News and Resources

June 12–18, 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 "high," 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 "high 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 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 8:30 and 9:30 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 **daily 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 * Also available for your reflection is our June "Rhythm and Word" video series on the fruit of the Spirit. These brief worship experiences, which weave together scripture, prayer, and music, are released on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on June Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. To receive them by email, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail * 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.

Those worshiping with us in person are invited to greet one another during Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall or the Commons following worship. ** Books by Women will meet via Zoom this week to discuss *Girl, Woman, Other* by Bernadine Evaristo on Tuesday, June 14 at 6:00 p.m. ** Knitting and Crocheting meets via Zoom on Tuesday, June 28 at 4:00 p.m. For Zoom details for either gathering, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ** Women at Fourth will gather in person on Thursday, June 23 at 5:30 p.m. for "Paint and Sip," a time of fellowship and instruction in creating individual paintings. Register (space is limited) at www.bit.ly/waf62022



To help us continue to shape meaningful connections for the many who are engaging with us online, we would appreciate your responses to a brief survey at www.bit.ly/fpconline2022



The Sunday morning class exploring Barbara Brown Taylor's book *The Luminous Web*—which looks at the dialogue between science and faith—continues today at 11:15 a.m. in person and via Zoom. For details about this class, led by Lucy Forster-Smith and Jim Ford, register at www.bit.ly/luminousweb22 **** Men's Bible Study** meets online on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. **Women's Bible Study**—which offers two Zoom gathering times (12:00 and 6:30 p.m.) on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month—next meets on Wednesday, June 22 to begin a discussion about practicing spiritual disciplines. For Zoom details about the Bible studies or Books by Women gatherings, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



Those graduating from eighth grade, high school, college, or a graduate or professional program in 2022 are asked to email their names to Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org) no later than next Sunday, June 19. Graduate names received by June 19 will appear in the worship bulletin on June 26, which is Baccalaureate Sunday at Fourth Church. ** Fourth Church Day School is currently accepting applications for fall enrollment in our half-day preschool programs. For more information and an application, please contact Director Kathy Hager (312.640.2579).



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

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 in need** of the following items, either new or gently used: adult-sized backpacks; men's jeans and casual pants (34–42 waist); men's belts; men's underwear (L, XL, 2XL); men's tennis shoes (sizes 10–14). Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk (enter via the Chestnut Street doors). For more information, email Lynn Milligan (lmilligan@chicagolights.org).



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



Shannon Kershner is on sabbatical and will return August 15. During Shannon's time away,
Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor, is serving as Head of Staff. ★ Thirty-two travelers
from Fourth Church and Community Presbyterian Church in Clarendon Hills are currently
visiting the Middle East. Twenty of those individuals make up the Touring Choir, led by John
Sherer. They are joined by Nanette Sawyer and others for this opportunity to learn about the
history and culture of the Middle East region. In addition to sharing the gift of music in concerts
and worship services, the group also is enjoying opportunity to be in conversation with those
living in Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. Please keep these travelers in your prayers as they
continue to learn from and share fellowship with our siblings in the Middle East.

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!