



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.**

Guided by our Antiracism Covenant, we seek to embrace values and practices that enable us to experience Beloved Community, where **differences are seen as assets that are celebrated and experienced as strengths.**

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.

Prayer

Personal Prayer with a Deacon following Worship

If you would like to meet with a Deacon to pray, you are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) following worship.

Praying Each Week for Our Members

Fourth Church maintains a practice of praying for each member's household throughout the year.

On Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. you are invited to gather for Morning Prayer via Zoom to pray for members by name, all those who are in need, and mission partners around the world. For details, email Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org).

Requests for Prayer

If you would like to submit a prayer request for our prayer ministries, please email Gloria Fleming (gffleming@fourthchurch.org).

Native American Heritage

The flag flying in our courtyard and the sign on Michigan Avenue bear public witness to Native American Heritage Month. We encourage you to stop by the Racial Equity table in Coffee Hour today for related resources and to learn more.

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.

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 Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org).

Podcasts from Fourth Church

Podcasts from Fourth Church—available on multiple platforms and at fourthchurch.org/podcasts—include

- the Sunday worship service
- the Sunday sermon
- weekly "Rhythm and Word" reflections
- "Bible Top Ten," a lively, informative, and often lighthearted exploration of the Bible through a series of top ten lists—"Top Ten Antagonists in the Bible," and "Top Ten Passages on Heaven and Hell"—hosted by Pastors Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger.



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 Coffee Hour

All who are worshipping 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 learn about ways to get connected with one another and Fourth Church!

Online Coffee Hour

If you are worshipping 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 immediately following the livestream of worship for a time of fellowship.

Zoom link: bit.ly/coffeehourfpc

Deck the Sanctuary Today!

Help us get ready for Advent by pitching in to decorate the Sanctuary at 12:30 p.m. today.

We will tidy the pew racks, hang wreaths, and prepare for the festive season that begins next Sunday!

Christmas Flowers

We invite you to remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward this year's Christmas flowers that will decorate the Sanctuary. A list of those individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin.

Contributions can be made at bit.ly/fpcgift and must be received by Sunday, December 7 for names to appear in the bulletin.

News, Updates, and Snapshots

Look for information, updates, and snapshots of life at Fourth Church in our weekly email newsletter:

Subscribe at bit.ly/newsfromfpc and visit our news archive at fourthchurch.org/news

Welcome, New Members!

This morning we are delighted to welcome the newest members of our Fourth Church family: Ashley Altus, Laura Bumgardner, Debbie Clark, Cathleen Costello, Rachel Barton Pine, Mary Davis, Jad Elchahal, Brittany Graunke, Jerry Graunke, Lindsay Hunter, Su Khan, John Kurtz, Joyce Kurtz, Ben Lyon, Maya Matthews, Ashley Miller, Ryan Neff, Nancy O'Mara, Funmi Oseni, Cole Partington, Alex Rapp, Stephanie Romero, Julia Sharp, Yunan Shi, Corinne Smith, Abraham Thomas, Sunitha Thomas, and Anne Wishart Geddes.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Fourth Church, please join us for a one-session Inquirers' Class via Zoom on Wednesday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. (register at bit.ly/inquirers012026).

For more information about membership at Fourth Church, contact Dave Canfield, Director of Caring Ministries (dcanfield@fourthchurch.org), or Pastor Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). They would welcome hearing from you!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Again this year we will join with neighbors from various faith communities—including Chicago Sinai Congregation, Holy Name Cathedral, the Downtown Islamic Center, and LaSalle Street Church—for the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, this year hosted by Holy Name (State and Superior Streets) on Tuesday, November 25 at 6:30 p.m. Fourth Church will provide musical leadership for this service with our neighbors.

On Thanksgiving Day we will continue our tradition of sharing a Thanksgiving-themed "Rhythm and Word" video via our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos).

