Gathering Music

Prelude in C Major  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
Andante Sostenuto  
Felix Mendelssohn  
The Rising Moon  
Paul Sullivan

We invite you to complete the prayer card found in this worship bulletin and to place it in the plate during the sharing of gifts. Information about the prayer cards is printed on the outside back cover of the bulletin.

Welcome

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Presbyterian Church welcomes all of God’s children into the life of the church regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical limitation, educational background, or economic situation.

Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come!
People: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
Leader: Let us praise the Lord together.
People: The sun shall no longer be our light by day, 
nor will the brightness of the moon shine on us,
Leader: for the Lord will be our light and our God will be our glory.
People: The Lord will be our everlasting light and our days of sorrow will end.
Leader: Come, let us sing to our light and salvation!
Prayer of Confession (unison)

We long to live according to your will, but often we fall short.
We look back upon the year that has past, knowing that we have made mistakes.
We look forward to the coming year, hoping to come closer to your hopes for us.
Forgive us, Lord, for trying to do it all on our own.
Help us to look to you, the source of new creation, so that we might learn to follow your will and walk in your ways.
Guide our lives, as you once guided those who went to see the Christ child.
Help us to set our eyes on your star and follow it.
Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: As God’s forgiven people, let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

All are invited to stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.
Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Psalter        Psalm 72:1–7          (page 504, O.T.)

First Lesson  Luke 2:8–20           (page 54, N.T.)

Second Lesson Matthew 2:1–12       (page 1, N.T.)

Sermon by Adam Fronczek
A Story for Shepherds; A Story for Kings

*Hymn       “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

Please place gifts and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.

Offertory Anthem    “The Three Kings”  Peter Cornelius

Three kings came forth from an Eastern land; a bright star led them
to Jordan’s strand; and when they came into Judah, the three asked
where the newborn King should be. For gold and myrrh and frankincense
they brought to lay before his innocence. The star shone high in the
firmament and to a stable the three kings went, and when they looked
on that child so sweet, the three kings bended then low at his feet.
They brought a gift, was lovelier than gold or frankincense or myrrh.
O child of man, take the pilgrim’s way; the three kings took it,
do thou as they, the star of mercy, the star of love, shall light thy path
to the Lord above. Leave frankincense and myrrh and gold;
give him thy heart to have and hold. Give him thy heart.

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav’nly host;
The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Sanctus

Prayers of the People

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.
The Communion

Communion Music  “’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”  French carol

’Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled,
that mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead. Before their light
the stars grew dim and wondering hunters heard the hymn,
“Jesus, your King, is born. In excelsis gloria.” Within a lodge of
broken bark the tender babe was found; a ragged robe of rabbit skin
enwrapped his beauty round. The chiefs from far before him knelt
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt. “Jesus, your King, is born.
In excelsis gloria.” O children of the forest free, O you of Manitou,
the holy child of earth and heaven is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant boy who brings you beauty,
peace, and joy. “Jesus, your King, is born. In excelsis gloria.”

Prayer after Communion  (unison)

God of grace, you renew us at your table
with the bread of life.
May this food strengthen us
as we seek to walk according to your will.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sending

*Sending Song  “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

*Benediction

Sending Music  Prelude  Frédéric Chopin
A note on inclusive language
Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God will be named corporately in a variety of ways that are gender neutral. This allows for your personal expressions as you are led to name the Holy in ways meaningful to you.

Worship Leaders
Adam Fronczek  Associate Pastor
Sarah A. Johnson  Pastoral Resident
Fourth at Four Ensemble
The Chamber Choir
Carol Carpenter  Soloist
John W. W. Sherer  Organist and Director of Music

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611; www.fourthchurch.org
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

Fourth Church Cares
To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion with a Deacon, contact Ali Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 312.573.3360 (atrowbridge@fourthchurch.org).
News and Opportunities

Mission and Outreach

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is Monday, January 18; in observance, members of the Fourth Church community are invited to participate in service projects that Monday and on the preceding Saturday, January 16 as part of a citywide volunteer effort coordinated by Chicago Cares. Additionally, on Sunday, January 17, Fourth Church will honor the life and legacy of Dr. King during the 4:00 p.m. worship service. For more details or to volunteer, visit www.fourthchurch.org or contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382.

Save the date! Carnaval, the 2010 Mission Benefit, will be held on Friday, March 5 at the Ritz-Carlton.

Those interested in the mission trip to Tanzania and Kenya (June 18–July 1) are encouraged to turn in applications well before the February 1 deadline as spots for this trip are limited. Applications for the April 26–May 2 mission trip to New Orleans are also due February 1. Details about these Fourth Church trips and others are available in the literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html. Contact Vicki Reynolds at 312.981.3384 for more information.

Chicago Lights Holiday Cards make great seasonal thank-you notes. Cards are available at the reception desk. All proceeds benefit the Tutoring program.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday school classes for children meet Sunday mornings at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Fourth Church youth meet each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.: Elevation (grades 6–7) meets in the Manse basement, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8) meets in the Page Smith Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets in the Crow’s Nest.

Worship

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sunday mornings. Individuals can place their prayer requests, written on paper, in one of the prayer boxes, which are located outside Stone Chapel, in the Narthex, and in Anderson Hall.

Morning Prayer is held weekdays at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesday, when it is held at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for Morning Prayer, which takes place in Stone Chapel and offers opportunity to pray for those in need.

Sunday morning worship services are held at 8:00 (Communion) and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

An Epiphany labyrinth walk will be available on Saturday, January 9 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

A prayer service in the style of Taizé is held the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel. The next service will be Friday, January 22.

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Workers to help local agencies on January 16 or 18 to honor the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Instrumentalists and Chamber Choir singers to assist in leading 4:00 p.m. worship

Temporary data entry volunteer to assist Tutoring program; Monday–Thursday, 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.

Current Donation Needs

Toiletries—including soap, shampoo, deodorant—for guests of the Social Service Center

For details and a list of additional needs, contact Larry Nicholson, Director of Volunteer Ministry, at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org).
News and Opportunities

Enrichment

Weekly Bible Study opportunities:
John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Women, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.
Life and Learning, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Inquirers’ Class offers an opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class, which will meet this Monday, January 4 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room, is also a prerequisite for membership.

Men’s Bible Study will meet this Tuesday, January 5 at 7:30 a.m. For details, contact Anita Bright at 312.573.3364 (abright@fourthchurch.org).

Books by Women will meet this Tuesday, January 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse to discuss Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout. All are welcome.

A twelve-week Nia series will begin this Wednesday, January 6. Classes are held Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 a.m. For details or to register, call the Nia Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 371 or visit www.niachicago.com.

An eight-session T’ai Chi course for beginners will start this Thursday, January 7 at 5:00 p.m. For more information or to register, call the T’ai Chi Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 388.

Live webcasts of noontime lectures from Calvin College’s award-winning January Series will be shown weekdays at Fourth Church January 6–26 (except January 18) at 11:30 a.m. and are being hosted by the Academy for Faith and Life. “The Healing of America: A Global Quest for Better, Cheaper, and Fairer Health Care,” will be presented this Wednesday, “The New American Culture War” will be presented this Thursday, and “Green Prosperity” will be presented this Friday. For more details, visit www.calvin.edu/january/2010.

The Winter Open House for the Center for Life and Learning will be held Wednesday, January 20 at the Prizker Military Library. Reservations are required for this free event, which is open to those sixty and over. For details or to RSVP, stop by the CLL front desk or call Patricia Amis at 312.981.3387.

The Family-to-Family Education Program is a twelve-week course for families and friends of adults living with mental illness. The first session is Monday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. Registration for this free course is required; call the Family-to-Family Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 375.

The Community Book Group will meet Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths by Bruce Feiler.

Fellowship

Fourth Dimension, a fellowship group for individual adults in their late forties and older, will meet this Friday, January 8 for a presentation by Dirk Ficca, Executive Director of the Council for a Parliament of the World’s Religions. For information or to register, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

“Afghanistan, Pakistan, and American Policy in the Region” will be the focus of the next Men’s Group meeting, which will be held this Saturday, January 9 at 8:00 a.m. in the Dining Room. To RSVP, call 312.787.4570 by 12:00 noon on Friday, January 8.

India will be the topic of a January 15 gathering for Cornerstones, a fellowship group for adults over fifty, including couples, partners, and their spouses. For details or to RSVP, call the Cornerstones Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 454.

“Seasons of Friendship” is the theme of the Fourth Church women’s retreat, which will be held the weekend of January 22–23. For details, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).
During Today’s Worship

All are encouraged to use the prayer card, found in this worship bulletin, to offer joys and/or concerns. The cards will be collected during the Sharing of Gifts (simply place the card in the offering plate as it is passed). The prayers will then be incorporated into this afternoon’s Prayers of the People.

If you have a prayer you would rather not share during worship, you are invited to complete a prayer card found by one of the prayer boxes in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary, and it will be passed on to Ali Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care.

All, including children, are invited to the Lord’s Table to receive Communion, which is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available in the paper “cup” within the basket of bread), which they will then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles.

Pastoral Staff for 4:00 Worship
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Jocelyn C. Cadwallader, Pastoral Resident
Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident
Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

During the Concerns of the Church, please pass the pew information pads, so that all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service.

The large banners hanging in the middle of the Sanctuary were created by liturgical artist Shawna Bowman during the 4:00 worship service and are artistic representations of our worship experience.

Large-print Bibles and individual listening devices for improved sound are available in the back of the sanctuary. Worship also can be heard through the “T” setting of hearing aids.

If your infant or small child needs care during the worship service, you may leave the sanctuary and return as you wish. The worship service audio can be heard in Stone Chapel, where you and your child are also welcome. There is also an area in the side aisle where your child can play quietly.

Worship folders, containing quiet activities and a bulletin designed for children, are available from an usher.

Please turn off all cell phones when in the sanctuary.

If You Are New to Fourth Church

Please wear a lapel pin, found in the pew racks, so we might greet you after worship. We invite you to stop by the community meal or the Loggia (through the doors to your left as you face the front of the sanctuary) after worship for fellowship, conversation, and information about church programs and volunteer opportunities.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Streets) at the rate of $7.75. Validation tickets must be picked up from the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.

Inquirers’ Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, January 4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.; or Sunday, January 24 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information, contact Linda Loving, Minister for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (lloving@fourthchurch.org).