

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 • 9:30 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Grand Entree J. B. Lully arr. Jean Thilde
Hymn to Joy Timothy Albrecht
Jesu, friend of Sinners Edward Grieg arr. Donald Friederick
Softly and Tenderly Timothy Albrecht
Ein feste Burg Samuel Scheidt arr. Charles Schuchat

Introit

Know That God Loves You Carson Cooman
Know that God loves you. God's command is this: "Love one another as I have loved you."
Know that God loves you.

*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: Christ has taught us to love one another.
All: We are called to share God's love in the world.
One: The Holy Spirit moves in us, giving us gifts to do God's work.
All: May we be strengthened to witness to God's love.
One: Let us devote ourselves anew to serve our Lord.
All: Let us worship and praise our God!

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

***Hymn #321 The Church's One Foundation**

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore:
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Loving God, when we have wandered and are lost,
we pray that you would find us and help us find our way home.
When we cannot quench our thirst,
when we want that which is harmful to ourselves or others,
Satisfy us with your love and grace.
When we need forgiveness, shower us with your unending mercy.
Receive this prayer, and the silent prayers of our hearts.

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 (9:30)

Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers.

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

This Little Light of Mine Moses Hogan

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine. All through the night, I’m gonna let it shine.

My God gave it to me, I’m gonna let it shine. In my home, all over the world, let it shine.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Exodus 34: 29-35

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 Luke 9: 28-36

Sermon Eric D. Barreto

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn #817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight**

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.
And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

***Affirmation of Faith 1 Timothy 3: 16**

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion: Christ Jesus was manifested
in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations,
believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

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

O How Amiable Ralph Vaughan Williams
O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. They will be always praising thee. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

***Offertory Response Hymn #712 As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought**

In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today, to serve your cause and share
your love with all along life's way. O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ
your Son, help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

Prayer of Dedication

Giver of all good gifts, you offer us abundance beyond measure. Help us to release our
grip on worldly desires and focus our hearts on your eternal grace. Accept these
offerings as acts of gratitude and trust. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn #157 I Danced in the Morning**

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain:

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.
They came with me and the dance went on. (Refrain)

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and left me there on a cross to die. (Refrain)

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. (Refrain)

They cut me down and I leapt up high.
I am the life that will never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. (Refrain)

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Seven Fold Amen. Peter Lutkin
Amen

Postlude

Canzona Primi ToniGiovanni Gabrieli arr. Robert King

MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES

Congregational Connections
Creating Welcome, Engagement, and Belonging

At Fourth Church, the Board of Trustees is committed to ensuring that our financial resources sustain the ministries that serve our congregation and community. This month, we highlight Congregational Connections—the ministries that create opportunities for welcome, engagement, and meaningful relationships.

One of the best ways to become more connected at Fourth Church is through volunteering—sharing time and talents while building relationships with others. Congregational Connections also includes Caring Ministries, Connecting Ministries, Online Ministries, and activities promoting Belonging and Racial Equity.

In 2026, Fourth Church has budgeted \$721,000 in direct expenses for these ministries. Of these expenses, Individual giving supports 41%, the draw on invested funds supports 38%, and activity fees and designated gifts support 21%. These ministries are also supported by expenditures for churchwide leadership, administrative operations, and facilities.

Your generosity helps make Fourth Church a place of welcome, belonging, care, and engagement. Thank you for partnering in this shared ministry.

Each month, the Board of Trustees shares insights into the ministries and activities supported by Fourth Church. For questions, please email trustees@FourthChurch.org

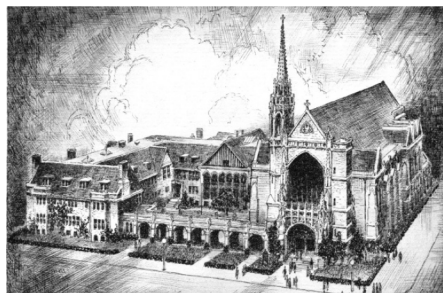
YOU BELONG HERE

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 checking 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 9:30 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 (9:30 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.

WELCOME ERIC D. BARRETO

Today we warmly welcome Dr. Eric D. Barreto, Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, as our guest preacher.

An ordained Baptist minister, biblical scholar and highly sought-after preacher and teacher, he is committed to connecting Scripture with the life of the church and regularly preaches and teaches in faith communities across the country.