Center for Life and Learning

To explore the fitness classes as well as lectures and arts courses offered by the Center for Life and Learning for adults sixty and over—with both in-person and online opportunities — see fourthchurch.org/cll.

Opportunities to Connect

Youth and Center for Life and Learning Project

Youth and members of the Center for Life and Learning (for adults sixty and over) are working on a joint art project about “joy in our world today” between 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. today in the Fifth-Floor Lounge.

Chicago Exchange Japanese Fellowship

Chicago Exchange Japanese Fellowship meets to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving dinner today at 12:00 p.m. in Parish House Dining Room.

Cornerstones Christmas Sing-Along

Cornerstones (a fellowship opportunity for adults fifty and over) will gather for a Christmas Dinner and Sing-Along on Friday, December 5 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room, with Interim Organist Doug Cleveland leading the singing. Registration is required at bit.ly/cornerstones202512

Women at Fourth Holiday Party

Save the date—Thursday, December 11—for the annual Women at Fourth holiday gathering; details to come!

Organist and Director of Music Search

Fourth Church is blessed to have Doug Cleveland serving as our talented Interim Organist and Director of Music through at least May 2026. As planned when Doug joined us, a search for a permanent Organist and Director of Music will be conducted, and Doug will be invited to be among the applicants.

We are looking for individuals to be part of the search committee for this position and would welcome your nominations of a fellow member—or yourself—to serve. Nominations are due by Friday, December 12 and can be made using the form bit.ly/organistsearch

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: fourthchurch.org/online/connection



Faith Formation

Join us on our journey to grow spiritually through worship, educational opportunities, and programs that nurture faith across all ages

TwentiesThirties Bible Study

A new Bible study for young adults begins today at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5B and will meet each Sunday through December 21.

Drawing on Tracy Daub’s book, *Holy Disruption: Discovering Advent in the Gospel of Mark*, this weekly TwentiesThirties Advent Bible Study offers an invitation to experience God’s disruptive but transformative love for us in our world.

Reading Sermons

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

What Is a Presbytery?

The two-session class “What Is a Presbytery and Why Should We Care?” begins this morning November 23 (and continues on Sunday, December 7).

We will gather at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and online at bit.ly/fpconline for this opportunity to hear the Reverend Ken Hockenberry, Stated Clerk and Business Manager of the Chicago Presbytery, share insights about the role and function of a presbytery, the polity and governance system of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and current and optimal connections between the local congregation member and the larger PC(USA).

Note there will be *no class* next Sunday, November 30.

See the archive bit.ly/adultedvideos for previous Adult Education offerings.

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

Children from three years old to fifth grade join their parents in the Sanctuary for the beginning of 9:30 a.m. worship before departing for their classrooms on the fourth floor.

Youth

Junior High and Senior High Youth gather with Center for Life and Learning members today between 9:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to work on an art project. (See page 10.)

Spiritual Practice: Wall of Prayer

When you listen to your deepest and truest self, what longings and desires for Advent do you bring to God in prayer?

Next Sunday, November 30 start off your Advent season with a dynamic spiritual practice known as the “Wall of Prayer,” which we will share when we gather at 4:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. This tangible experience will spark creativity through writing and visual media as we pray with our heart and hands in response. Crafting materials will be provided.

Registration is required at bit.ly/fpcwallofprayer

Exploring Upcoming Opportunities



Looking to explore upcoming opportunities and events at Fourth Church? Visit our Events page—fourthchurch.org/events—and bookmark it for future reference!

For even more resources and information about connecting with one another and Fourth Church, visit our website at fourthchurch.org and read our weekly newsletter at fourthchurch.org/news

Bible in 100 Passages

Daily readings throughout Advent

Our “Bible in 100 Passages” series invites you to join our congregational reading of the Old Testament, as we cover all of its thirty-nine books through 100 key texts. Each day we share the daily readings, in addition to reflections on them, as part of our Daily Devotions.

To receive them, subscribe at bit.ly/fpcdevotions; you can also read them online at fourthchurch.org/bible100, where you can find an overview for each week, as well.

