



You belong here!

This may be your first time in worship at Fourth Presbyterian Church, or perhaps you worship here so often you call Fourth Church “home”; in either case, **we are grateful for your presence** today. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone — without exception—into the life of this congregation. No matter where you may be in your faith journey, no matter what questions or burdens you may bring to this place, we take seriously that God loves everyone, so you belong here.

Every Sunday we read the old biblical stories and sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world we live in this minute through liturgy, prayers, and sermons. **By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ’s life, we discover hope and even joy**, and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ to the city **as we live out our calling to love God and love one another.**

If you are new to us, stick around after worship. Join us for Coffee Hour, or speak to one of our pastors. We have many programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. **Give us a try; soon you too might be calling Fourth Church “home.”**

Worshipping in Person at Fourth Church

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. If you like to worship with us in person, we gather weekly at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Entering the building

A half hour prior to each service the doors open for worship. On Michigan Avenue, through the glass Loggia doors there is an entrance without steps that leads to the Sanctuary. There are also two fully accessible entrances: at 126 E. Chestnut and 115 E. Delaware.

Parking

Information on discounted parking is on the back cover. If you have not set up an online payment account for discounted parking at the 900 garage, ushers have information cards to help. Volunteers at the Coffee Hour Connection Corner are available to assist as well.

Sound

- Worship can be heard through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids.
- Please silence electronic devices during worship.

Worshipping Online

Livestream

We livestream the 9:30 a.m. service on our YouTube channel at bit.ly/fpcvideos, which is also accessible from the home page of our website: fourthchurch.org

Worship can be viewed anytime after the service has begun. For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning

Online extras

Links to make an online offering gift, view or print the worship bulletin, and more can be found in the descriptive text below the worship video (*after exiting full screen*) as well as on our website.

For those without Internet

Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

Podcasts

Podcast offerings from Fourth Church—available on multiple platforms and at fourthchurch.org/podcasts—include the Sunday worship service and the sermon; weekly “Rhythm and Word” reflections; and a “Bible Top Ten” exploration of the Bible.

Fourth Church’s Antiracism Covenant

The Racial Equity Committee welcomes hearing from those who have questions or comments about our recently adopted Antiracism Covenant, which can be found at bit.ly/covenantfpc; the REC also invites those who would like to join them in supporting this important work to email the committee at rec@fourthchurch.org

Joining the Fourth Church Family

If you are interested in becoming a member of Fourth Church, join us for a one-session Inquirers’ Class on Sunday, September 21 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 5F (register at bit.ly/inquirers92025) or via Zoom on Wednesday, October 29 at 6:30 p.m. (register at bit.ly/inquirers102025). For more information, contact Senior Associate Pastor Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org).

Let Us Know You’re Here!

We are grateful to be worshipping with you today and would welcome knowing you are here. Please take a moment to fill out an information form.

In person

Those worshipping with us in person are asked to add their names to the pads in the pews, passing the pads to the center of the row and then back again so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following worship.

Online

Those worshipping via livestream will find a link to the online form in the text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the “Welcome” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form.

Today: Get Connected Sunday!

A new season of Sunday School classes, youth groups, and Adult Education begins today.

Our festive Coffee Hour—complete with an ice cream cart, lemonade stand, and popcorn—offers opportunity to reconnect with one another and with Fourth Church.

Stop by and learn more from representatives of our various ministries as they highlight programs and events for you to explore this fall.

Caring for One Another

Pastoral care

If you would like to talk to a pastor or notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email Gloria Fleming (gffleming@fourthchurch.org). If the situation requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

Stephen Ministry

For a one-to-one listening presence through life challenges, consider being paired with a Stephen Minister. For information, leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365 or contact Associate Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org).



Connections and Belonging

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

In-Person “Get Connected” Coffee Hour

All who are worshiping with us in person are invited to stop by Anderson Hall and the Commons after the service for our weekly Coffee Hour opportunity to greet each other and, today, to learn about ways to “Get Connected” with one another and Fourth Church!

Online Coffee Hour

If you are worshiping with us via livestream, we would be delighted if you would also join us for opportunity to connect with one another in our online Coffee Hour. We gather via Zoom at 10:30 a.m., following the livestream of worship, for a time of fellowship.

Zoom link: bit.ly/coffeehourfpc; passcode: 676359

Welcome, Dave Canfield!

