

May 28, 2006

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

The congregation departs. Same old quarrels in the car on the way home. Same old tensions at dinner. Same tired beginning on Monday. Now, however, there is disclosed a new word, a new hope, a new possibility. . . . The vulnerability permits me to come out from behind my desk, my stethoscope, my uniform, my competence, my credentials, my fears—to meet life a little more boldly. . . . We move through the wearisome death-ridden days of our life to come back once again to Easter to be stunned into disbelief, and then beyond disbelief, to be stunned to life.

*Finally Comes the Poet*  
Walter Brueggemann

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate  
in the worship, program, and service life of Fourth Church.*

### During Today's Worship

Large-print bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals are available in the back of the sanctuary.

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. Child care for infants and toddlers is provided in Westminster 14, through the south transept doors and to the right. See an usher for directions.

Worship bags, containing quiet activities and a bulletin designed for children, are available outside the south transept doors, between the sanctuary and Anderson Hall. Children who are attending worship in the sanctuary are invited to borrow one of these bags.

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.

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.

A church tour begins at 12:15 p.m., starting at the back of the sanctuary.

We invite you to stop by Coffee Hour after worship for fellowship, conversation, and information about church programs and volunteer opportunities.

Parking is available Sundays at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$7.00 until 2:00 p.m. and at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.75 to 4:00 p.m. and \$6.00 after 5:00 p.m. Validation tickets must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore Presbyterian history and beliefs.

This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, June 5 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, June 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, June 25 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at the church at 312.981.4025 (cmacleod@fourthchurch.org).

### Fourth Church Cares

For pastoral care; to notify the church of illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request to be remembered in Morning Prayer; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Elizabeth Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care, at 312.274.3818 (eandrews@fourthchurch.org).

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago  
John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2094; www.fourthchurch.org  
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

## MORNING WORSHIP

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00

*The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent,  
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

PRELUDE (8:00) Ascension Day *Olivier Messiaen*  
II. Serene Alleluias from a Soul Longing for Heaven

PRELUDE (9:30 and 11:00) Ascension Day *Olivier Messiaen*  
I. Majesty of Christ Praying That His Father Should  
Glorify Him  
II. Serene Alleluias from a Soul Longing for Heaven  
IV. Prayer from Christ Ascending towards His Father

INTROIT "Let Us Clap Our Hands" *Mikolaj Gomolka*  
Let us clap our hands unto the Lord of lords. Let us  
sing with voice of melody unto the Lord that is to  
be feared, unto the Lord and King over all the earth.

\*DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION (The Hymnal, 592)

\*HYMN 147 "Blessing and Honor" *Tune: O QUANTA QUALIA*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole mind and strength.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be,  
so that we may delight in your will and  
walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

### DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

### CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 1 (*responsively*) (page 463, O.T.)

ANTHEM "My God Is So High" *African American spiritual*  
*arr. Moses Hogan*

My God is so high you can't get over him; he's so low you can't get under him; he's so wide you can't get around him. You must come in by and through the Lamb. One day as I was a-walking along the heavenly road, my Savior spoke unto me, and he filled my heart with his love. I'll take my gospel trumpet and I'll begin to blow, and if my Savior helps me, I'll blow wherever I'll go.

FIRST LESSON Acts 1:21–26 (page 111, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

\*GLORIA PATRI (The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON 1 John 5:9–13 (page 227, N.T.)

SERMON by Walter Brueggemann  
THE RISK OF TRUTH-TELLING

"Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. . . . God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

1 John 5:10–11 (NRSV)

\*HYMN 120 "Hail Thee, Festival Day!" *Tune: SALVE FESTA DIES*

\*APOSTLES' CREED (*unison*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Hear My Prayer, O Lord"

*Stephen Sturk*

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come unto thee. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO  
(8:00)

"En Prière "

*Gabriel Fauré*

If the voice of a child can reach you, O my Father,  
listen to the prayer of Jesus on his knees before you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM  
(9:30 and 11:00)

"O, Clap Your Hands"

*Ralph Vaughan Williams*

O, clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God  
with the voice of triumph, for the Lord most high  
is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.  
God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the  
sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises  
unto our King. For God is King of all the earth,  
sing ye praises everyone that hath understanding.  
God reigneth over the heathen. God sitteth upon  
the throne of his holiness. Sing praises unto our King.