Weekly video and podcast reflections

Each week Pastor Matt Helms offers a brief “Rhythm and Word” video and podcast reflection on the passages.

To receive these reflections in your inbox on Wednesday evenings, sign up at bit.ly/fpcrandw; you can also view them on our YouTube channel (bit.ly/fpcvideos) and listen to them via multiple podcast platforms and at fourthchurch.org/podcasts

Monthly Bible studies

Our next in-person Bible study focusing on the themes of our “Bible in 100 Passages” series will be Tuesday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall (in-person only; register at bit.ly/decbible100).

The next Zoom Bible study in the series will be Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. For details and the Zoom link, register at bit.ly/decbible100zoom

Zoom Bible Studies

For details about the following Zoom Bible studies, email Pastor Nanette Sawyer (nsawyer@fourthchurch.org).

Men’s Bible Study

Men’s Bible Study—which focuses on scripture readings from the pulpit, with passages drawn from either the immediate past week’s worship service or the upcoming Sunday—gathers via Zoom weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.

Women’s Bible Studies

Horizons Women’s Bible Studies—with the theme “Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ”—will next meet on Wednesday, December 10, via Zoom, with both a midday and evening study at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.

Monthly Bible in 100 Passages Study

The “Bible in 100 Passages” Zoom Bible study meets on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. (See details above.)



Community Engagements and Partnerships

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

Giving Thanks with Meals Ministry

As we remember the spirit of gratitude that draws us together in this season, Meals Ministry invites you to join in feeding neighbors in need. To see how you can make a difference, watch our new video—bit.ly/fpcmealsvideo—highlighting volunteer opportunities such as assisting with meal preparation or distribution that make a meaningful gift to our community.

You can volunteer by creating a profile on our Volunteer Ministry platform at bit.ly/fpcvolunteers and signing up for specific dates in the first quarter of 2026 as well as more opportunities to serve on Sundays.

Travel with Us to Cuba in February

The week of February 16–23 we will be traveling to Cuba for an opportunity for cultural immersion, learning, service, and time enjoying the company of our Cuban partners and siblings in faith.

If you would like to join us for this trip to visit First Presbyterian Church of Havana, please fill out the application at bit.ly/cubatrip26

Christmas Wishes for Tutoring Students

Women at Fourth invites you to take part in our Christmas Wishes project to provide gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring.

We are collecting gift cards (up to \$25) to Target, Amazon, Walmart, Starbucks, and McDonald's. They can be dropped off at the church (attention: Nanette Sawyer), with the amount designated on the card(s).

We are also collecting monetary contributions for the purchase of books for the youth. Please note "Christmas Wishes" in the designation of an online gift at fourthchurch.org/give or in the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Make a Difference in the Life of a Child

We also need tutors to pair with youth who would like to participate in the Tutoring program, which meets virtually on Mondays and in person at Fourth Church on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

To learn more or volunteer to be a tutor, see chicagolights.org/volunteer/tutoring

2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

We are deeply grateful to all who have made a pledge for 2026. Thank you for your investment in the work of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights!

There is still time to make a pledge supporting our 2026 mission and ministry if you have not yet had opportunity to do so. You will find in the pew racks a pledge card to complete, or you can fill out the online form at bit.ly/fpcclpledge

2026 Pledge Commitments as of November 18, 2025

	Households	Amount	Goal	% to Goal
Fourth Church:	537	\$2,639,525	\$3,300,000	80%
Chicago Lights:	318	\$710,566	\$850,000	84%
Total:	544	\$3,350,091	\$4,150,000	81%



