



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve Children's Pageant
December 24, 2023 • 4:00 p.m.



Prelude

Christmas Carol Sing-Along *(everyong is invited to sing)*

Carol 119: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Carol 132: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Carol 143: "Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

Introit :: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" A.E. Rusbridge

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Carol** :: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Hymnal 133

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

First Lesson Luke 1:26–33, 38

Mary’s Song “Magnificat” by C. Winfred Douglas

Anthem

“Come, Come, Emmanuel” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becky Slagle Mayo

Second Lesson Luke 2:1–7

Carol :: “Away in a Manger” (*congregation remains seated*) Hymnal 115

*All children in **shepherd** and **animal** costumes are invited to come forward at the start of the hymn*

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Third Lesson Luke 2:8-9

***Carol** :: “Go, Tell It on The Mountain” Hymnal 136

*All children in **angel** costumes are invited to come forward at the start of the hymn*

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth. (*Refrain*)

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (*Refrain*)

Fourth Lesson Luke 2:10–14

Anthem :: “Angels We Have Heard on High” Edward S. Barnes

Fifth Lesson Luke 2:15–20

Carol :: “What Child Is This” Hymnal 145

*Congregation remains seated.
All children in **animal, angel, and shepherd**
costumes return back to their parents*

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Sixth Lesson Matthew 2:1–4, 9–11

Anthem :: “We Three Kings” John H. Hopkins Jr.

Presentation of Gifts :: “The First Nowell” Hymnal 147 (*verses 1–4*)

*During this hymn, children are welcome to come forward
to place by the manger the traditional gifts of socks.*

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

(Continued on facing page)

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. (*Refrain*)

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. (*Refrain*)

This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. (*Refrain*)

Offertory Anthems

- “People, Look East” Besançon Carol
- “Ding-Dong! Merrily on High” Rosephanye Powell

Prayer of Dedication

The Lord’s Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Homily. Matt Helms

Spreading the Light (*congregation remains seated*)

Songs of Praise (*congregation remains seated*)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” Hymnal 121 (*verses 1 and 2 only*)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

“Silent Night, Holy Night!” Hymnal 122 (*verses 1 and 2 only*)

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
’round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav’nly hosts sing “Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!”

Silence

***Carol** :: “Joy to the World” Hymnal 134

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy.
No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.
He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love.

***Benediction**

Postlude

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come Garth Edmundson

***Gifts supporting Christmastime Sanctuary adornments have
been made in memory and in honor of family, friends, and loved ones.***

In Memory of

Mary Shawn Addington
Annelle Ahmed
Susan Lohr Alexander
Norman K. Anderson
Bill and Ruth Andrews
James and Joan Bailey
Eric S. Ball
Mr. and Mrs. O.E. Banker
Evelyn Banks
James Baughman
Richard Beilfuss
Lourdes Belo Melion
Magdalena and Jacob Binnendijk
Frances May and
Hershel Blakeney
Mary E. Bolton
Alan and Florence Book
Sonja Bowen
John H. Boyle
Dean Richardson Brandt
Carl Bridges and Lucille Stone
Bridges
Eleanor T. and Colver R. Briggs
Carl and Irma Broders
E.W. and Mathilda Broders
Monica Brown
Margaret Harris and
Bruce Brumfield
Blanche M. Buchanan and
Robert E. Buchanan
Steve Bumpus
Marc and Frances Burr
Cedric Charles Carter
Catherine and Harold Clark
Edythe and Henry Clum
David and Patricia Clyde
Hunter Q. Coe
Mary Alice, Mike, and Sarah
Conlon
Sandra Cotosman
Robert and Arvilla Crouch
Chet Currier
Larry Denison
Andrew Derks
Wilbert and Beth Doak
Barbara Doyle
Helen and Elliott Faulk
Peggy Faulkner
Sue Felty

