

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

AUGUST 16, 2026 • 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Adagio from Symphony No. 3, Op. 28 Louis Vierne

Introit

He Shall Rule from Sea to Sea H. Hamilton Smith
He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth. Alleluia.

*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

*One: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.*

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

*One: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and
guide the nations upon earth.*

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

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

***Hymn #305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!**

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

Refrain:

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,

empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream! (Refrain)

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,

as we in mission magnify the Crucified! (Refrain)

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! (Refrain)

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, your world cries out. The fruits of our disobedience are harming your creation. You tasked us to be good stewards of your creation and we have fallen short. You challenged us to love God and love our neighbor, and we have failed to show that love. Bring us together, O Lord. Empower us with a spirit of love for you and love for all our neighbors. Help us live lives of service to you so that all your children will know your peace. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

One: Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: 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.

Children from age three through 5th grade are invited to come forward during the passing of the peace.

Time with Children

Following the Time with Children, children will return to sit with their families, as there is no Sunday School today.

Welcome

Please let us know if you are worshiping in person or online with us today. If you're in the Sanctuary, scan the QR code on page 7 of your bulletin or sign in using the pew pad. If you're worshiping online, scan the QR code displayed on your screen.

Anthem

He's Got the Whole World in His Hand Margaret Bonds

He's got the whole world in His hand. He's got the woods and the waters in His hand, He's got the sun and the moon right in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got the birds and the bees right in His hand, He's got the beast of the field right in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand. He's got you and me right in His hand, etc. He's got ev'rybody in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 34: 4-14

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:†
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Second Scripture Lesson Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

Sermon

Holy Practices for Life in the Real World: TurnMatt Helms

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn #100** Canticle of the Turning

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.
(Refrain)

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.
(Refrain)

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.
(Refrain)

***Affirmation of Faith** Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ
his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended
into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall
come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic
Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the
body; and the life everlasting. 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.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

God is the Poet Alfred Fedak

God is the poet, Word of creation, conjuring wonders and waking the dawn, noting and naming, breath-taking beauty, God is the singer and life is the song. New fashioned creatures, called into being, rise up exulting in joy and surprise. Summoned from mystery, we join their singing, opening our lips as we open our eyes. From our creation, music enchants us, moving our spirits to seek and to learn, till grace-filled journeys end in beginning: dying, we rise, and to mystery return. God, grant us wisdom, formed in your image, poets, composers, in all that we do: help us to fathom worlds past our knowing. May our creating be worthy of you.

***Offertory Response Hymn #33 Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show**

Praise the Lord! God's glories show, Alleluia!

Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!

Angels round the throne above, Alleluia!

All who see and share God's love. Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

**Dear God, receive our offering. Guide those who use it, that it may help to bring
fullness of life to those who live in need and long for our care. Amen.**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn #250** In the Bulb There Is a Flower

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Go Now in Peace Robert Lau
Go now in peace, and may God's peace go with you. Believe, and trust God's holy word. Amen.

Postlude

Fugue in G minor, BWV 578 J.S. Bach

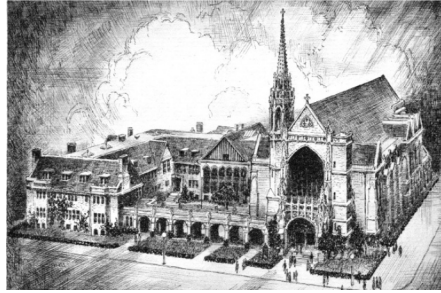
YOU BELONG HERE

Whether this is your first time worshipping at Fourth Presbyterian Church or you worship here regularly and call Fourth Church “home,” we are grateful you are here today. Inspired by the **radical hospitality of Jesus Christ**, we welcome everyone—without exception—into the life of this congregation.

Wherever you are in your faith journey, and whatever questions or burdens you carry, we affirm that God’s love is for everyone.

You belong here.

Each Sunday we gather to hear biblical stories, sing hymns of faith, and engage the world around us through prayer, worship, and preaching. As we connect the story of our lives with the story of Christ’s life, we discover



hope and joy and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ in our 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 help us experience **Beloved Community**, where

differences are recognized as assets, celebrated, and experienced as strengths.

WORSHIPING IN PERSON AT FOURTH CHURCH



Let Us Know You’re Here!

All worshipers are invited to check in through the Church Center app (our church’s app for staying connected, exploring events, and check-in).

