

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

OCTOBER 11, 2026 • 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Adagio for Symphony No. 5 Charles Marie Widor

Introit

Know That God is Good Traditional Congolese

***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: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of God's name.

All: How awesome are your deeds, O God! We sing praises to your name.

One: Come and see what God has done. Come and worship God!

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

***Hymn #2 Come, Thou Almighty King**

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise: Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou incarnate Word, merciful, mighty Lord,
our prayer attend. Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be,
hence evermore! Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to seek your will. You have shown us
what is good, but we remain enthralled by evil. You have offered us abundance, but
we are satisfied with fleeting pleasures. Forgive us, God of grace.
By the power of your Word cut away all that is false and open hearts to new life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

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.

Sacrament of Baptism

Anthem

Lord God of Abraham Felix Mendelssohn
Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, This day let it be known that Thou art God, and that I am Thy servant! Lord God of Abraham! Oh shew to all this people that I have done these things according to Thy word. Oh hear me, Lord, and answer me! Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, oh hear me and answer me, and shew this people that Thou art Lord God. And let their hearts again be turned!

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Jeremiah 1: 4-10

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 Exodus 3: 7-12, 4: 10-13

Sermon Matt Helms

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn #687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past**

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:
Beneath the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Affirmation of Faith From Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

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

I Waited for the Lord Felix Mendelssohn

*I waited for the Lord, he inclined unto me, he heard my complaint. O blest are they that hope
and trust in him.*

***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**

Small and humble in comparison, O God, we give to you that you might
mold our world anew. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***Hymn #546** Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

Savior, when your love shall call us, from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.

***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

Prelude in G Major, BWV 568 Johann Sebastian Bach



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

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

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

Niccolo Frederick Rosso
child of Larissa and Mark Rosso

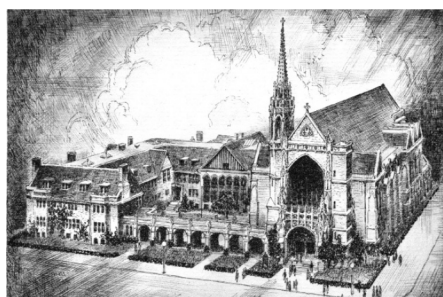
YOU BELONG HERE

Whether this is your first time worshiping 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 worshiping 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 today’s 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.

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

Thank you to everyone who has donated individually packaged, single-serving chips, granola bars, and fruit snacks for our Meals Ministry Snack Drive. Your generosity is making a difference!

These snacks are an ongoing weekly need to support our Meals Ministry Bag Lunch program. Donations may be dropped off at Reception any day of the week, marked "Meals Ministry," or shipped directly through online shopping.

For more information visit, fourthchurch.org/meals and look for "Food Donations."

OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help us welcome visitors to Fourth Church during Open House Chicago

Each year, the Chicago Architecture Center invites Fourth Church to participate in Open House Chicago, welcoming visitors to explore Fourth Church's historic architecture and beautiful spaces. We're proud to welcome guests and share the story of our landmark church and its place in Chicago's architectural history.

Help us make visitors feel at home during this special weekend!

Volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts to greet visitors as they arrive at the sanctuary and direct them to Buchanan Chapel on the second floor of Gratz Center.

Saturday, October 17 | 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 18 | 1:00–4:00 p.m.

To sign up, contact Esther Cloyd, ecloyd@FourthChurch.org

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.



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

HELP STOCK THE FOOD PANTRY

Volunteers are needed every Monday, 9:00–11:00 a.m., to unload food deliveries from the Greater Chicago Food Depository and restock pantry shelves. Help us keep the pantry stocked for our neighbors!



Stock the Food Pantry
Mondays | 9:00–11:00 a.m.
To sign up to volunteer, scan the QR code
For more information, contact
Theresa Thornburg, tthornburg@chicagolights.org

Connections and Belonging

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

BOOKS BY WOMEN

Books by Women will discuss *The Paris Novel* by Ruth Reichl on Tuesday, October 13, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. All are welcome.

ANNOUNCING THE AMEN HOUR

The Amen Hour

Discussion of the most recent Sunday's sermon and the Scripture it was based on to strengthen the connection of faith and life in community.



Wednesdays through November 11
5:30–7:00 p.m.
 100 East Huron
 Registration required
 To register, scan the QR code

CORNERSTONES

Towns Along the Q: The Evolution of Towns Along the Metra BNSF Train Line

Join Cornerstones for a presentation by David Wilson, author of *Towns Along the Q*. Wilson will share colorful facts and stories about the communities along the Metra BNSF Train line, tracing their evolution from geological formations through the pandemic.



Friday, November 6 | 5:00 p.m.
 Borwell Dining Room
 Dinner and Speaker: \$30
 Speaker Only: \$10
 Registration closes November 2

RACIAL EQUITY COMMITTEE FIELD TRIP

If Emmett Till Had Lived: Freedom on American Ground

Join the Racial Equity Committee for a visit to this powerful exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College, followed by lunch and a facilitated conversation about its themes and impact.



Saturday, November 7
9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
 Bus departs Fourth Church at 9:30 a.m.
 Cost: \$25 per person, space is limited

MUSIC AT FOURTH

Choral Society

Choral Society is back! Join us for a new season of singing, community, and great music as we explore Robert Ray's inspiring Gospel Mass. The season culminates in a concert on November 15 at 3:00 p.m.

New to Choral Society? Returning singer? All are welcome! To learn more or sign up, contact Andrew Herbruck at aherbruck@fourthchurch.org.

Rehearsals begin October 15 | Thursdays, 6:40–7:35 p.m.
 Buchanan Chapel

11th Anniversary Organ Concert featuring Nathaniel Gumbs

Join us to celebrate the 11th anniversary of our Andrew Pipe Organ with organist Nathaniel Gumbs.

