
Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; therefore we must be saved by hope. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we must be saved by love. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as it is from our standpoint. Therefore we must be saved by the final form of love, which is forgiveness.

Reinhold Niebuhr

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 and individual listening devices for improved sound are available in the back of the sanctuary.

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. Activity bags for children in worship are available outside the south transept doors.

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.

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

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

Parking is available Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$5.50 to 4:00 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.

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

This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Saturday, December 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; Saturday, December 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, January 5 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor for Young Adults and New Members, at 981.4025.

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 Carol Allen, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 640.5398 (callen@fourthchurch.org).

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.

Births, adoptions, and baptisms: To notify the church of births and adoptions or for information about baptisms, contact Jill Stephens in the Children and Family Ministry office at 640.2578 (jstephens@fourthchurch.org).

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
Joanna M. Adams and John M. Buchanan, Pastors
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) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Leo Sowerby*

PRELUDE (9:30 and 11:00) Fanfare and Chorus
Dieterich Buxtehude, arr. Robert King
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Leo Sowerby*
Festive and Commemorative Music, No. 1
Johannes Brahms, arr. Fred Tauber
Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending *Alan Ridout*
Lord, I Have Only Thee
Heinrich Schütz, arr. Theresia Perry

INTROIT "Prepare the Way of the Lord" *Richard Proulx*
Prepare the way, O Zion; your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear. Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story. O blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

‡DOXOLOGY (The Hymnal, 592)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
People: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

‡HYMN 7 "Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth"
Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Eternal God in whom we live and move and have our being, your face is hidden from us by our sins, and we forget our mercy in the blindness of our hearts. Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires. With lowliness and meekness may we draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(9:30 and 11:00)

UNISON PRAYER

(9:30 and 11:00)

Holy God, remind us of the promises given in our own baptism and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM

(8:00)

“Ex Sion”

Josef Rheinberger

From Zion in the light of his great beauty God has shined and is made manifest. Call together all his saints most righteous who ratified with him his own covenant once by their holy sacrifice. I heartily rejoiced at their invitation, alleluia. O let us now go up to God's own house.

ANTHEM

(9:30 and 11:00)

“Jesus Comes”

Donald James

Jesus comes with all his grace, comes to save a fallen race. Object of our glorious hope, Jesus comes to lift us up. Let the living stones cry out; let the sons of Abraham shout; praise we all our lowly King, give him thanks, rejoice and sing. We shall gain our calling's prize—after God we all shall rise, fill'd with joy and love and peace, perfected in holiness.

FIRST LESSON

Luke 3:1–6

(page 60, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

(The Hymnal, 579)

(9:30 and 11:00) Children are dismissed to Sunday School classes.

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:3–11

(page 196, N.T.)

SERMON

by Joanna M. Adams

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

“I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6 (NRSV)

*HYMN 10

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

*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.

CHORAL RESPONSE “Amen”

Franklin Glynn

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO
(8:00)

“Come Unto Him”
from *Messiah*

George Frideric Handel

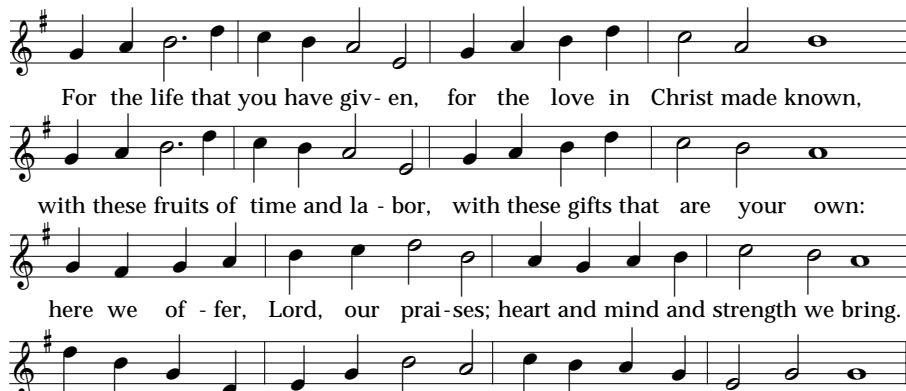
Come unto him, all ye that labor, that
are heavy laden, and he will give you rest. Take his yoke upon
you, and learn of him for he is meek and lowly of heart and ye
shall find rest unto your souls.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Laetentur caeli"
(9:30 and 11:00)

William Byrd

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad. Sing forth
praise, ye mountains, for our Lord shall come, and he shall
take pity on his afflicted people.