Please check in through Church Center to let us know you’re worshipping with us today. It’s an easy way to stay connected with our faith community. If you’re checking in for the first time, you can download the Church Center app from the Apple or Android app store or access it through our website homepage at FourthChurch.org

Sound

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

FIRST-TIME VISITOR



If you’re a first-time visitor at Fourth Church, we want to get to know you. Scan this QR code to complete our first-time visitor form or add your name to one of the pew pads.

WORSHIPING ONLINE

Livestream

Watch the 10:00 a.m. Service live or anytime on our YouTube channel: bit.ly/fpconline

Online Giving

Make an offering online at FourthChurch.org/giving

Phone Access (10:00 a.m.)

Listen to worship by phone for those without internet access: 888-916-9166.

Online Coffee Hour (following worship)

Join us via Zoom for conversation and connection: bit.ly/coffeehourfpc

CONNECT WITH US

Discover more opportunities to connect with us online at FourthChurch.org/online/connections

News at Fourth

Stay up to date on the latest news, events, and opportunities at Fourth Church. Subscribe to the News at Fourth weekly newsletter, delivered to your inbox every Friday. bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Follow Fourth Church

Connect with Fourth Church on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn at [@FourthChurch](https://www.facebook.com/FourthChurch) for updates, stories, and ways to engage with our community.

GUEST LECTURE – DR. ERIC BARRETO

Guest Lecture

Join Dr. Eric Barreto, Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, for a thought-provoking public lecture: *The Story Continues: The Early Church and the Power of Holy Imagination*. Together, we'll explore how the courage, creativity, and faith of the early Christians can inspire the church's mission today.



Saturday, September 19 | 11:00 a.m.

Free admission, registration required
Scan the QR code to register

Dr. Eric Barreto will also preach during worship on Sunday, September 20.

SANCTUARY TOUR TODAY - 11:15 A.M.

Sanctuary Tour

Today, following worship, discover the rich history and architecture of Fourth Church's Sanctuary with church member Ken Hazlett, who will lead a 15-minute presentation followed by a guided tour. To join the tour, meet in the rear of the Sanctuary following today's service. Future tours will take place on Sunday, August 30, September 13, and September 27.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Grief Support Series at Fourth Church

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, you don't have to walk through it alone. Circle of Support is a compassionate, grief support group offering community, encouragement, and hope.

The four-week series meets on Sundays, September 13–October 4, from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. in the Parish Manse at the church. Whether your loss is recent or occurred some time ago, all are welcome. Space is limited. For more information, please contact Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol at nbenson-nicol@FourthChurch.org

FOURTH CHURCH DAY SCHOOL

Day School Enrollment

The Day School is now accepting enrollment for fall classes. Five Morning Preschool Class for children 3–4 years old, Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Twos Program for 2-year-olds, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30–11:15 a.m.

For more information, please contact Fourth Church Day School Director, Kathy Hager at khager@FourthChurch.org

GET CONNECTED WEEKEND

Get Connected Weekend Deadline to Register Extended to August 17

On Sunday, September 13, Fourth Church will celebrate Get Connected Sunday, our annual celebration of community and connection. This year, we're adding special activities to invite our Online Community, those who primarily worship online, to gather with us for the weekend. If you worship with us online from another



city or state, please scan the QR code to register for Get Connected Weekend by **Monday, August 17**. For more information, please contact Rocky Supinger, rsupinger@FourthChurch.org

We hope you'll join us as we gather, serve, learn, and grow together.

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Pastoral Care

If you have a prayer request or would like to alert the pastoral staff to a care need, illness, hospitalization, or death, please contact the church office at 312.787.4570 or email Gloria Fleming (gffleming@FourthChurch.org). For emergencies, please call the church to be connected with the Minister on Call.

Fourth Church maintains a practice of praying for each member's household throughout the year. On Wednesday mornings, you are invited to gather for Morning Prayer via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. to pray for members by name, all those who are in need, and mission partners around the world. For details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@FourthChurch.org)

Morning Prayer

Join us on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom as we pray for members of our congregation, those in need, and mission partners around the world. If you are interested in joining, please email Gloria Fleming (gffleming@FourthChurch.org) to receive the link.

Connections and Belonging

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

MUSIC AT FOURTH

Join us for live music each Friday in August in our courtyard. This week's concert on August 21 will feature jazz vocalist Abigail Riccards.

For a full list of concerts this summer, please visit FourthChurch.org/concerts

Summer Noonday Concerts by the Fountain Each Friday through August 28 | 12:10 p.m.

In the case of inclement weather, outdoor concerts will be moved indoors to the Sanctuary.

