

# News and Opportunities

June 11–17, 2023



**We are glad to be worshipping 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.



**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](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. ✳️ **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the livestreamed service.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. ✳️ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. Access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and 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 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. ✳️ In the Sanctuary **worship can be heard** through the “T” or “T-coil” setting of hearing aids. ✳️ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.



**Children** are always welcome in worship! **If you need to step out to comfort your child**, the Hospitality Suite, located on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is available as a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed. During the morning service **nursery care** is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. ✳️ **Sunday School** meets at 10:00 a.m. on the fourth floor as well.

**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](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)

We ask all who are worshipping with us to **let us know you are here by filling out an information form.**

Those worshipping with us via livestream will find **a link to the online form—which takes only 20 seconds to complete!**—included in the descriptive text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the “Welcome and Announcements” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form. Those worshipping with us in person are asked to use the **information pads in the pews**, passing them down the pew so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following the service. ✨ Those worshipping in person are also invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** in Anderson Hall and the Commons following worship.



During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday **service and sermon available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at **[www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts](http://www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts)** ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday’s **sermon text by email** by subscribing at [www.bit.ly/fpcsermons](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons).



Following worship a **pipe organ tour** begins at the front of the Sanctuary. ✨ Also following the service **Deacons are available in Stone Chapel** (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) to pray with those who would like to **offer prayers of praise or concern.** ✨ We 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. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ The Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For labyrinth details, email Rocky Supinger ([rsupinger@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rsupinger@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ Our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being hosts virtually a **Sacred Pause time of meditation** at [facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing](https://facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing) on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and also on Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



To **talk to a pastor or notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org); if the situation 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](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org) ✨ **For those facing life’s challenges**, Stephen Ministers provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. ✨ **To explore options for teletherapy or in-person conversations with a counselor**, call our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260.

**Today we welcome as our guest preacher Mx. Slats Toole**, Co-Moderator of the board of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians. They hold a Master of Divinity and Certificate in Theology, Women, and Gender from Princeton Theological Seminary. Slats is a published author and has led workshops on expansive language and queer theology (with a particular emphasis on gender identity) throughout the US and Canada. Slats' work centers around creating space in the church where all are welcomed, embraced, and loved. ✨ **The Covenant Network**, of which Slats is Co-Moderator, works for an equity still not fully realized for LGBTQIA+ people in church and society. Fourth Church has had a consistent presence on the Covenant Network board—on which Senior Associate Pastor Lucy Forster-Smith currently serves—since John M. Buchanan was one of the founding co-moderators of the group in 1997.



**Walk with Fourth Church and the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches in the annual Chicago Pride Parade!** This year the parade takes place at noon on Sunday, June 25. For details about when and where to meet on the day of the parade, contact Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ The **Pride flag signs and rainbow ribbons** outside Fourth Church, along Michigan Avenue, are public witness to the inclusive hospitality we extend to all and to our welcome of all of God's children into the life of the church.



**We are in need of Sunday morning Cookie Table Hosts, Servers, and Hospitality Coordinators.** If you are able to help, please sign up at [app.vomo.org/project/coffeehour](http://app.vomo.org/project/coffeehour) or email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ You can also **explore other volunteer opportunities** by visiting VOMO, our Volunteer Ministry software platform, at [www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers) or by contacting Director of Volunteer Ministry Robert Crouch ([rcrouch@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rcrouch@fourthchurch.org); 312.981.3382).



**Our June "Rhythm and Word" video series, led by Rocky Supinger**, offers ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer focusing on Jesus' public connections with people. A new video is released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)); sign up at [www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail) to receive the videos by email. ✨ Our **daily devotions** ([fourthchurch.org/devotions](http://fourthchurch.org/devotions)) are available as a **resource for your personal meditation and prayer**. To receive them by email, subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) ✨ **Men's Bible Study** meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom and Women's Horizons Bible Study meets on Wednesday, June 14 also via Zoom. For times and Zoom details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)).

**If you are a Fourth Church member** and have not done so already, please take a few moments to **complete the Member Census form mailed to member homes and return it by June 15** to the church. Your doing so will help in our ongoing effort to paint the picture of who Fourth Church is today and provide information that will help us strengthen connections in our community!



**Books by Women** will discuss *Fresh Water for Flowers* by Valérie Perrin this Tuesday, June 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. \* **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome (WOW) Brunch** will take place following worship next Sunday, June 18 at a nearby restaurant. All who would like to take part in this time of fellowship are invited to meet at the church reception desk following the June 18 service to walk to brunch together. \* **Women at Fourth** will gather for “**Paint and Sip**” on Thursday, June 22 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. Space is limited, and registration is required by Friday, June 16 at [www.bit.ly/waf62023](http://www.bit.ly/waf62023) or this evening of fun and fellowship that includes being professionally led in painting a one-of-a-kind “masterpiece.” \* **Knitting and Crocheting** meets Tuesday, June 27 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. For details, email Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)). \* For **additional ways to connect** with one another and Fourth Church, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources and opportunities**, watch our **website** ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)). \* Events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website’s home page and at [fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://fourthchurch.org/calendar)



Our **free Friday Noonday Concert series** features our **Organ Scholar Michael Rees** this Friday, June 16 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and livestreamed on YouTube ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)). \* Beginning July 7, the Noonday concerts will move outdoors! Come enjoy our **Music by the Fountain** series on Fridays during July and August.



**The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC)**, which has responsibility for identifying and recommending an Interim Pastor candidate, is hard at work. The Interim Pastor, who will be hired by Session, will not be our next Senior Pastor. Rather they will be **someone to guide us during the year or more when we are searching for the next Pastor**. The Interim Pastor will help us do the kind of preparatory work that is important in advance of welcoming a new leader. You can **read about the IPNC work and find the latest transition updates** at [fourthchurch.org/transition](http://fourthchurch.org/transition) \* **If you have questions or comments** about the transition, please email them to [transition@fourthchurch.org](mailto:transition@fourthchurch.org)