\*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE

For the life that you have giv- en, for the love in Christ made known,  
with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:  
here we of - fer, Lord, our prai-ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.  
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

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\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

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.

All: Eternal God, creator of the world and giver of all good,  
we thank you for the earth, our home, and  
for the gift of life. We praise you for your love  
in Jesus Christ, who came to heal this broken world,  
who died rejected on the cross and  
rose triumphant from the dead.  
Because he lives, we live to praise you, our God forever .  
Gracious God, who called us from death to life,  
we give ourselves to you; and with the church  
through all ages we thank you for your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*HYMN 339

“Be Thou My Vision”

*Tune:* SLANE

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Ascension Day

O. Messaien

III. Outburst of Joy from a Soul before the Glory  
of Christ, Which Is Its Own Glory

## IN THE DETAILS



The Great East Window in the Fourth Presbyterian Church sanctuary was designed and made by renowned stained glass artist Charles J. Connick of Boston and dedicated in 1930. Also known as the Nettie Fowler McCormick Memorial Window, it illustrates the growth of Christianity from the four major prophets through the four evangelists, accompanied by the commanding figures of Peter and Paul.

Shown on this page is the evangelist Saint Matthew, who stands in the first opening of the window, at the left. (The identification "Saint Matthew" appears above his head.) The panel below him (*upper right*) portrays the parable of the wedding attendants who did not know at what hour the bridegroom would come (Matthew 25:1–13). Below that is the prophet Isaiah, seated with scroll and staff.

**One in a series on the architectural details of Fourth Church**

### Worship Leaders

- 8:00 a.m. Dana Ferguson, John M. Buchanan, Walter Brueggemann  
9:30 a.m. Dana Ferguson, John M. Buchanan, Walter Brueggemann  
11:00 a.m. Alice M. Trowbridge, John M. Buchanan, Walter Brueggemann

### The Music Today

- 8:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir; Cole Seaton, tenor soloist;  
Andrea Pokrefke, soprano soloist  
9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir; Cole Seaton, tenor soloist  
11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir; Cole Seaton, tenor soloist

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music  
Thomas Gouwens, Associate Organist

### Worship Notes

Fourth Presbyterian Church is pleased to welcome Walter Brueggemann to its pulpit this morning. An internationally renowned Old Testament scholar, prolific author, and an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, Dr. Brueggemann will be at Fourth Church the next two weeks as Theologian in Residence. See page three of the “News and Opportunities” insert in this bulletin for details about the Bible studies and evening forums Dr. Brueggemann will be leading during his time here.

The Chicago Lights Annual Fund Appeal is being received throughout May. Because this is the only general appeal for Chicago Lights that will be made this year, those who would like to make gifts in support of the Chicago Lights programs—Partners in Education, Elam Davies Social Service Center, Center for Whole Health, and Center for Older Adults—may want to take advantage of the special offering envelopes available in the pew racks. Gifts can also be made by writing “Chicago Lights Annual Fund” on a check made payable to Chicago Lights.

Fourth Church welcomes youth and adults from First Presbyterian Church of Salina, Kansas, to 11:00 worship today. During their time in Chicago, they will be volunteering at the Chicago Avenue Community Garden and with the Sunday Night Supper in the Social Service Center.

The bulletin cover: Since the church building was dedicated in May 1914, more than six million worshipers have passed under this twelve-foot wide tympanum over the Michigan Avenue entrance. The carving depicts Aaron blessing the children of Israel as he was instructed by God (Numbers 6:22–27).

### Pastoral Staff

John M. Buchanan, Pastor  
Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor  
Elizabeth B. Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care  
John H. Boyle, Parish Associate  
Patrick Daymond, Pastoral Resident  
Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship  
Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families  
Keith C. Harris, Associate Pastor for Community Ministry  
Catherine Knott, Pastoral Resident  
Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor for New Members and Young Adult Ministry  
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate  
Erica Schemper, Pastoral Resident  
Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life  
Richard Williams, Pastoral Resident  
David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus