News and Resources



We are glad to be worshiping with you today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church! * Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. * We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



On the Fourth Church campus, including in worship, **everyone is required to wear masks, fully covering the nose and mouth.** Anyone not vaccinated against COVID-19 is also required to practice social distancing. ***** For those worshiping with us in person, we are not checking vaccination status, but **by entering the Fourth Church campus you certify** that (a) you do not currently have COVID-19; (b) you are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) you have no reason to quarantine; and (d) you will practice social distancing if you are not vaccinated against COVID-19.

— <u>iii</u> —

If you like to join us for in-person worship, we gather each Sunday for a 10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary and a 4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel. ***** In the Sanctuary, the front section is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating. Seating for Jazz at Four is set up for social distancing. ***** The congregation is invited to sing while masked. We encourage those who are concerned about being near those who are singing to consider the socially distanced seating section or join those who worship with us from home via livestream. ***** Nursery care is not available at this time. ***** Worship can be heard in the Sanctuary and Chapel through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids. ***** Please silence electronic devices when in the Sanctuary or Chapel. ***** On Sundays the doors open for worship at 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. For the morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors. ***** Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher.

You can read more about the guidelines in place for in-person worship as well as information about continued online opportunities at www.fourthchurch.org/reopening

- Following the 10:00 a.m. service, Deacons are available in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) to pray with individuals who would like to offer prayers of praise or concern. ***** On Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom. In December, we are also offering in-person Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel (masks required). Prior to this prayer time, Buchanan Chapel is open for opportunity to walk the labyrinth between 9:00 and 9:45 a.m. on Wednesdays. For Zoom details or information about walking the labyrinth or inperson Morning Prayer, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). ***** A Sacred Pause time of meditation is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center on Tuesday mornings (7:45 a.m.) and Saturday mornings (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing
- For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning worship service at 10:00 a.m. at www.bit.ly/FPCworship and on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). (The prelude begins at approximately 9:45 a.m.) The service is also available for viewing afterwards. **** Those without Internet access** are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the service. ****** During the week we make the service and sermon available via podcast on iTunes and Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast).

— <u>iii</u> —

For those who are facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. If you would like to have a one-time phone conversation with a Stephen Minister or arrange for ongoing talks, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. ****** To explore options for teletherapy, please call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ****** If you would like **to talk to a pastor** or notify the pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please call the church at 312.787.4570. **** If you have a prayer request,** Dave Handley (*dhandley@fourthchurch.org*) is receiving these requests as part of our Morning Prayer and Deacon Prayer Ministries.



For resources and ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, watch our website (fourthchurch.org), Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and Instagram (instagram.com/ fourthchurch). ** Online events are posted on our church calendar, which is accessible from the home page of our website and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar ** Those interested in becoming Fourth Church members are invited to contact Joe Morrow (*jmorrow@fourthchurch.org*).

Ensure you receive the latest updates from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at **www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc**

Today is the last day to make a contribution toward the Christmas flowers, wreaths, and garlands that will decorate the Sanctuary for our Christmas services. These gifts can be made in honor or memory of friends and loved ones, with their **names appearing in the Christmas bulletin** for contributions received no later than Sunday, December 12. Contributions can be made online at www.bit.ly/fpcgift; for more information, contact Andrea Miller (*amiller@fourthchurch.org*).



This evening we will gather for our Festival of Advent Lessons and Music. This 6:30 p.m. service which will include readings for the season and our singing together favorite Advent hymns—will also be livestreamed at www.fourthchurch.org, and afterwards Women at Fourth will distribute homemade cookies and cocoa in to-go bags for those joining us in the Sanctuary.

The annual **Christmas with Tower Brass** concert will take place this Saturday, December 18 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary and will also be livestreamed. ***** The day before, on Friday, December 17, our **Organist John Sherer will play music of the season** at our weekly **Noonday Concert** at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our concerts are livestreamed and available to view later on our YouTube channel (*www.bit.ly/fpcvideos*) and at www.bit.ly/fpcprograms. *We will not host Noonday Concerts on December 24 or December 31; they will resume on Friday, January 7.*

As a **resource for personal meditation and prayer** in this season, Fourth Church members and staff have written **Advent devotions** you can **receive daily by email** (*sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions*) or read online (*fourthchurch.org/devotions*). ***** Also available is an **Advent "Rhythm and Word" video series.** These brief worship experiences, which weave together scripture, prayer, and music by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet, are released on **our YouTube channel** (*www.bit.ly/fpcvideos*) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. (*They are also available for viewing afterwards*). To **receive them by email,** sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail ***** The newly launched **"Bible Top Ten" podcast** hosted by Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger includes among its latest episodes **"Top Ten Advent Hymns and the Bible Verses Behind Them."** You can find it at fourthchurch.org/podcast

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Men's Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and *Horizons* Bible Study for women will host two online sessions on Wednesday, December 22, one at 12:00 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. For details for these Bible studies, email Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). *** For information about TwentiesThirties Bible Study for young adults, email Joe Morrow (*jmorrow@fourthchurch.org*).

Today Don Allerton will lead the first session of **"The Architecture of Fourth Church,"** which will meet at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room; next Sunday's class will include a tour of our campus. **#** A four-session class on **"The 1619 Project,"** discussing slavery's continuing legacy of injustice and inequality, begins Sunday morning, January 9. Guest speakers will lead conversation about the history of slavery; cultural and religious practices brought to America from Africa; the history of the Great Migration in Chicago; the 1919 race riot and its origins; and present-day socioeconomic struggles in America's and Chicago's Black community. For details, register at www.bit.ly/1619class



Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to connect with one another, whether in person or online. Those worshiping with us in person are invited to **greet one another in Anderson Hall or the Commons** following the service. ***** This Tuesday, December 14 **Books by Women** will meet via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. to discuss people's favorite **Agatha Christie books**. For details, email Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). ***** On Wednesday morning, December 15, **Benevolent Guild** which has counted among its projects sewing face masks and making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital—will meet at the church. Register in advance (*required*) with Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*). ***** On Thursday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. **Women at Fourth** will gather via Zoom to celebrate the festive and joyous spirit of the Christmas season with fun, games, readings, laughter, and fellowship. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/wf1221

Volunteers are needed to help with the Meals Ministry Bag Lunch program, which has moved back indoors after twenty months of serving to-go meals outdoors. Bag lunches and hot drinks are now served in Anderson Hall each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with limited seating to allow for social distancing. You can sign up to help with Bag Lunch or with Sunday Night Supper by using VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers), our Volunteer Ministry platform. All individuals volunteering in person must be vaccinated against COVID-19; proof of vaccination can be sent to vaxproof@fourthchurch.org ** Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in need of donations of men's pants, sweaters, coats, gloves, scarves, any warm weather wear, and backpacks. We are accepting new and gently used donations of these items that are clean and free from any rips, stains, or tears. (We are not accepting children's clothing, household supplies, or used underwear or used socks at this time.) Donations can be dropped off at 126 E. Chestnut on Sundays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.