At its heart, I think, religion is mystical: Moses with his flocks in Midian, Buddha under the Bo tree, Jesus up to his knees in the waters of the Jordan. "I have seen things," Aquinas told a friend, "that make all my writings seem like straw." Religion as institution, as dogma, as social action—all of this comes later and in the long run maybe counts for less. Religions start, as Frost said poems do, with a lump in the throat, to put it mildly, or with the bush going up in flames, the rain of flowers, the dove coming down out of the sky.

Frederick Buechner The Alphabet of Grace

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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.

(8:00) **Prelude** Adagio in A Minor Johann Sebastian Bach

(9:30 and 11:00) **Prelude** Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit God be merciful unto us, and show us the light of his

countenance that thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. Amen.

*Doxology and Invocation

(The Hymnal, 592)

*Hymn 288 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" Tune: ELLACOMBE

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world and passed by the hungr y, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus

Christ our Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

(11:00) Reception of New Members

(11:00) Commissioning of Mission Workers

Concerns of the Church

Psalter Psalm 139:1-12 (responsively) (page 577, O.T.)

Anthem "Jehovah, Let Me Now Adore Thee"

Geistreiches Gesangbuch arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel

First Lesson Matthew 13:24-30 (page 14, N.T.)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Gloria Patri (The Hymnal, 579)

(9:30) Children are dismissed to Sunday school classes.

Second Lesson Genesis 28:10-19a (page 25, O.T.)

Sermon by John M. Buchanan

AWESOME

"Surely the Lord is in this place and I did not know it! . . . How awesome is this place!" Genesis 28:16,17 (NRSV)

*Hymn 269 "O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand" Tune: DUNDEE

*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 r ose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; fr om 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 and 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 glor y forever. Amen.

Response

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thought, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me into the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

(8:00) **Offertory Solo** "Lord God of Abraham" from *Elijah*

Felix Mendelssohn

(9:30 and 11:00) **Offertory Anthem**

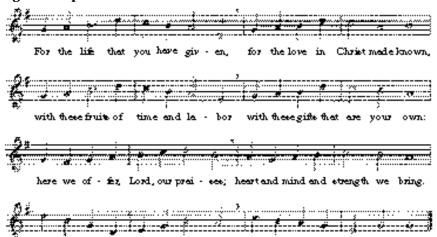
"Rise Up, Ye Saints of God"

Aaron Williams arr. Buryl Red

Rise up, ye saints of God! Have done with lesser things; give heart and mind and soul and strength to serve the King of kings. Rise up, ye saints of God! His kingdom tarries long; bring in the day of brotherhood and end the night of wrong. Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where his feet have trod; as children of the Son of man, rise up, rise up, ye saints of God.

*Presentation of the Offering and Response

"For the Life That You Have Given"



Words: Carl P. Daw Jr. @1987; Music: Morgan Simmons @1987. Used by permission.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

love and serve you,

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All: Almighty and merciful God, from whom comes all that is good, we praise you for your mercies, for your goodness that has created us, your grace that has sustained us, your discipline that has cor rected us, your patience that has borne with us, and your love that has redeemed us. Help us to love you and to be thankful for all your gifts by serving you and

delighting to do your will, through Jesus Christ our

Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 281 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Tune: CWM RHONDDA

liv - ing what we pray and sing.

Benediction and Response

Postlude Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Johann Gottfried Walther

^{*}Stand as you are able.

Today's Worship

Worship Leaders

8:00 a.m. Laurie Armstrong, Pastoral Resident

John A. Cairns, Dean, Academy for Faith and Life

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

9:30 a.m. Laurie Armstrong, Pastoral Resident

Dana Ferguson, Associate Pastor for Mission

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

11:00 a.m. John A. Cairns, Dean, Academy for Faith and Life

Dana Ferguson, Associate Pastor for Mission

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

6:30 p.m. Stephanie R. Voss, Seminarian

Donna Gray, Interim Associate Pastor for Children

and Family Ministry

The Music Today

8:00 a.m. Men of the Morning Choir; Daniel Henry, bass soloist

9:30 a.m. Men of the Morning Choir 11:00 a.m. Men of the Morning Choir

6:30 p.m. The Vespers Choir

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

Worship Notes: Commissioned as mission workers at the 11:00 service today are Josh Heikkila, a ministerial candidate and member of Fourth Church, and Laurie Armstrong, a second-year Pastoral Resident at Fourth Church. Josh will be working for a year in Ghana, Africa, with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. Laurie will be working for 10 months in Guatemala. Updates from them will be posted on the Fourth Church Web site.