Bud Fennema
Robert D. Ferguson
Mildred Ann Fleming
Wilbert David Fleming
Elizabeth B. and
David Forbes Orwig
Edward C. and Mary M. Fordney
James "Chief" and
Eunice Gabelman
Vera Gaines
Bruce Garrett
Jose Garza
William and Sarah Gentle
Dorothy and Ed Goerling
Joyce Green Kolton
David Whieldon Grinslade
Gordon and Barbara Gubbins
Jeff Gubbins
Margaret and Armon C. Haagen
Pam, Frank, and Jeanne Habicht
Hugh F. Halverstadt
Myrtle and Otto Hannemann
Sue Hannemann
Jackie Harrington
Paul and Eillene Hawk
Marsha Heizer
Francis and Elaine Hoeltgen
Haldor J. and Laura Hofteig
Lauren Paul Hofteig
Martha Hopkins Lehnis
George H. Horsman
Barbara Horsman Mason
Willie Houston
Bob and Ginny Jacob
James Ethan Jacobs
Ok-Soon Ji
Chris Joseph
Phillip Joseph
Bertha and Robert Kearney
Joyce and Robert S. Kearney
Richard W. and Dorothy L. Kerch
Dorothy Jean Kerr
Wendy Keys
Ward Kirby
Helmut Knapp
Tallie and Helmuth Kohler
Sue Krasnek
Lucille Lacy
Shirley Lacy
Wendel LaFortune

Patrica Lamps
Betty, Clifford, and
Danmen Latherow
Tom Leahy
Robert and Irene Lindau
Ross Lober
Richard Lowry Garza
Sally Lowry Garza
Shirley Lowry Haas
H. H. "Scot" MacPherson
Barbara Maggio
Sebastian Maggio
Cecile Maxwell Griffith
Charles D. McAdams
Jerry and Grace McFarlane
Florence D. McMillan
Hans Melion
Harriet Melion
Ed and Julia Miller
Marcus J. and Betty Cole Miller
Miss Ollie
Betty Myers
Robert E. Olson
Mildred and David Ostfeld
Robert and Gladys Ostman
Michael Pagliarella and
Hugh Foley
Helen Palk
Gerald Patterson
Wayne and Gerry Peak
Donald and Janet Peters
Robert Petkus
Mark E. Preiman
Robert L. Price
Don and Christena Rath
Beth Repke
Dorothy Ritchie
William and Eva Roberts
Alyson Robertson
Antoinette and John Rojc
Lewis G. and Amelia
Schimmelpfennig
Fred and Emily Schwartz
George J. Scoulas
Barbara Shanahan
Joseph Shanahan
Swadesh Sharma
Edith Shifflett
Joyce Sigmon
Mary L. Simmons

David Lamar Singleton
John and Maude Singleton
Samuel Myrus Singleton
Stephen Sondheim
Hyman and Aurelia Spann
Chester and Lillie Stean Carter
Moreland Grace (Gigi) Stenstrom
Stevenson Family
Hazel and Doug Storer
Michael Sturuss
Cecy R. Szuba
Helen Szuba
Donald W. and Bonnie Jean Tarun
David W. Thomspson
Timothy Tincknell
William and Elinore Todt
Karen Trabert
A. Robert Twardock
Kristi Kathryn Walker
Roy and Rosemary Winkler
Anna S. and Edward V. Wosylus
Hilda V. J. Yancy
Frances M. Youngwirth
Eugene W. Zeltmann
Ruth and Eugene C. Zeltmann

In Honor of

William Grant Farrar
Marcella Garrett
Kay and Frank Giuliano
Good Samaritans
Liam Haldor Hofteig and
Brooks Prawer Hofteig
Josephine Horsman
Dorothee Knapp
Ron and Sandra Knorr
Laura Lee Larson and
Jeannie Forrest
William G. McMillan
Lydia S. Olson
Kenneth and Bonnie Prawer
Don and Nancy Sproul
Stephen Ministers
Ann Straub
Krysten and Nancie Thompson
Sue Thompson
Allison Youngblood

Christmas blessings to you!



We are delighted to be celebrating with you this Christmas Eve! As our Advent hymn of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” joyfully transitions to “O Come, Let Us Adore Him,” we embrace together the promise that has come to life: God with us. Inspired by the radical hospitality of the one born in the manger, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. We invite you to join us on the journey 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. This season and always may you know and rejoice in the abiding presence of God with you. Merry Christmas!

Christmas Eve

This evening our candlelight Christmas Eve celebrations here in the Sanctuary will continue with our **Family Service** at 6:00 p.m. and **Lessons and Carols** at 8:00 p.m. (which will be livestreamed) and 10:00 p.m. ✨ **Discounted parking** for Christmas Eve services is only available at the 900 N. Michigan garage, at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours (and \$18 for up to 12 hours) when using a green validation ticket picked up from one of the ushers when exiting the Sanctuary.