Please join us in extending a warm Fourth Church welcome to Dave Canfield (dcanfield@fourthchurch.org), who joined staff this past week in the newly created position Director of Connecting Ministries.

Purposeful Retirement

The “Purposeful Retirement” program, which begins this Wednesday, September 10, invites you to join a new cohort of people who will collaborate and support each other in planning or retooling their retirement to combine passions and service for greater impact.

Learn more about this opportunity—and register for the series—at bit.ly/purposeful2025

Autumn with the CLL Begins Tomorrow

A new session of fitness classes along with lectures and arts courses for adults sixty and over kicks off this Monday, September 8, when the Center for Life and Learning (CLL) begins their autumn programming.

For details and to register for CLL membership, see fourthchurch.org/cll

Opportunities to Connect

Books by Women

Books by Women, which invites readers into a monthly conversation about a selected work, will discuss *The Guns of August* by Barbara W. Tuchman on Tuesday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Benevolent Guild

Benevolent Guild, which creates items for those in need, meets on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B.

New Zoom Small Group: “The Wisdom Pattern”

A new Zoom Small Group begins this Thursday, September 11 at 6:00 p.m. Meeting for six weeks, the group will discuss *The Wisdom Pattern: Order, Disorder, Reorder* by Richard Rohr while exploring the journey of embracing disruption as we move toward deeper wisdom, compassion, and a more integrated faith. For details, contact Katie (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org).

Friday Noonday Concerts

This week’s free Friday Noonday Concert features pianist Amy Wurtz at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary (and via livestream). To receive our weekly “Music Notes” newsletter about upcoming concerts at Fourth Church, subscribe at bit.ly/fpcmusicnotes

Connecting Online

Whether you live out of state, are unable to be with us in person, or find online opportunities to be a meaningful complement to your in-person experiences, we invite you to explore our online opportunities for deepening your connections with your faith and with others.

Learn more at fourthchurch.org/online/connections about our variety of online offerings, ranging from Zoom Coffee Hour (*see above left*), Bible studies, Small Groups (*see above*), and Morning Prayer as well as in-person classes with a Zoom component.



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 to step out to comfort your child, the Hospitality Suite, on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed.

Also during morning worship, nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center for infants through two-year-olds.

Sunday School

Sunday School for three-year-olds through fifth graders is at 9:30 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

To celebrate this new Sunday School year, families are invited to gather for “Family Donut Sunday” in the 4C Lounge following today’s 9:30 a.m. service.

Youth groups

Youth groups gather on Sundays, with Junior High (grades 6–8) at 9:30 a.m. and Senior High (grades 9–12) at 11:00 a.m., both in the Bumpus Room.

Confirmation

Eighth-grade Confirmation, which meets monthly, begins with a gathering on Friday, September 19. Youth can register at bit.ly/fpcconfirmation25 or contact Nance Bartell (nbartell@fourthchurch.org) for details.

Prophetic Wisdom for a Hurting World

Sunday Adult Education classes resume this morning at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and online at bit.ly/fpconline

The first class of the fall is “Prophetic Wisdom for a Hurting World.” Using Richard Rohr’s book *The Tears of Things* and the teaching of the Hebrew prophets as a guide, our discussions will be led by Dr. Maisha Handy, President, McCormick Theological Seminary (today); Vicky Curtiss, Program Director, Siena Retreat Center (Sept. 14); and Amy Pagliarella, Parish Associate (Sept. 21). Register at bit.ly/prophetic2509

Reflections on prophetic wisdom and *The Tears of Things* are also being shared by Amy Pagliarella in our “Rhythm and Word” videos and podcasts (see page 12).

Reading the Bible in 100 Passages

Next Sunday, September 14 we will launch a new devotional series: “The Bible in 100 Passages,” in which we will cover all thirty-nine books in the Old Testament through 100 key texts.

Our weekly “Rhythm and Word” video reflections will also focus on these same passages, and a monthly in-person Bible study beginning in October will be part of this congregational journey through the Old Testament books.

If you do not already receive our daily devotions, subscribe at bit.ly/fpcdevotions to join in reading the Bible “in 100 passages” beginning September 14—and watch for details about the in-person monthly study.

Bible Studies via Zoom

Men’s Bible Study

Men’s Bible Study gathers via Zoom weekly on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. For details, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org).

Women’s Bible Studies

Beginning September 10, the fall *Horizons* Women’s Bible Studies—with the theme “Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ”—will meet via Zoom on second and fourth Wednesdays, with a midday and evening study at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.