The text of this morning's closing hymn "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" was written by William Williams (1717-1791), who was known as the "Sweet Singer of Wales" and the "Isaac Watts of Wales." Ordained as a deacon in the Church of England, he eventually became identified with the Calvinist Methodist movement and for more than 50 years traveled throughout Wales preaching. During that time, he wrote more than 800 hymns in Welsh and another 100 in English. The tune to which it is sung, CWM RHONDDA, was written by John Hughes (1873-1932) for a singing festival at Capel Rhondda, Pontypridd, Wales. It has become a tradition to repeat the final phrase "songs of praises I will ever give to thee."

- > FOR LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND BIBLES, ASK AN USHER.
- > Individual listening devices for improved sound are available in the Narthex.
- > Please turn off all cell phones when in the sanctuary.
- > Childcare for infants and toddlers is available in Westminster 14.
- > Please pass the pew information pads during the Concerns of the Church, so that all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service.
- > Today's sermon will be available online at www.fourthchurch.org, in both print and audio formats, later this week. This bulletin, other information about the mission and programs of Fourth Church, and past sermons are also currently available at the Web site.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Joanna M. Adams and John M. Buchanan, Pastors

Elam Davies, Pastor Emeritus

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611-2094; www.fourthchurch.org (312) 787-4570; Voice mail extensions: (312) 787-2729; Fax: (312) 787-4584

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Vespers Service

6:30 p.n

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

Prelude Adagio in A Minor Johann Sebastian Bach

Call to Worship and Invocation

*Hymn 479 "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

Tune: Lauda Anima

Prayer of Confession (unison)

We confess that too often we are too tired to take time to give our thanks, too busy to be silent and listen to you, too selfish to share our joy with the suffering and the sad, too hurt to forgive the one who forgot or caused the pain, too frightened to offer the stranger a friendly smile or word, too full of self to be faithful to you, O God, who creates, fulfills, and loves. Dear God, Creator-Parent, we confess our sins of doubt, neglect, and selfishness, and we ask you to give us your

forgiveness and your love. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Psalter Reading Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 (responsively) (page 577, O.T.)

Anthem "Vox Ultima Crucis" William H. Harris

Tarry no longer t'ward thine heritage. Haste on thy way, and be of right good cheer. Go each day onward on thy pilgrimage; think how short time shalt abide here. Thy place is bigg'd above the star is clear, none earthly place wrought in so stately wise. Come on, my friend most

entere! For thee I offer'd my blood in sacrifice.

Scripture Lesson Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (page 14, N.T.)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Meditation by Donna Gray

A FIELD OF WEEDS, A CLOUD OF WITNESSES

*Hymn 560 "We Plow the Fields and Scatter" *Tune:* NYLAND

*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our Judge and our Hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Offering

Offertory Anthem "My Eyes for Beauty Pine"

Herbert Howells

My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for God's grace, no other care nor hope is mine. To heaven I turn my face. One splendor thence is shed from all the stars above. 'Tis named when God's name is said, 'tis love, 'tis heavenly love. And every gentle heart that burns with true desire is lit from eyes that mirror part of that

celestial fire.

*Doxology

(The Hymnal, 592)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Minister: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you. Minister: Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. People:

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise. People:

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name: People:

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed

Trinity!

