture readings from the pulpit, with passages drawn from either the immediate past week’s worship service or the upcoming Sunday—gathers via Zoom weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.

### Women’s Bible Studies

*Horizons* Women’s Bible Studies—“Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ”—will meet next Wednesday, December 10, via Zoom, with both a midday and evening study at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.

### Monthly Bible in 100 Passages Study

The “Bible in 100 Passages” Zoom Bible study meets on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. (*See details on page 11.*)



## Community Engagements and Partnerships

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

## Giving Thanks with Meals Ministry

As we remember the spirit of gratitude that draws us together in this season, Meals Ministry invites you to join in feeding neighbors in need. To see how you can make a difference, watch our new video—[bit.ly/fpcmealsvideo](https://bit.ly/fpcmealsvideo)—highlighting volunteer opportunities such as assisting with meal preparation or distribution that make a meaningful gift to our community.

You can volunteer by creating a profile on our Volunteer Ministry platform at [bit.ly/fpcvolunteers](https://bit.ly/fpcvolunteers) and signing up for specific dates in the first quarter of 2026 as well as more opportunities to serve on Sundays.

## Make a Difference in the Life of a Child

More tutors are needed to pair with the youth who would like to participate in our Chicago Lights Tutoring program, which meets virtually on Mondays and in person at Fourth Church on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. To learn more or volunteer to be a tutor, see [chicagolights.org/volunteer/tutoring](https://chicagolights.org/volunteer/tutoring)

## Cuba Travel Deadline is Monday

The week of February 16–23 we will be traveling to Cuba for an opportunity for cultural immersion, learning, service, and time enjoying the company of our Cuban partners and siblings in faith.

If you would like to join us for this trip to visit First Presbyterian Church of Havana, please fill out the application at [bit.ly/cubatrip26](https://bit.ly/cubatrip26) by this Monday, December 1 or contact Pastor Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@fourthchurch.org)) to join us for this trip.

## Calendar for November 30–December 7, 2025

<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	9:30 a.m.	Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. . . . .	Sanctuary / Online
November 30	9:30 a.m.	Infants/Parents Comfort Room. . . . .	Hospitality Suite
	9:30 a.m.	Nursery. . . . .	Room 4A
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School. . . . .	Fourth Floor
	9:30 a.m.	Junior High Gathering. . . . .	Bumpus Room
	10:30 a.m.	A Time of Prayer. . . . .	Stone Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour. . . . .	Anderson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Online Coffee Hour. . . . .	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Family Advent Wreath Workshop. . . . .	Commons
	11:00 a.m.	Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. . . . .	Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Senior High Gathering. . . . .	Fifth-Floor Lounge
	12:00 p.m.	A Time of Prayer. . . . .	Stone Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour. . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal. . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	12:15 p.m.	Caregiver Circle: Dementia Horizons. . . . .	Room 5G
	12:30 p.m.	TwentiesThirties Bible Study. . . . .	Room 5B
	4:00 p.m.	Spiritual Practices Series. . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30). . . . .	Anderson Hall
	4:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Medical Service. . . . .	Borwell Dining Room

<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool. . . . .	Classroom B
December 1	9:30 a.m.	Day School Twos. . . . .	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Advanced French. . . . .	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors. . . . .	Zoom
	10:45 a.m.	CLL: Intermediate French. . . . .	Zoom
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Tap. . . . .	Zoom
	12:00 p.m.	CLL: Beginner French. . . . .	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Art History. . . . .	Room 4K / Zoom
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Yoga. . . . .	Room 5G / Zoom

<b>Tuesday</b>	7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study. . . . .	Zoom
December 2	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool. . . . .	Classroom B
	9:00 a.m.	Lawndale Christian Health Medical Clinic. . . . .	Randolph Room
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services. . . . .	Anderson Hall
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors Tuesdays. . . . .	Zoom
	10:00 a.m.	Knitting and Crocheting. . . . .	Room 5B
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Stage and Screen. . . . .	Room 5G / Zoom
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Basic Spanish. . . . .	Room 5D
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch. . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	SSC: Living Room. . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Mahjong. . . . .	Room 5C / Room 5A

CLL = Center for Life and Learning ([fourthchurch.org/cll](http://fourthchurch.org/cll))

SSC = Chicago Lights Social Service Center ([chicagolights.org](http://chicagolights.org))



## Calendar for November 30–December 7, 2025

1:00 p.m.	CLL: Watercolor . . . . .	Room 4F
1:00 p.m.	Shower Ministry. . . . .	Showers
2:30 p.m.	CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi. . . . .	Anderson Hall / Zoom
5:00 p.m.	Chicago Lights Tutoring . . . . .	Fifth Floor
6:30 p.m.	“Bible in 100 Passages” Bible Study. . . . .	Anderson Hall