For Zoom details, contact Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org).

“Bible Top Ten” Podcast

Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to tune in to a new season of their “Bible Top Ten” podcast—a lively, informative, and often lighthearted exploration of the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists.

Available at fourthchurch.org/podcasts and on multiple podcast platforms, the “Bible Top Ten” resumes on Tuesday with September episodes on the top ten New Testament epistles and the top ten alleged biblical relics.

Prayer

Sunday Morning Prayer with Deacons

If you would like to offer individual prayers of praise or concern with a Deacon, you are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) following worship.

Wednesday Morning Prayer

On Wednesdays we gather for Morning Prayer via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. to remember in prayer members of the congregation, all those who are in need, and mission partners around the world. Email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org) for Zoom details.

Prayer requests

If you would like to submit a prayer request to our Deacon and Morning Prayer Ministries, please email Gloria Fleming (gffleming@fourthchurch.org).

Walking the Labyrinth

The labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is open this week for a time of meditative walking on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

“Rhythm and Word” Videos and Podcast

Each week we share a five-minute video and podcast reflection by one of the pastors. On September 3 and 10, Amy Pagliarella is exploring prophetic wisdom for an age of outrage, with inspiration from *The Tears of Things* by Richard Rohr—which is also guiding our Sunday morning Adult Education classes (*see page 11*).

To receive these reflections in your inbox on Wednesday evenings, sign up at bit.ly/rhythmandword or subscribe to our YouTube channel (bit.ly/fpcvideos).

You can also listen to these reflections via podcast: fourthchurch.org/podcasts

Reading Sermons

To read the text of the previous Sunday morning sermon (or past sermons in our archives), see fourthchurch.org/sermons or, to receive the sermon by email, subscribe at bit.ly/fpcsermon

News, Views, and Updates

News @ Fourth Church

Look for information, updates, and snapshots of life at Fourth Church in our weekly email newsletter “News @ Fourth Church.” Subscribe at bit.ly/newsfromfpc, and visit our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news

Calendar

Looking for a calendar of Fourth Church events?

- See pages 14–15 for this week’s opportunities
- Scroll to the bottom of fourthchurch.org
- Tap on the website menu option for calendar: fourthchurch.org/calendar, where you can add events to your digital calendar

YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram

We invite you to follow us on various platforms.

- YouTube: bit.ly/fpcvideos
- Facebook: facebook.com/fourthchurch
- Instagram: instagram.com/fourthchurch



Community Engagements and Partnerships

Come alongside us as together, through programs and collaboration with partners, we advocate for social and community needs

Volunteer Training Next Sunday

Our Volunteer Ministry Team encourages anyone who volunteers with Fourth Church—or is interested in doing so in the coming year—to attend a one-hour emergency response training program next Sunday, September 14 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 4G. Register at bit.ly/training202509

Serving with Meals Ministry

Fourth Church Meals Ministry has openings for volunteers to serve this month. You can sign up for them at bit.ly/fpcvolunteers

For more information about how you can support this program, contact Mike Usiak (musiak@fourthchurch.org), Meals Ministry Manager.

Mud Theatre Presents *Jabril's Chains*

As part of Fourth Church's commitment to restorative justice, on Thursday, October 16 we are honored to be hosting the premiere of the play *Jabril's Chains* by Mud Theatre Project.

Mud Theatre's nationally recognized plays are written and performed by incarcerated persons and returning citizens. Their director, Brian Beals, having served thirty-five years on a wrongful conviction, was inspired to create the project as he witnessed the power of the arts to give voice to the voiceless and empower those who have been in troubling situations.

The 6:30 p.m. performance in Buchanan Chapel will be preceded by a 5:30 p.m. reception in Anderson Hall. Tickets (*required*) are available at bit.ly/jabrilschains; a portion of the price will be donated to Restore Justice.

We're Looking for Church Leadership Recommendations

THE BELIEF THAT THE PEOPLE OF GOD ARE CALLED TO BE LEADERS is at the heart of the Presbyterian way. In our form of government, church members choose leaders to represent them.

Thus each September our Nominating Committee invites you to give prayerful thought to those individuals—including yourself—whom you feel have demonstrated gifts and a commitment to the life and ministry of this congregation.

Specifically, we are looking for recommendations of individuals to serve in leadership positions opening in 2026 for Elder, Deacon, and Trustee.