EUROPEAN CHOIR TOUR 2027

Register for Choir Trip

Registration is open for the Fourth Church Choir Tour, taking place February 24–March 9, 2027. The tour is open to both singers and non-singers for a musical and cultural journey through Slovenia, Hungary, and Croatia. Choir members will perform in historic churches and cathedrals from the Slovenian mountains to the Dalmatian Coast, while all participants will enjoy the rich history, culture, and scenic beauty of the region.

Registration is open through September 13, 2026.



To learn more and register, scan this QR code or contact Fourth Church Organist and Director of Music, Andrew Herbruck, at aherbruck@FourthChurch.org

CORNERSTONES

Join Cornerstones for a presentation by Dr. Emily Hoyler O'Hare, associate professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and historian for the Musicians' Club of Women. Dr. O'Hare will share the history and mission of this remarkable organization, which has supported women musicians through scholarships and performance opportunities since 1875.



Friday, Sept. 4 | 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Borwell Dining Room
Please register in advance using this QR code. For more information, please contact Katie Patterson, kpatterson@FourthChurch.org

DEMENTIA SYMPOSIUM

Creating a Dementia-Friendly Neighborhood

Join the Center for Life & Learning and Skyline Village Chicago for the Destigmatizing Dementia Symposium on Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. Learn practical ways to better support and communicate with people living with dementia through a keynote presentation, expert panel discussion, and community resources.

The event is free and includes lunch. Registration is



required due to limited seating. The event will also be livestreamed. To register, scan this QR code. For more information, please email Annette Mileski, amileski@FourthChurch.org

TWENTIES & THIRTIES

Coffee with Questions

Join our Young Adults group, Twenties & Thirties, for coffee, conversation, and connection on Sunday, August 23. Whether you're new or already part of the group, this relaxed gathering is a great opportunity to meet others, build friendships, and get to know our young adult community.

Sunday, August 23 | 11:15 a.m.

Meet in Gignilliat Commons following worship, then we walk together to Aster Hall, 900 N. Michigan.

For more information, please email Nance Bartell, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, nbartell@FourthChurch.org

INTERGENERATIONAL MEN'S GATHERING

Men of all ages are invited to gather following worship to connect in a relaxed setting to engage and explore the intersection of faith and life. For more information, contact Rocky Supinger, rsupinger@FourthChurch.org

Sunday, August 30 | 11:15–12:30 p.m.
Gratz Center Room 5G

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 a quieter space, the Hospitality Suite (2nd floor, Gratz Center) offers a place where the service is livestreamed.

Nursery Care

Nursery care is available during morning worship for infants through age two on the 4th floor of the Gratz Center.

Please note: Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 13.

Children of all ages are always welcome to worship with their families in the Sanctuary. We are grateful to have them as part of our worshipping community.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Holy Practices for Life in the Real World Sundays through August 30

Life is busy. The demands on our time, attention, and energy can leave us feeling disconnected from ourselves, one another, and God.

This summer, we are exploring **Holy Practices for Life in the Real World**—a sermon series focused on simple, meaningful Christian practices that help us live with greater purpose, peace, connection, and faith. Together, we will reflect on Jesus' invitation to slow down, reconnect, and grow in our relationship with God and one another.

Join us each Sunday as we discover practical ways to cultivate a deeper and more abundant life.

DAILY DEVOTIONS



Start your day with reflections written by our pastors and church members. Subscribe to receive daily devotions by email by visiting: bit.ly/fpcdevotions or scan this QR code.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDIES

To receive the Zoom link to join the Bible studies below, email Katie Patterson, kpatterson@FourthChurch.org

Men's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Summer Women's Bible Study

Keeping Your Heart in Tune with Whatever Life Brings
August 26 | 12:00 p.m.

Climate Justice Climate Hope: Building a Moral Economy

August 26 | 6:00 p.m.

Women's Horizons Bible Study

2026–2027 Series: United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other

Join us on Zoom at noon or 6:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, beginning September 9.

This year, we'll explore Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians and consider what it means to trust in Christ's saving love—and to reflect that love in the way we live and care for one another.

All are welcome.

2026–2027 CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for the 2026–2027 Confirmation class. Confirmation prepares young people to become members of Fourth Church through exploration of faith and Christianity, learning what it means to be an active part of a faith community, and discovering what it means to love your neighbor through service.



Youth entering 8th grade and older are invited to register for the 2026–2027 Confirmation class.

To register, scan this QR code.

Community Engagements and Partnerships

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Meals Ministry

Meals Ministry continues to seek more volunteers to help serve meals on Sundays and Mondays to our neighbors in need this summer. Volunteers assist with setting up the dining room, serving meals and beverages, and helping with cleanup.