The Lord's Prayer

The Communion

Prayer After Communion

(unison)

We thank you, God, that we have been able to come to this table to eat this bread and drink this wine in memory of your Son Jesus. We thank you that you look upon the heart of each person, not judging by outwar d appearance or past behavior but by response to you. We thank you for your patience and everlasting persistence with the human family as we stumble toward the day of the fullness of your reign. In Christ's name. Amen.

*Hymn 541

"Now the Day Is Over"

Tune: Merrial

Benediction

Postlude

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty Johann Gottfried Walther

^{*}Stand as you are able.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Coming Fourth

IF YOU ARE NEW TO FOURTH CHURCH

Welcome! We are grateful for your presence and ask you to register your name on the pew pad. We invite you to

- > identify yourself by wearing a Fourth Church lapel pin, located in the pew racks
- > attend Coffee Hour outside in the Garth following the morning worship services for fellowship and conversation; visit the *Welcome Table* and the *Deacons' Information Table* to learn about church programs and volunteer opportunities
- > tour the church building at 12:15 p.m., beginning at the rear of the Sanctuary
- > attend an Inquirers' Class and explore Presbyterian history and beliefs either Sunday, July 28 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Monday, August 5, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, August 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This class is a prerequisite for membership. No prior registration is necessary. For further information, contact Rob Schroeder at (312) 787-2729, ext. 321

You are invited to participate in the worship, program, and service life of Fourth Church. For more information, see an usher or minister, or visit www.fourthchurch.org.

TODAY AT FOURTH CHURCH

Freshly baked Ann Sather pies are available during Coffee Hour each summer Sunday for a minimum donation of \$15 per pie. All proceeds over \$5 benefit Partners in Education Tutoring, Scholarship, and City Lights Summer Day programs, the Center for Whole Life, and the Literacy and Arts Initiative at the Near North Magnet Cluster Schools.

Applications for the Brazil trip, a mission work trip that will take place in October, are due today. The forms are available in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org.

Supporting Educational Outreach

Throughout the summer, Fourth Church is receiving an offering to support the programs of Partners in Education. Gifts can be made in support of Tutoring, the City Lights Summer Day Program, the Center for Whole Life, the Scholarship Program for Tutoring students, and the Near North Magnet Cluster's work in the Cabrini schools and community. Gifts to this special offering can be made using theenvelopes in the pew racks or by writing, on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Church, the name of the PIE program you wish to support.

Stop by the Advocacy Table to sign a letter encouraging support of a bill that would provide improved dental health care for low-income children.

Sunday school classes meet at 9:30 a.m. in Westminster House.

The John Knox Bible Study meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room.

The Academy for Faith and Life meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Anderson Hall South Balcony for "The Whys of Worship," led by John Cairns. Next Sunday, July 28 at 9:30 a.m., Dr. R. S. Mosha, chair of the spirituality department of Catholic University of Eastern Africa, will offer a glance into the soul of the African people and nations as they claim their place on the world's stage.

Fourthlights (40 and older) meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Dining Room to hear Russell Burck, Director of Ethics at Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, discuss "The Ethics of Wealth."

Children's Corner, a time of storytelling, takes place each Sunday after the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services. Children are invited to listen to stories while their parents enjoy Coffee Hour. During the summer, this story time takes place outside, on the curved steps in the Garth.

Venture Fourth (30s and 40s) meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Manse to discuss "Who Is Jesus Christ?"—an exploration of Christ in his own words. The group meets at the Chestnut Street entrance at 12:30 p.m. to go to brunch at a local restaurant.

A brief period of intercessory prayer is led by Deacons after the 11:00 service. All are invited to Stone Chapel to participate. Written prayer requests can be placed in the box outside the chapel.

Today's outdoor concert features music by the Chicago Mountain String Band. Free "Music by the Fountain" concerts take place in the Garth each Sunday at 5:00 p.m. and Friday at 12:10 p.m. during July and August. Concert schedules are available in the literature racks.

Fourthcomers Young Adult Fellowship (20s and 30s) meets for an Open House anytime after 7:00 pm at a member's home. All young adults, especially newcomers, are invited to attend and bring drinks or food to share. For directions, call the Fourthcomers Infoline at ext. 385.