To make your recommendations, use the online form at bit.ly/nominating2025 or stop by Anderson Hall to talk with a representative from the Nominating Committee.

Please submit your recommendations by Sunday, October 5. Names received after that date will be passed along to next year's committee to consider for 2027 officer terms.

Calendar for September 7–13, 2025

Sunday September 7	9:00 a.m.	Children's Choir	Room 4G
	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary / Online
	9:30 a.m.	Infants/Parents Comfort Room.	Hospitality Suite
	9:30 a.m.	Nursery.	Room 4A
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School.	Fourth Floor
	9:30 a.m.	Junior High Gathering.	Bumpus Room
	10:00 a.m.	Youth Choir	Room 4G
	10:30 a.m.	A Time of Prayer	Stone Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Family Donut Sunday	Room 4C
	11:00 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Senior High Gathering.	Bumpus Room
	11:00 a.m.	Prophetic Wisdom for a Hurting World.	Borwell Dining Room
	12:00 p.m.	A Time of Prayer	Stone Chapel
	12:15 p.m.	Long-Range Plan Progress Task Force.	Room 4E
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30).	Anderson Hall
	4:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Medical Service	Borwell Dining Room

Monday September 8	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool Class	Classroom B
	9:30 a.m.	Day School Twos Program.	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Advanced French	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors Monday	Zoom
	10:45 a.m.	CLL: Intermediate French	Zoom
	12:00 p.m.	CLL: Beginner French	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Art History	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Bridge	Room 5B
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Fashion Statements in Art.	Room 4G / Zoom
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Yoga	Room 5G / Zoom

Tuesday September 9	7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	Zoom
	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool Class	Classroom B
	9:00 a.m.	Heartland Alliance Medical Clinic.	Randolph Room
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Program.	Morse Lounge
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors Tuesdays	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Stage and Screen	Room 4G / Zoom
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Basic Spanish	Room 5D
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch.	Anderson Hall
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00)	Buchanan Chapel
	1:00 p.m.	Shower Ministry	Showers
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Foreign Perspectives	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Improv.	Room 4D
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Mahjong.	Room 5D
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Watercolor.	Room 4F
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Book Club	Zoom
	2:45 p.m.	CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi.	Anderson Hall / Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	AA Meeting	Room 4F
	6:00 p.m.	Books by Women	Bumpus Room

Calendar for September 7–13, 2025

Wednesday September 10	7:30 a.m.	Men's Faith Study	Offsite
	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool Class	Classroom B
	9:30 a.m.	Day School Twos Program.	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Room 5B
	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Program.	Morse Lounge
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: "Great Ideas" Men's Group	Room 5A
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Zing	Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Midweek Meditation.	Room 4D
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch.	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	CLL: Current Events	Room 4G
	12:00 p.m.	Women's <i>Horizons</i> Bible Study	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00)	Buchanan Chapel
	2:00 p.m.	CLL: Film Series.	Room 4G
	3:00 p.m.	CLL: Drawing	Zoom
	5:00 p.m.	Belonging Committee	Room 4E
	5:30 p.m.	CLL: Purposeful Retirement Workshop.	Room 4G
	6:00 p.m.	AA: LGBTQIA+.	Room 4F
	6:30 p.m.	Women's <i>Horizons</i> Bible Study	Zoom

Thursday September 11	9:00 a.m.	Meals Ministry Sandwich-Making	Borwell Dining Room
	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool Class	Classroom B
	9:30 a.m.	Day School Together We Play	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Program.	Morse Lounge
	10:00 a.m.	CLL: Memoir Writing	Room 5A
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Golden Grooves.	Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Art and Conversation	Room 4K
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Matters of Health.	Room 4E
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch.	Anderson Hall
	12:15 p.m.	AA Meeting	Room 4F
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00)	Buchanan Chapel
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Memoir Writing	Room 5A
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Music History.	Room 4E / Zoom
	2:45 p.m.	CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi.	Anderson Hall / Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	Wisdom Pattern Small Group.	Zoom
	6:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal.	Buchanan Chapel

Friday September 12	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool Class	Classroom B
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Program.	Morse Lounge
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Nia	Zoom
	12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert	Sanctuary / Online
	2:00 p.m.	CLL: Fiber Friends	Room 4C

No events are scheduled for Saturday, September 13.

Sunday, September 14 • 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. • Nanette Sawyer preaching