Friday, October 30 | 7:00 p.m.
 Sanctuary

Friday Noonday Concert

This week's concert on October 16 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary will feature Trio de Chat Noirs.

BENEVOLENT GUILD

Do you enjoy sewing or crafting?

Join the Benevolent Guild, Fourth Church's longest-running group, as they create handmade gifts for people in need. Each week, members make baby and child care items for hospitals and social service organizations, along with sensory and activity mats for people living with dementia.

Wednesdays | 9:30–11:30 a.m.
 Gratz Center, Room 5B

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

What do we have to learn from one another? Men of all ages are invited to gather for an informal conversation about faith, life, and the experiences that connect us across generations.



Sunday, October 25 | 12:15 p.m.
 Gratz Center, Room 4G
 All are welcome
 To register, scan here

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 10:00 a.m.

Children age three through 5th grade begin in the Sanctuary with their parents at the 10:00 a.m. service and then depart for their classrooms on the 4th floor. Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group will meet at 10:00 a.m. on the 5th floor of the Gratz Center.

CHILDREN & FAMILY UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date for our upcoming children & family events!

Pumpkin Decorating

Friday, October 16 | 5:30 p.m.

Borwell Dining Room

No registration necessary

4th/5th Grade Lock-In

Friday, October 16

Fourth Church

RSVPs are required to attend. To RSVP, contact Matt Helms, mhelms@FourthChurch.org

Family Service project for Kindergarten/1st grade

Sunday, October 18 | 10:30 a.m.

Gratz Center, 4th floor

We will be making Halloween candy bags to give to our Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper guests.

NEW FOURTH CHURCH PODCAST

New Podcast: Creating the Canon

Join Pastor Matt Helms for a six-episode series exploring how the New Testament was formed – looking at how 27 early church writings from the first century came to be viewed as scripture. This podcast coincides with our Bible in 100 Passages devotion series.

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 Hymns in the Bible

Coming Up

October 13: Top 10 Biblical Pop Songs



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

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

BIBLE IN 100 PASSAGES: BIBLE STUDY

As part of our Bible in 100 Passages devotion series, Pastor Matt Helms will lead a monthly in-person Bible study.

Tuesdays, November 3 and December 1 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Anderson Hall

No registration necessary

TWENTIES & THIRTIES

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

Jack's Pumpkin Patch Pop-Up

Fall fun awaits! Join us for a night at Jack's Pumpkin Patch Pop-Up featuring a corn maze, carnival games and rides, and of course, apple cider donuts!



Saturday, October 24 | 5:00–7:00 p.m.
\$35 per person
1265 West Le Moyne St, Chicago, 60642
Bring a friend and your favorite fall sweater! To register, scan here

Coffee with Questions

Sunday, October 25 | 12:15 p.m. | Gratz Center, Room 4E

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

OBAMA CENTER PARK MEDITATION WALK

Prayerful Practices in the Obama Center Park Finding God in Stillness, Creation, and Community

Join Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol and the Spiritual Formation Team for a guided walking meditation in the beauty of the new Obama Center Park.



Saturday, October 17 | Meet at 9:30 a.m.
Program begins at 10:00 a.m.
Obama Center Gardens
6001 S. Stony Island Ave.
To register, scan here.

For more information, contact Nancy Benson-Nicol,
nbenson-nicol@FourthChurch.org

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY RETREAT

The Ministry of Presence: The Transforming Power of Christian Service

Join the Volunteer Ministry on October 24 for a half-day retreat to explore how seeing, listening and serving transform our relationships and lives. Speakers will include Antonio (Tony) Daniels, Associate Director of Volunteer & Church Engagement at Breakthrough Urban Ministries, and Amy Pagliarella, Parish Associate for Caring Ministries, Fourth Church.



Saturday, October 24
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Borwell Dining Room
Refreshments served at 8:30 a.m.
Please register in advance using the QR code

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Election: The Frozen Chosen?

What does it mean to understand ourselves as God's "elect" in a religiously diverse world? Led by Associate Pastor Rocky Supinger, this class will explore the Reformed tradition's foundational—and often misunderstood—doctrine of election, sometimes called "predestination."

Sunday, October 11 | 11:15 a.m.

Borwell Dining Room & livestreamed

Pope Francis and Pope Leo: A Different Kind of Pope

Something has changed in the Roman Catholic Church. What can we learn from it?

Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV have each signaled important shifts in how the papacy is understood and exercised in the modern world. In this three-week series, Professor Steven P. Millies will explore recent developments in the Catholic Church, the challenges and opportunities shaping its future, and why the papacy may never look quite the same again.

October 18, October 25, and November 1 | 11:00 a.m.

Borwell Dining Room and livestreamed

AN EVENING WITH KATE BOWLER

Spend an evening with New York Times bestselling author and Duke University professor Kate Bowler (*Joyful, Anyway*), in conversation with bestselling Chicago author Shelby Van Pelt (*Remarkably Bright Creatures*).

Thursday, November 5 | 7:00–8:00 p.m.

Fourth Church Sanctuary | 126 East Chestnut Street



Tickets: \$25 includes one ticket + signed copy of *Joyful, Anyway*
\$35 includes two tickets + signed copy of *Joyful, Anyway*

Hosted by Fourth Presbyterian Church with support from The Presbyterian Outlook.

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.

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Rocky Supinger, Camille Cook Howe, Joe Morrow

Beadle: Joy Boggs

Liturgist: James Young

The Music Today

Andrew Herbruck, Organist and Director of Music

The Chancel Choir

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

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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.