Sundays: Volunteers are needed from 3:00–6:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall.



Mondays: Volunteers are needed from 3:30–6:00 p.m. to help serve a meal at Catholic Charities (721 N. LaSalle St.). To sign up via VOMO, please scan this QR code.

Coffee Hour Hosts (Anderson Hall)

Following Sunday worship, Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall offers a time for connection and community. Hosts help prepare and serve refreshments, welcome guests, and assist with light setup and cleanup. We are especially in need of additional volunteers this summer.

You do not need to be a member of Fourth Church to volunteer and serve — all are welcome.

To learn more or sign up, please contact Robert Crouch, Director, Volunteer Ministry, at rcrouch@FourthChurch.org or 312-981-3382.

MALCOLM GLADWELL AT FOURTH CHURCH

Join us on Saturday, October 10, at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary for a special conversation with Valerie Jarrett, CEO of The Obama Foundation, and New York Times bestselling author Malcolm Gladwell about his new book, *The American Way of Killing: The Invention of an Epidemic*, which examines the roots of America's gun violence epidemic.

Fourth Church members and friends receive 20% off tickets with the promotional code below. Your ticket also includes the audiobook edition of the new book.



Discount Code: FPC20

To purchase tickets using the Discount Code, scan this QR code.

2026 CUBA TRIP

Cuba Partnership Trip

Join us today following worship to learn more about our upcoming Cuba Partnership Trip, November 9–16, 2026 — a meaningful opportunity to visit our ministry partners at First Presbyterian Church of Havana, Cuba.

Participants will stay with our partners, serve alongside them in ministry, and, as circumstances allow, experience daily life in Havana and beyond.

Applications for the trip are due Monday, September 7, and require a \$750 nonrefundable deposit.

Cuba Trip Info meeting

Today | 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Gratz Center, Room 5E



To register for the Cuba mission trip, please scan this QR code.

For more information, email Pastor Joe Morrow, jmorrow@FourthChurch.org

CHICAGO LIGHTS SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER

The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in urgent need of new or gently used men's clothing and shoes in all sizes to stock the Social Service Center's Share Shop. Donations may be dropped off at the church daily. You can also help by purchasing clothing and everyday essentials through the SSC Amazon Wishlist. To view the wishlist and donate, please scan the QR code.



Your gifts go directly to the Share Shop, where neighbors in need can choose the clothing they need with dignity. Thank you for supporting Chicago Lights.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Come hear from Chicago Presbytery commissioners to the General Assembly—including Fourth's own Brian Satre—as they share highlights and important actions from this year's assembly on issues including artificial intelligence, immigration, and global mission.

227th General Assembly Commissioners' Report

Sunday, August 30 | 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Borwell Dining Room

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Nancy Benson-Nicol, Rocky Supinger

Beadle: Reb Banker

Liturgist: Joy Boggs

The Music Today

Andrew Herbruck, Organist and Director of Music

Summer Choir

Laura Perckett, soloist

Fourth Church Calendar



Stay up to date with worship services, programs, and special events by visiting the full Fourth Church online calendar. Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view upcoming events.

FourthChurch.org/calendar

Giving to Support the Ministry of Fourth Church



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 can also be given online (FourthChurch.org/give), or via Venmo (@Fourth-Church).

Camille Cook Howe Pastor

Rocky Supinger Senior Associate Pastor

Nancy Benson-Nicol Associate Pastor

Matt Helms Associate Pastor

Joseph L. Morrow Associate Pastor

Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611

FourthChurch.org | facebook.com/FourthChurch

312-787-4570 Voicemail 312-787-2729

SOURCES AND CREDITS: ©Presbyterian Outlook, 2026 Liturgy written by Thomas J. Carrico, Jr. and provided for free distribution. *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* text © 1989 Brian Dill. *Canticle of the Turning* text ©1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Music Arr. ©1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Prayer of Dedication taken from The Worship Sourcebook. *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* text ©1986 Hope Publishing Company Music ©1986 Hope Publishing Company. OneLicense.net License A-712340 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Photography Notice Those attending a Fourth Church worship service in person are entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur on behalf of Fourth Church. By entering the worship service, you consent to the non-commercial use of the resulting visual and audio records; you waive all rights you may have to any claims of compensation for the use of these records; you release Fourth Church from any liability for the use of these records; and you waive the right to inspect or approve any of these records.



Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton; online payment only) for \$11 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 (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.