BIBLE TOP 10 PODCAST

Bible Top 10 Podcast

Pastors Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger are back with a new season of Bible Top 10, bringing curiosity, humor, and thoughtful conversation to the Bible.

New podcast episodes are released every other Tuesday.

Now Available:

Top 10 Worst Biblical Roommates

Coming Up

September 29: **Top 10 Hymns in the Bible**



You can listen to the Bible Top 10 podcast wherever you get your podcasts. Scan here to explore all Fourth Church podcasts.

COFFEE HOUR TODAY

Celebrate our Outgoing Head Ushers at Coffee Hour Today

Join us during Coffee Hour today as we celebrate and thank Rob Sinclair and Arlene Raine for their dedicated service as Head Ushers, which concluded on August 30. We are grateful for their leadership, care, and commitment to our worshiping community.

NOMINATE A CHURCH LEADER

Know a member at Fourth Church who would make a meaningful contribution by serving as an Elder, Deacon, or Trustee? Learn how to nominate a fellow church member by scanning this QR code.



Nominations are due by October 5.

Questions? Email nominate@FourthChurch.org

ECUMENICAL SERVICE: SEPTEMBER 30

All are welcome to attend an Ecumenical worship service, in solidarity with the International Day of Peace on **Wednesday, September 30, at 6:30 p.m.** in Buchanan Chapel.

The service will demonstrate the unity of churches and Christians for peace and justice in the face of Christian nationalism and will conclude with a peace walk and prayer in our Fourth Church courtyard.

Connections and Belonging

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

CONCERTS AT FOURTH

Join us for live music each Friday in our sanctuary. This week's concert on September 25 at 12:10 p.m. will feature Tamila Salimdjanova, piano.

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

BOOKS GROUP

Join our Books Group every Thursday via Zoom to discuss various brief published works. Our fall class will feature *Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times* by Gregory Boyle.

September 24–October 29 | 6:00–7:00 p.m. via Zoom



To register, scan here

For more information and to request the Zoom link, email Esther Cloyd, ecloyd@FourthChurch.org

CORNERSTONES

Join Cornerstones for a presentation on Budget Busters, Immigration, and Elections: A New Look at Federalism from Illinois.

David Greising, President & CEO, Better Government Association, will discuss the issue of state versus federal rights, arguably as consequential today as it was during the peak of the Civil Rights Movement.



Friday, October 2 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Borwell Dining Room
Dinner and Speaker: \$30
Speaker Only: \$10
To register, scan here

WOMEN AT FOURTH PAINT & SIP

Unwind, connect, and get creative! Join Women at Fourth for a relaxing evening of painting, conversation, snacks, and sips. No painting experience necessary.



Thursday, October 8 | 5:30 p.m.

Borwell Dining Room
Cost: \$38 (includes supplies, snacks and drinks)
To register, scan the QR code

CENTER FOR LIFE & LEARNING

Songs of the Soul: The Psalms for Everyone!

Joy. Anger. Lament. Praise. Even whining and complaining—the Psalms have it all! Explore these ancient prayers, poems, and songs and discover how their full range of human emotion and wisdom speaks to our lives today.

Taught by Rev. Amy Pagliarella, Parish Associate for Caring Ministries. Open to friends of Fourth Church and CLL. To register, scan here:



Songs of the Soul:
The Psalms for Everyone
Wednesdays, September 23 and 30
1:30–2:30 p.m.
Gratz Center, 4F | Free

ARTIST TALK: SEPTEMBER 27

Join mother-daughter artists Florence Hawkins and Juarez for a conversation about art, memory, family, and caregiving. Their work, “Matrilineal,” is currently on display in the Loggia through October 29.

Come hear these two artists share their stories, perspectives, and the connections that shape their work.

Sunday, September 27 | 12:30 p.m.

Borwell Dining Room
All are welcome

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.

Sunday School and Youth Groups meet today at 9:30 a.m.