COMING EVENTS

Stay in touch with Fourth Church this summer through News@FourthChurch, a weekly e-mail newsletter. To receive this newsletter, send your e-mail address to news@fourthchurch.org. To receive the daily e-mailed devotions written by the pastoral staff, simply send your e-mail address to devotions@fourthchurch.org.

Fourthcomers meet for volleyball on Oak Street Beach each Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. Look for a net with blue trim and a Fourth Church sign.

Young Adult Bible Study meets outside this summer on Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. by the fountain in the Garth. The topic of discussion, throughout the summer, is the book of Matthew.

The Friday "Music by the Fountain" concert features the Nick Bisesi Quartet. This July 26 concert begins at 12:10 p.m.

Fourthlights gathers for a summer "picnic in the sky" on Friday, July 26 at 6:30 p.m. at a penthouse on Lake Shore Drive. RSVP by Tuesday, July 23 by calling the Fourthlights Infoline at ext. 494.

Venture Fourth meets on Friday, July 26 at 6:30 p.m. for a social hour at the Four Seasons Hotel Lounge and Conservatory (seventh floor).

Appointments Required for Blood Drive

The annual summer blood drive at Fourth Church will be held next Sunday, July 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. Donor appointments will be required (unlike previous blood drives, no walk-in donors will be taken) and can be made during Coffee Hour today or by calling the Blood Donor Infoline at ext. 372 before next Sunday.

Cornerstones (couples 50 and above) will take a trolley ride through Grant Park, Chinatown, and Pilsen on Friday, August 2 at 5:45 p.m. RSVP by Wednesday, July 30 by calling the Cornerstones Infoline at ext. 454

Books by Women discusses The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse by Louise Erdrich on Tuesday, August 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room.

Women@Fourth Connect

invites you to participate in a picnic for the children at Grainger Hall, part of the Chicago Christian Industrial League, on Wednesday, July 31, 5:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed to bake cupcakes and cookies as

well as help grilling hotdogs and hamburgers. Please contact Lisa Cochrane at ext. 271 for more information.

"Listening for God in the Stranger," Fourthlights' fall retreat, takes place September 27-29 at Lake Lawn Lodge in Delavan, Wisconsin. Information and application forms are available at the Small Group Ministry Table during Coffee Hour or in the literature racks.

Travel to the Canadian Rockies September 27-October 4 on a trip being organized by the Center for Older Adults. COA members will be given priority registration, followed by members and friends of Fourth Church. For information, call Mary Belcastro at ext. 232 or Pat Langton at ext. 290.

FOURTH CHURCH CARES

- > Pastoral Care: For information about the kinds of pastoral care available; to notify the church of illnesses, death, hospitalizations, and other concerns; or to pass along a prayer request to be remembered in weekday Morning Prayer (9:00 a.m. in Blair Chapel), contact Carol Allen, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at ext. 292 or e-mail callen@fourthchurch.org.
- > Births, Adoptions, and Baptisms: To notify the church of births and adoptions or for information about baptisms, call Donna Gray, Interim Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry, at ext. 291.
- > Weddings: For information about getting married at Fourth Church, contact Ann Meuse, Wedding Coordinator, at ext. 384.
- > Funerals and Memorial Services: To arrange a funeral or memorial service at Fourth Church, contact Carol Allen.

The Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, a ministry of Fourth Church, offers support groups as well as individual, couples', and premarital counseling. Information about the Center is available in the literature racks or by calling (312) 787-8425.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Among current needs are

- > Step and extension ladders to loan to the Senior High Youth Group for their work with the Appalachia Service Project July 27-August 4. (Contact: Mark Nelson, ext. 293.)
- > Gently used books for abused and neglected children going through the court system. (Drop off at the reception desk.)
- > People to paint four bookcases for the Fourth Church Day School. (Contact: Jill Stephens, ext. 282.)
- > Computer technicians to maintain work stations in Fourth Church's Tutoring Program.
- > **English tutor** for a 15year-old boy who speaks Ukrainian, Russian, and Polish.
- > Volunteers to bake cupcakes and cookies or help grill hotdogs and hamburgers for a picnic for the children at Grainger Hall, part of the

Recommending Members for Church Office

Nominating forms for the offices of Elder, Deacon, and Trustee are available in the pew racks and literature racks. Please use the forms to recommend Fourth Church members who have demonstrated gifts for leadership and a commitment to the life and ministry of this congregation. Completed forms may be placed in the offering plate, dropped off at the reception desk, or mailed to the church office before October.

