News and Resources

May 22-28, 2022

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.



Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be a mask-welcoming campus, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. With the COVID risk level in Chicago increased to "medium," we are going a step further to **not just encourage but to recommend** (though not require) that individuals wear masks while on campus. This is consistent with city health officials recommending that—in light of the "medium risk" level—individuals wear masks indoors when they are not certain of the vaccination status of others present. As a mask-welcoming—and now recommending—campus, we also remain committed to ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church. * Since some populations are more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others, some programs on our campus choose to require masks. ** Additionally, while we are continuing our practice of not checking vaccination status, **anyone coming on site certifies** by doing so that (a) they do not currently have COVID-19; (b) they are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) they have no reason to quarantine; and (d) they will wear a mask and practice social distancing if they are not vaccinated against COVID-19. ₩ In the Sanctuary, the front section on the pulpit side is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, and everyone sitting in that section is required to wear a mask. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating.



For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where 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.

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**

If you would like to join us for in-person worship, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for our Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel. ** On Sundays the doors open for worship a half hour prior to the service. 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 to the Gratz Center. ** Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (and \$18 for up to 12 hours) 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. ** 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.



Following worship, 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. ** We also gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom and at 10:00 a.m. for in-person Morning Prayer in Buchanan Chapel. The chapel is open for opportunity to walk the labyrinth between 9:00 and 9:45 a.m. on Wednesdays and between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ** A Sacred Pause time of meditation is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing ** We invite you to use our Eastertide devotions, written by members and staff, as a resource for meditation and reflection. These devotions are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions; to receive the meditations daily via email, simply subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ** During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service and sermon available via podcast on iTunes as well as Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast). ** You can also receive the previous Sunday's sermon text by email by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons



In the pew racks you will find a **Connection Card, which we invite you to fill out** and place in the offering plate. It provides opportunity for you to let us know in what ways you would like to connect with Fourth Church, to update your contact information, and to share prayer concerns. **** Shannon Kershner is on sabbatical** and will return August 15. We hold Shannon in our prayers during this time of renewal and this fall look forward to learning from her experiences. During Shannon's time away, Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor, is serving as Head of Staff.

Those worshiping with us in person are invited to greet one another during Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall or the Commons following worship. ** Women at Fourth meets this morning at 11:15 a.m. in Room 5G for a time of crafting with the Benevolent Guild while working on projects to support area dementia organizations and HelloBaby. Beginning crafters are especially welcome! ** Knitting and Crocheting also meets in person today at 11:15 a.m. in Room 5B and will include opportunity to pick up yarn for the next project. Knitters and crocheters will then meet again, this time via Zoom, on Tuesday, May 24 at 4:00 p.m. ** Benevolent Guild—which has counted among its projects making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital—meets in person this Wednesday morning. To sign up for these activities email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Brown Taylor's book *The Luminous Web*, which looks at the dialogue between science and faith. This class, which will continue on June 5, 12, and 19, will meet at 11:15 a.m. in person and via Zoom. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/luminousweb22 ** Men's Bible Study meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m., and *Horizons* Bible Study for women will host two online sessions this Wednesday, May 25, one at 12:00 p.m. and one at 6:30 p.m. ** Books by Women will meet via Zoom to discuss *Girl, Woman, Other* by Bernadine Evaristo on Tuesday, June 14 at 6:00 p.m. Email Simon Crow (*scrow@fourthchurch.org*) for Zoom details about Bible study or Books by Women gatherings. ** Cornerstones, a group for adults fifty and over, will meet via Zoom on Friday evening, June 3 for an interview with Morgan Simmons, former Fourth Church organist, sharing his reflections on our congregation's history. For details register at www.bit.ly/cornerstones622 ** On Tuesday, June 7 at 7:00 p.m. the First Tuesday Book Club will discuss via Zoom Fortune: How Race Broke My Family and the World—and How to Repair It All with author Lisa Sharon Harper. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/firsttuesday0622



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. 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, call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ** To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency or requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call. ** To **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org

We are grateful to our youth for leading us in worship this morning! ** On Sunday morning, June 5, we will welcome as our guest preacher Amantha Barbee, Senior Pastor of Oakhurst Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Georgia. A leader in the PC(USA), Amantha Barbee sits on the Board of Trustees for Montreat Conference Center as well as the Strategy Team for NEXT Church and is the chairperson of the PC(USA) General Assembly Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations. She holds a Master of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, where she earned the E.T. George Award for Excellence in Homiletics and Worship.