Calendar for November 23–30, 2025

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship • Nancy Benson-Nicol preaching	Sanctuary / Online
November 23	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.	CLL and Youth Mural Project	Fifth-Floor Lounge
	10:30 a.m.	A Time of Prayer	Stone Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Online Coffee Hour	Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	What Is a Presbytery?	Borwell / Online
	11:00 a.m.	Worship • Nancy Benson-Nicol preaching	Sanctuary
	12:00 p.m.	A Time of Prayer	Stone Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Chicago Exchange Japanese Fellowship	Parish House Dining
	12:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Buchanan Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Usher Workshop	Room 4G
	12:15 p.m.	Caregiver Circle: Dementia Horizons	Room 5G
	12:15 p.m.	Worship, Music, Arts Committee	Room 5A
	12:30 p.m.	Deacon Calling Ministry	Manse
	12:30 p.m.	TwentiesThirties Bible Study	Room 4F
	12:30 p.m.	Volunteers Deck the Sanctuary	Sanctuary
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30)	Anderson Hall

Monday	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Advanced French	Zoom
November 24	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors	Zoom
	10:45 a.m.	CLL: Intermediate French	Zoom
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Tap	Zoom
	12:00 p.m.	CLL: Beginner French	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Art History	Zoom / Room 4K
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Bridge	Room 5B
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: World's Fairs of the Art Deco Era	Room 4G
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Yoga	Room 5G / Zoom

Tuesday	7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	Zoom
November 25	9:00 a.m.	Lawndale Christian Health Medical Clinic	Randolph Room
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services	Anderson Hall
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Stronger Seniors	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Stage and Screen	Room 5G / Zoom
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Basic Spanish	Room 5D
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	SSC: Living Room	Borwell Dining Room
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Foreign Perspectives	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Mahjong	Room 5C / Room 5A
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Watercolor	Room 4F
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00)	Buchanan Chapel

Calendar for November 23–30, 2025

1:00 p.m. Shower Ministry Showers
 2:30 p.m. CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi Anderson Hall / Zoom
 6:30 p.m. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Holy Name Cathedral

Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Men's Faith Study Offsite
 November 26 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer Zoom
 9:30 a.m. SSC: Drop-In Services Anderson Hall
 9:30 a.m. CLL: Yoga for Strong Bones Zoom
 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. SSC: Living Room. Borwell Dining Room
 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
 6:00 p.m. AA: LGBTQIA+ Room 4F

Thursday, November 27 • Thanksgiving Day • Church Offices and Campus Closed

Friday, November 28 • Church Offices and Campus Closed

Saturday, November 29 • Church Offices and Campus Closed

First Sunday of Advent 9:30 a.m. Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. Sanctuary / Online
 November 30 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
 10:30 a.m. A Time of Prayer Stone Chapel
 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour Anderson Hall
 10:30 a.m. Online Coffee Hour. Zoom
 10:30 a.m. Family Advent Wreath Workshop Room 5C
 11:00 a.m. Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. Sanctuary
 11:00 a.m. Senior High Gathering. Fifth-Floor Lounge
 12:00 p.m. A Time of Prayer Stone Chapel
 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour Anderson Hall
 12:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal Buchanan Chapel
 12:15 p.m. Caregiver Circle: Dementia Horizons Room 5G
 12:30 p.m. TwentiesThirties Bible Study Room 5B
 4:00 p.m. Spiritual Practices: Wall of Prayer Buchanan Chapel
 4:00 p.m. Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30) Anderson Hall
 4:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Medical Service. Borwell Dining Room



Enjoy the Music of the Season!

Friday, December 5
Chicago a cappella Holiday Concert

at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel

Tickets available at chicagoacappella.org

Sunday, December 7
Lux Cantorum Holiday Concert

at 4:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel

Tickets available from luxcantorum.org

Tuesday, December 9
Good Memories Holiday Choral Concert

12:15 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel

Free concert

Thursday, December 18
Sounds Good Holiday Choral Concert

2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Free concert

Saturday, December 20
Christmas with Tower Brass

at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary and livestreamed

Free concert; \$20 suggested donation

Sunday, December 21
Bach's Magnificat

presented by the Morning Choir and members of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago

during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship

(the 9:30 service will be livestreamed)