Christmas Day

We invite you to join us again tomorrow when we gather on **Christmas morning** for a joy-filled service of worship at 10:00 a.m. ✨ Discounted **Christmas Day parking** will be available only at the 900 N. Michigan garage and will cost \$20. Those parking validations can be purchased in the Fourth Church Commons tomorrow morning prior to returning to the garage after worship. ✨ While we will not be livestreaming the Christmas Day service, we encourage those looking for an **online option on Christmas Day** to view the Christmas Eve service from 8:00 tonight or any of our past seasonal offerings available on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos). We will also be sharing there tomorrow morning a brief **Christmas “Rhythm and Word” video**, offering scripture, music, and reflection for Christmas Day.

Sharing Christmas joy

Our annual “**Light Up a Life**” offering provides funds for **Fourth Church programs** that support our neighbors and congregation; for **Chicago Lights**, our nonprofit community outreach arm, as their Social Service Center, Tutoring, and Urban Farm programs build brighter futures for Chicago’s youth and adults through supportive relationships and life-changing programs; for **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**; and for the **Presbyterian Church (USA) Joy Offering**. You can make a gift to the “Light Up a Life” offering by using the offering envelopes found in the pew racks; or by indicating that designation when giving via the church website at www.fourthchurch.org/give or via Venmo; or by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Christmas reflections

Daily Christmas devotions, written by Fourth Church members and staff and based on **favorite hymn texts of the season**, are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. We invite you to receive them in your inbox (*subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions*), read them online (*www.fourthchurch.org/devotions*), or share them via Facebook (*www.facebook.com/fourthchurch*). ✨ Our **“Rhythm and Word” video series** offers ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer for viewing at home. The next video will be released on **Christmas Day** at 9:00 a.m. on YouTube. On January 3 we will return to releasing the videos on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail to receive them by email; you can also subscribe to our YouTube channel: www.bit.ly/fpcvideos ✨ Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to tune in to their **“Bible Top Ten” podcast** (*www.fourthchurch.org/podcasts*). This lively, informative, and often amusing podcast explores the Bible through a rotating series of top ten lists, with recent topics on lesser-known figures of Advent and stories of waiting.

When the season isn't easy

Feelings of grief over losses can be heightened at this time of year. **Expectations for the holidays** can be different from the realities. The season can be lonely, and the turning of the year can be both challenging and an opportunity when we seek someone to walk alongside us in embracing change and opportunity. Fourth Church's **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** offers various resources and a supportive environment for reflecting on, exploring, and coping with such experiences. To learn how the Replogle Center can help, call the Center at 312.787.8425 or visit www.reploglecenter.org

Pastoral care and a listening presence and witness

To **talk to a pastor** or **notify pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, email 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. ✨ 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 **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, email caringministries@fourthchurch.org

Joining together in service

Each of us has gifts and **talents to share** with our community. Perhaps it is lending a listening ear, serving meals, or tutoring a child. We invite you to explore **volunteer opportunities matching your interests** at www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers or by contacting Robert Crouch (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

New Year's Eve

Next **Sunday, December 31**, we will have **just one morning worship service, at 10:00 a.m.** (*also livestreamed*). We will then gather in our Sanctuary with neighbors and our friends from Holy Name Cathedral at 6:30 p.m. for a candlelit **New Year's Eve Taizé service** (*in person only*). This Taizé service offers moving music, space for prayer, and meditative pause for reflecting on the year past and looking ahead to the year to come. (*Our weekly 2:00 p.m. service will not be held on New Year's Eve but will resume on January 7. Our schedule of two morning worship services will resume on January 7 as well.*)

Worshipping with us in person

Worship can be heard through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids. ✨ During worship please silence **electronic devices**. ✨ If you like to join us for **in-person worship**, we typically gather at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., although as noted above, we will have just one service next Sunday, December 31, at 10:00 a.m.

Worshipping with us online

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, next **Sunday, December 31, we will be streaming the 10:00 a.m. service** on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where it can be viewed any time after the service begins. (*For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning*) We will also be streaming our **8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service** tonight.

When our regular Sunday schedule resumes on January 7, we will return to livestreaming our 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services. ✨ **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the livestreamed service.