Children age three through 5th grade begin in the Sanctuary with their parents at the 9:30 a.m. service and then depart for their classrooms on the 4th floor. Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. on the 5th floor of the Gratz Center.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS

Children and Youth Choirs

Children who love to sing are welcome to join our Children's Choir (grades K-5) at 9:00 a.m. or our Youth Choir (grades 6-12) at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

Gratz Center, Room 4G

Questions or interested in joining? Contact Katy Sinclair at ksinclair@FourthChurch.org

TWENTIES & THIRTIES

Join our Young Adults group, Twenties & Thirties, for these events:

Bible Study

Sundays 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Gratz Center, Room 5G

Coffee with Questions

Today: Sunday, September 20 | 12:15 p.m.
Gratz Center, Room 4F

Picnic at Foster Avenue Beach

Sunday, September 27 | 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Meeting location: Concession Stand

For more information, contact Nance Bartell, nbartell@FourthChurch.org

DAILY DEVOTIONS

This fall, our Daily Devotions return to the "Bible in 100 Passages" series – covering the 27 books of the New Testament. Featuring weekly overviews and written reflections by members and pastors, this series is an excellent way to learn more about the Bible and how it continues to speak to us today.



Subscribe to receive Daily Devotions by email at bit.ly/fpcdevotions or scan this QR code.

Pastor Matt Helms will also teach a monthly Bible study for this series. The first Bible study gathering will take place on Tuesday, October 6, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

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.

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.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Shame of Chicago: Unequal Neighborhoods, Unfair Property Taxes, and What We Do About It

How can we help create a more equitable Chicago? Pastor Joe Morrow and leaders from Breakthrough Urban Ministries, The Leaders Network, and Imagine Englewood IF will discuss Chicago's property tax system, ways to advocate for fairer policies, and how we can invest in neighborhoods impacted by decades of inequity.

Sunday, September 20 | 11:00 a.m.

Borwell Dining Room

All are welcome, no registration required

Visit FourthChurch.org/adult-education to view the full list of fall classes.

Community Engagements and Partnerships

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

SUPPORT THE MEALS MINISTRY SNACK DRIVE

The Meals Ministry Snack Drive begins today! For four weeks, help stock our Bag Lunch programs, which provide nourishment to guests in need throughout the year. Last year, we distributed more than 20,000 bag lunches.

We're seeking single-serving, individually packaged snacks. Shop our preferred-item lists from Amazon, Walmart, and Costco, with items shipped directly to



Fourth Church. Donations may also be dropped off at Reception during the week, marked Meals Ministry.

To view our shopping lists, stop by the Meals Ministry table during Coffee Hour or scan the QR code to visit our website and look for "Food Donations".

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Ushers

We are in need of more ushers for our 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services this fall. Ushers greet and seat worshipers each Sunday.

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.

Bulletin Printing

We are in need of volunteers to help print the worship bulletins on Thursdays from 1:00–4:00 p.m. Please register on VOMO, our volunteer platform, or contact Nancy Davis, ndavis@FourthChurch.org

Pick up a copy of our Get Connected Guide and learn about all the ways to volunteer at Fourth Church and Chicago Lights.

CHICAGO LIGHTS TUTORS NEEDED

Help a Student Shine: Become a Volunteer Tutor

Chicago Lights Tutoring is looking for caring volunteers to support students one night a week through one-to-one tutoring, mentoring, homework help, and academic skill-building. Choose between virtual tutoring on Monday evenings or join us in person on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, with opportunities to participate in enrichment activities before tutoring. Ready to help a student shine? Scan here to sign up.



Beginning September 28, 2026
Mondays: Virtual, 6:00–7:30 p.m.
Tuesdays & Wednesdays: In person,
6:00–7:30 p.m.
Fourth Presbyterian Church
126 East Chestnut Street

For more information, contact Mark Dennison, tutor@chicagolights.org

AUTHOR TALK: SEPTEMBER 23

Bestselling author and scholar of religion, Robert P. Jones will speak about the dangers of Christian nationalism, the importance of democratic practice, and what these challenges mean for people of deep Christian faith. Join members of Fourth Church's Mission and Justice Committee for an evening of reflection and conversation on the vital connections between faith, democracy, and our common life.

Wednesday, September 23 | 7:00 p.m.
Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church

Worship Leaders

Eric D. Barreto, Matt Helms, Joe Morrow, Camille Cook Howe, Rocky Supinger, Nancy Benson-Nicol

Beadle: David Wilson (9:30), Kathryn Burkhardt (11:00)

Liturgist: Robert Crouch (9:30), Annette Bacon (11:00)

The Music Today

Andrew Herbruck, Organist and Director of Music

The Morning Choir

Tower Brass; Charles Schuchat, Artistic Director

I Danced in the Morning (Chicago Lights Auction Hymn) In Memory of Margery Burkhardt on her birthday

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 afterward 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 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611

FourthChurch.org | 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 \$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). 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.