<b>Wednesday</b>	7:30 a.m.	Men’s Faith Study . . . . .	Offsite Location
December 3	9:00 a.m.	Day School Parent Meeting . . . . .	Fourth-Floor Lounge
	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool. . . . .	Classroom B
	9:30 a.m.	Day School Twos . . . . .	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild . . . . .	Room 5B
	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer . . . . .	Zoom
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Yoga for Strong Bones . . . . .	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: The “Great Ideas” Men’s Group. . . . .	Room 5A
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Zing. . . . .	Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Midweek Meditation . . . . .	Room 4D
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch. . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	CLL: Current Events . . . . .	Room 4G
	12:00 p.m.	SSC: Living Room. . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00). . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	3:00 p.m.	CLL: Drawing . . . . .	Zoom
	5:00 p.m.	Belonging Committee . . . . .	Room 4G
	5:00 p.m.	Chicago Lights Tutoring . . . . .	Fifth Floor
	5:00 p.m.	Gala Committee. . . . .	Room 4K
	5:30 p.m.	Deacons Christmas Gathering . . . . .	Manse
	6:00 p.m.	AA: LGBTQIA+ . . . . .	Room 4F

<b>Thursday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool. . . . .	Classroom B
December 4	9:30 a.m.	Day School Together We Play . . . . .	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Silver Barre . . . . .	Zoom
	10:00 a.m.	Meals Ministry Sandwich-Making . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Golden Grooves. . . . .	Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Art and Conversation . . . . .	Room 4K
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Matters of Health. . . . .	Room 4E
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch. . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	SSC: Living Room. . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	12:15 p.m.	AA Meeting . . . . .	Room 4F
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Beyond the Headlines . . . . .	Room 4G / Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Music History. . . . .	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00). . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi. . . . .	Anderson Hall / Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal. . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	6:15 p.m.	AA Meeting . . . . .	Room 4F

## Calendar for November 30–December 7, 2025

<b>Friday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool. . . . .	Classroom B
December 5	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Nia . . . . .	Zoom
	11:30 a.m.	SSC: Living Room. . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert . . . . .	Sanctuary / Online
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Mahjong Fridays . . . . .	Room 4D
	5:30 p.m.	Cornerstones: December Gathering . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chicago <i>a cappella</i> Holiday Concert . . . . .	Buchanan Chapel

**Saturday, December 6 • No events are scheduled**

<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	9:30 a.m.	Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. . . . .	Sanctuary / Online
December 7	9:30 a.m.	Infants/Parents Comfort Room. . . . .	Hospitality Suite
	9:30 a.m.	Nursery. . . . .	Room 4A
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School. . . . .	Fourth Floor
	9:30 a.m.	Junior High Gathering . . . . .	Bumpus Room
	10:30 a.m.	A Time of Prayer . . . . .	Stone Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Online Coffee Hour. . . . .	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Family Donut Sunday Gathering . . . . .	Room 4C
	11:00 a.m.	Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. . . . .	Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Confirmation . . . . .	Bumpus Room
	11:00 a.m.	Senior High Gathering . . . . .	5th Floor Lounge
	11:00 a.m.	“What Is a Presbytery?” . . . . .	Borwell / Online
	12:00 p.m.	A Time of Prayer . . . . .	Stone Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Confirmation Parent Gathering . . . . .	Room 4G
	12:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal . . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	12:15 p.m.	Caregiver Circle: Dementia Horizons . . . . .	Room 5G
	12:15 p.m.	Cornerstones Steering Team. . . . .	Room 4K
	12:15 p.m.	Long-Range Plan Progress Task Force . . . . .	Room 4E
	12:15 p.m.	Mission and Justice Committee. . . . .	Room 5E
	12:15 p.m.	Nominating Committee . . . . .	Room 4F
	12:30 p.m.	Racial Equity Committee . . . . .	Room 5A
	12:30 p.m.	TwentiesThirties Advent Bible Study. . . . .	Room 5B
	4:00 p.m.	Lux Cantorum Holiday Concert . . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30). . . . .	Anderson Hall

The Fourth Church calendar is also available  
online at [fourthchurch.org/calendar](https://fourthchurch.org/calendar) or  
by scrolling to the bottom of [fourthchurch.org](https://fourthchurch.org)



## Worship Leaders

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Matt Helms, Joseph L. Morrow, Nancy Benson-Nicol, Camille Cook Howe

9:30 Advent Liturgists: Sara Lundgren, Michael Flath, and Sabine and Elias Lundgren-Flath

11:00 Advent Liturgists: Funmi, Ranti, and Dolopo Oseni

## The Music Today

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The Bell Choir

The Morning Choir

Pax Haluska, Organ Student

Doug Cleveland, Interim Organist and Director of Music

## Worship Notes

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WE ARE GRATEFUL to Pax Haluska for playing the prelude and postlude this morning. A high-school sophomore from Peoria, Illinois, Pax is studying organ with Doug Cleveland.

## Giving to Support the Ministry of Fourth Church

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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](https://fourthchurch.org/give) (which can be accessed by scanning this QR code). Gifts can also be designated for the Light Up a Life Offering (*see page 9 for details*).

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**Camille Cook Howe** Pastor

**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

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook*. "People Look East" text © 1960 David Higham Associates, Ltd.; music harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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

312.787.4570 Voicemail: 312.787.2729

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**Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan** (*access from Rush or Walton; online payment only*) for \$10 for up to 6 hours between 7:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. when using the Metropolis Parking app (*iPhone*) or [metropolis.io/join](https://metropolis.io/join) (*Android*) to scan the discount QR code at left no more than 10 minutes before leaving the garage. The code is also available on cards from the ushers; you might leave a card in your car for future Sunday use.

**Sunday parking is available at the Hancock garage** (*enter from Delaware or Chestnut*) for \$10 between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. by using a validation ticket from the ushers.