

Sunday, September 18, 2022

3:00pm

Madonna della Strada Chapel

## Michael Rees, Organ

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Toccatina and Fugue in F Major, BWV 540

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Toccatina, Chorale, and Fugue, Op. 16

Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

Ascension Suite

Sharon Willis (b.1949)

- I. Juba: SonRise
- II. Elegy: Lamentation
- III. Interlude: Prayer
- IV. March Triumphant: The Bridge

Symphonie. No. 1

Rachel Laurin (b.1961)

- IV. Toccatina
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Michael Rees has been the organ scholar at the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago since September 2021. There, he accompanies the several choirs, including the fully professional Morning Choir, and splits the service playing with director of music John W. W. Sherer.

A native of rural southeastern Colorado, Michael began taking organ lessons at Pomona College in Claremont, California while earning his degree in mathematics from neighboring Harvey Mudd College. He then spent two years in Houston before moving to Chicago in 2019. He is currently studying with Stephen Buzard; previously, his major teachers have included Dr. William Peterson and Daryl Robinson.

Michael is a frequent recitalist in the Chicago area, with recent and upcoming appearances at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Evanston, St. James Cathedral in Chicago, First Presbyterian Church in Arlington Heights, the Lutheran School of Theology, and Madonna della Strada Chapel at Loyola University, in addition to his regular appearances on the Fourth Presbyterian Church weekly concert series. He will also play a dedication recital of the recently expanded organ at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Greeley, Colorado later this year.

Michael is the current secretary of the Chicago Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Before coming to Fourth Church, he held organist positions at Barrington United Methodist Church and at the First Presbyterian Church of Sugar Land, Texas. He is also an avid open source software programmer and has contributed to many widely used projects.