Adult chaperones are needed for our youth summer trips June 26–July 1 (junior highs to St. Louis) and July 9–16 (senior highs to Memphis). For details, see www.bit.ly/chaperone4youth; if interested, email Katie Patterson (*kpatterson@fourthchurch.org*). ** Those who would like to **take part in Fourth Church Jail Ministry** are invited to an informational meeting today at 11:15 a.m. in Room 4F (or email jailministry@fourthchurch.org). ***** As we look to open the Sanctuary on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday afternoons for those seeking a place of respite and prayer as well as those curious to learn more about Fourth Church, we are in need of Sanctuary hosts (five to six per afternoon) to commit to being a welcoming presence. If you can help make this **opening possible by volunteering,** please contact Tiffany Holmes (tholmes@fourthchurch.org) or sign up for "Sanctuary Opening" via VOMO (our Volunteer Ministry software platform) at www. bit.ly/fpcvolunteers ***** The **Chicago Lights Social Service Center** is seeking volunteers to **unload** food trucks on the second and fourth Monday every month. Volunteers are needed from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. to transfer food from the Greater Chicago Food Depository truck onto food pantry shelves. If you can lend a hand, please email Jill Keiser (jkeiser@chicagolights.org). * The World Mission and Social Justice Council of Fourth Church is seeking volunteers to assist sponsored **refugee families** coming from conflict areas around the world. Also needed will be items to help these families settle into a new home. Those who are interested in helping are asked to email refugeeproject@fourthchurch.org ** The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is also in need of the following items, either new or gently used: especially doubled brown paper grocery bags; large cloth bags for groceries and clothing; adult backpacks; push carts for groceries; suitcases; men's jeans and casual pants (sizes 34–42 waist); white socks (sizes L and XL); men's tennis shoes (sizes 10–14); and women's tennis shoes (sizes 8–13). Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk (enter via the Chestnut Street doors) or shipped, if ordered online, to Chicago Lights Social Service Center, c/o Theresa Thornburg, 126 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, IL 60611.2014.

As we return to more on-site programming, Fourth Church and Chicago Lights have implemented a new safety and security practice.

Anyone present on the Fourth Church campus is required to wear a campus badge while on site, except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals. Anyone who does not already have a campus badge (except for those exceptions noted above) will be asked to pick up a single-day badge at the 126 E. Chestnut reception desk.

Reusable badges are being issued by some programs with regular, ongoing weekly programming, such as Chancel Choir. These reusable badges are only available from the staff of those programs, not from the reception desk. Anyone who does not bring their reusable campus badge is able to pick up a single-day badge.

To facilitate this process—as well as for safety and security reasons—**all access to the building is through the 126 E. Chestnut entrance only,** except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals. Our ongoing commitment to the safety and security of all on our campus undergirds this practice, which was been under discussion since prior to the pandemic. (Implementation was set aside while the campus was largely closed.)

The campus badges and single-entry access point were strongly encouraged by our safety and security consultants and advisors and are also consistent with practices at other large, spread-out, multi-use buildings with spaces and uses like ours. They enable us to know who is in the building throughout the day. (*Previous unlimited access has at times resulted in unknown individuals hiding in corners of the campus.*) They also ensure that should we ever have to evacuate the buildings, we will know who was on site and needs to be accounted for.

As a congregation, we value radical hospitality and welcome for all, and we believe one expression of that is our care for the well-being of those who are present with us. This safety and security practice is but one expression of that. For those who will be joining us on site as programming on campus continues to expand, we look forward to seeing you!



For additional resources and ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) and **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch). ** Online events are posted on our **church calendar**, which is accessible from the home page of our website and at fourthchurch.org/calendar ** To **receive the latest updates** from Fourth Church, including our **weekly email newsletter**, subscribe at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc ** To **learn more about Fourth Church** or **become a member**, email member@fourthchurch.org