*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.

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

*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, we give you thanks that you came to us
in Jesus Christ, and we eagerly await his coming again
that his rule may be complete and your righteousness
reign all over the world. By your Spirit, open our eyes
to the generosity of your hand, and nurture our souls in
all spiritual gifts. Fill us with gratitude overflowing that
we may share life and love in praise to you, God of all
the ages, in the gracious name of Jesus Christ, your Son,
by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

†HYMN 9

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE
(8:00)

Carillon de Westminster

William Mathias

POSTLUDE
(9:30 and 11:00)

Toccata

Aurelio Bonelli
arr. Robert King

BAPTISM AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*"Let the little children come to me . . .
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."
Matthew 19:14 (NRSV)*

On the second Sunday of each month, Fourth Church includes the Sacrament of Baptism in morning worship. Baptism is the sign and seal of God's grace and covenant in Christ. As *The Book of Order* of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) explains, baptism signifies the faithfulness of God, the washing away of sin, rebirth, putting on the fresh garment of Christ, and adoption into the covenant family of the church.

The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God's love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The congregation, on behalf of the whole church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life, and it is for this reason that the congregation makes such a promise during the service.

In the unison prayer we also remember that we too were baptized and as children of God are part of the worldwide family of faith.

Children being baptized at the 9:30 worship service are

*Abigail Elizabeth Brodne, daughter of Bill and Lee Brodne
Samuel Tallmadge Kernahan, son of Steve and Judith Kernahan
Charles Leo Kullman, son of Wayne and Leslie Kullman
Mia Louise Nicolosi, daughter of Daniel and Ann Nicolosi
Colin Charles Nockels, son of Paul and Sharon Nockels
Ethan Jonathan Pinto, son of Perry and Jennifer Pinto*

Children being baptized at the 11:00 worship service are

*Katherine Nichole Ausman, daughter of Gary and Jean Ausman
Margo Judith Buchanan, daughter of Chris and Debra Buchanan
Madeline Houghton Jeffery, daughter of Joseph and Heidi Jeffery
Grant Joseph Mixon, son of Mark and Stephanie Mixon
Ella Suzanne Rousseau, daughter of Richard and Jennifer Rousseau*

Worship Leaders

- 8:00 a.m. John H. Boyle, Parish Associate
Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor for Young Adults
and New Members
Joanna M. Adams, Pastor
- 9:30 a.m. Donna Gray, Interim Associate Pastor for Children
and Family Ministry
John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Joanna M. Adams, Pastor
- 11:00 a.m. Donna Gray, Interim Associate Pastor for Children
and Family Ministry
John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Joanna M. Adams, Pastor

The Music Today

- 8:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir; Shanka Falls, soprano soloist
- 9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir; The Children's Choir; Tower Brass
- 11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir; Tower Brass

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas Gouwens, Associate Organist
Mary Theresa Reed, Director of Children's Music
Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

Worship Notes

The Advent banners, in the form of wings, convey the idea of Advent stillness and of waiting in the presence of angels. They were designed and painted by Eliza Linley of Berkeley, California.

The art installation of stars and doves reflects the Stewardship and Capital Campaign theme, "A Light in the City: Sharing God's Grace." The hundreds of different stars represent the individuality and diversity in our faith community. Together with the doves, symbols of God's presence and grace, they mirror light, reminding us of the abundance of God's grace to us and our gifts to others.

The Christmas Joy Offering, being received throughout December, supports various ministries, including Fourth Church's Elam Davies Social Service Center and other agencies that serve people who are homeless and hungry. The offering also supports racial ethnic education as well as retired pastors of the PCUSA. To make a gift to this offering, use an envelope from the pew rack or write "Joy Offering" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Tower Brass assists in worship leadership today as part of Celebration Sunday.

Directed by Matthew Comerford, the brass octet participates in 9:30 and 11:00 worship each third Sunday of the month from September through May.

Other Worship and Prayer Opportunities at Fourth Church

Advent morning prayer is held each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m. in Blair Chapel.

The Advent Festival of Lessons and Music is tonight at 6:00 p.m. (a half hour earlier than usual) in the sanctuary.

Midweek Advent worship, in the style of Iona, is held Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel.

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 is Friday, December 26.

Advent devotions, written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available in the literature racks and by e-mail from devotions@fourthchurch.org.