- Chicago Christian Industrial League, on Wednesday, July 31 at 5:30 p.m. (Contact: Lisa Cochrane at ext. 271.)
- > **Storytellers and readers** for Children's Corner after 11:00 worship.
- > Ushers for Sunday worship: 9:30 a.m. (regularly) and 6:30 p.m. (on rotation).
- > **Refrigerator** in good working order and donations for refrigerator transport within city.
- > Health and hygiene supplies, especially individually wrapped cough drops, tissue packs, moist towelettes, small toothpaste, trial-size deodorant, and small soap for health kits to be given to guests of the Social Service Center. (Place in the "Toiletries" basket outside Anderson Hall.) For information about volunteer opportunities at Fourth Church, stop by the Volunteer Table during Coffee Hour or contact (unless otherwise noted) Larry Nicholson at ext. 463. Donations of items can be dropped off at the reception desk.

SUMMER AT THE ELAM DAVIES SOCIAL SERVICE CENTER



here is no summer vacation when it comes to the work—and needs—of the Elam Davies Social Service Center. Throughout the summer months, the Center continues to assist up to 30 people a day in a variety of ways, including providing food, clothing, and case management assistance.

How can you help? The Center is in need of donations to meet some urgent warm weather needs: box juices of any kind, canned goods, summer clothing for both men and women, and deodorant. Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk.

For more information about the Social Service Center, contact Evan Farrar, Director, at (312) 787-2729, ext. 234 (efarrar@fourthchurch.org) or visit www.fourthchurch.org.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 21	·		
7:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Nursery		Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preachir	
8:00 a.m.		and Parents Breakfast	Manse
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Garth
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School		Westminster House
9:30 a.m.			rson Hall South Balcony
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study		Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Fourthlights		Dining Room
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preachir	
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Garth
10:30 a.m.	Children's Corner		Garth
10:45 a.m.	Venture Fourth		Manse
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preachir	e e
12:15 p.m.	Coffee Hour		Garth
12:15 p.m.	New Member Brune	eh	Dining Room
12:15 p.m.	Children's Corner		Garth
12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer		Stone Chapel
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour		Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Community Supper		Dining Room
5:00 p.m.	Concert: Chicago Mountain String Band		Garth
5:30 p.m.	Vesper Choir rehearsal		Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Vespers Service	Donna Gray preaching	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Coffee Reception	V. 0	Loggia
Monday, July 22			
8:30 a.m.	City Lights, Monday through Friday		Westminster House
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayers, Monday through Friday		Blair Chapel
9:00 a.m.	Center for Older Adults, Monday through Friday		Chestnut Street lobby
6:30 p.m.	Fourthcomers Volleyball		Oak Street Beach
Tuesday, July 23			
7:30 p.m.	Young Adult Bible Study		Garth
Friday, July 26			
12:10 p.m.	Concert: Nick Bisesi Quartet		Garth
6:30 p.m.	Fourthlights		(see announcements)
6:30 p.m.	Venture Fourth		(see announcements)
Sunday, July 28			
8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Morning Worship Vespers Service	Joanna M. Adams preaching Judy Landt preaching	Sanctuar y Sanctuar y

Parking is available Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$5.50 until 2:00 p.m. and \$6.25 after 5:00 p.m. and at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$5.00 until 2:00 p.m. Weekday parking is available after 5:00 p.m. at 900 North Michigan at the rate of \$6.25. Tickets must be validated in the coffee hour or at the Chestnut Street reception desk.