Worship podcasts and sermon text

During the week the Sunday morning **service and sermon is available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at fourthchurch.org/podcasts ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday morning's **sermon text** (fourthchurch.org/sermons) **by email** by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons.

Prayer and meditation

On Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). Our **in-person Morning Prayer** in Buchanan Chapel will resume at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 3. ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is offered virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).

Get connected

We invite you to take advantage of the many opportunities for **learning, serving, and community building** at Fourth Church. Coming up this week is **Men's Bible Study**, which meets via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. For details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ Our weekly free **Friday Noonday Concerts series** (*in the Sanctuary and livestreamed*) features **organist John Sherer** this Friday, December 29. For a schedule of concerts at Fourth Church, see www.fourthchurch.org/concerts

Coming up in the new year

A new session of fitness classes along with lectures and arts courses for **adults sixty and over** kicks off Tuesday, January 2, when the **Center for Life and Learning** begins their winter programming. See www.fourthchurch.org/cll for details. ✨ **Knitting and Crocheting** gathers Tuesday, January 2 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B, with a monthly Zoom option later in the month. ✨ On Sunday, January 7, **Sunday School** for children from three years old to fifth grade resumes at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. **Eighth-grade Confirmation** and **Junior and Senior High** youth groups will also return to their Sunday morning schedule that day. ✨ **"Finding Faith in Hard Times: When Bad Things Happen to Good People"** is the topic of a three-week Adult Education class led by Amy Pagliarella beginning Sunday, January 7 at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/afindingfaith ✨ **Books by Women** will discuss *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley on Tuesday, January 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. ✨ **Horizons Women's Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Wednesday, January 10 at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m. For Zoom details, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ **"The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Future of American Democracy"** will be the topic of our next **Michigan Avenue Forum**, which will be held on Wednesday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our speaker will be **Robert P. Jones**, author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy and the Path to a Shared American Future*. ✨ To learn more about our **Day School preschool**, contact Kathy Hager (khager@fourthchurch.org).

Stay connected!

We hope to stay connected with you in the seasons ahead! Please do take some time to explore any of the opportunities that interest you—or even just make you curious. You can find details about them and **additional ways to connect** with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, on **our website: fourthchurch.org**, where you will also discover various **resources**. ✨ To see all that is going on at Fourth Church, we encourage you to bookmark our **online church calendar**, which is accessible from our website's home page and at fourthchurch.org/calendar ✨ We invite you to **follow us** on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch), and Instagram (instagram.com/fourthchurch). ✨ Look for information, updates, and **snapshots of life at Fourth Church** in our weekly email newsletter, to which you can subscribe at ww.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Associate Pastor

The Cherub, Children's, and Youth Choirs; Katy Sinclair, Director; Hsing-Huei Huang, Pianist

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Briana Belding-Peck, Family Ministry Coordinator

Milan Sharma

Sawyer Stern

Nya Celestino

Monaco Palumbo

Nina Menelli

Lola Jarrett

OUR ANNUAL "LIGHT UP A LIFE" OFFERING

provides funds for Fourth Church programs supporting our neighbors and congregation; for Chicago Lights, as it extends kindness and love to those who are most vulnerable; for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; and for the Presbyterian Church (USA) Joy Offering. To make a gift to "Light Up a Life," use the offering envelopes in the pew racks; or designate "Light Up a Life" when giving online via Venmo or the church website: www.fourthchurch.org/give; or write it on the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Tom Are Jr. Interim Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

Matt Helms Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries

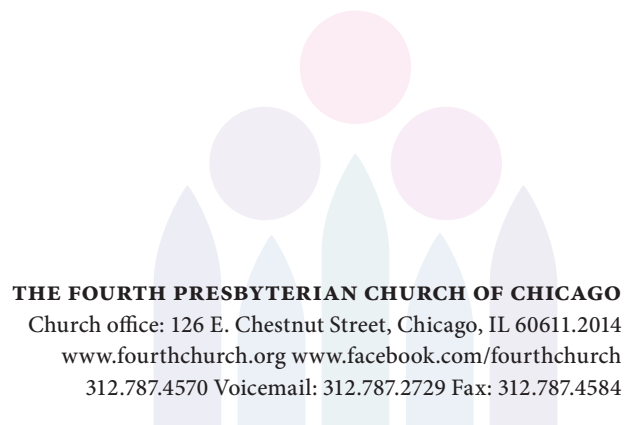
Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship

Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus



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