The dilemma for many people today is not uncertainty as to whether God exists. Polls continue to show that a large percentage of people in North America believe in a "higher power." There is also considerable evidence in contemporary culture and in the churches that people believe there is a mystery and transcendence in and beyond human experience. But believing that there is a mystery is vastly different from believing that one's life, from beginning to end, is lived daily before God. A God who is a remote mystery or impersonal transcendence may exist, but Christian faith presupposes not only God's existence and transcendence but also that people live before God and are accountable to one another because they are first accountable to God.

George W. Stroup *Before God*

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 the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$6.00 until 2:00 p.m. and at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.50 to 4:00 p.m. (validation is for three hours or less) and \$6.25 after 5:00 p.m.

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, September 13 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, September 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, September 26 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, 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 Carol Allen, Associate Pastor, at 312.640.5398 (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 Schiltz in the Children and Family Ministry office at 312.640.2578 (jschiltz@fourthchurch.org).

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

Canon in B Minor

Robert Schumann

(8:00)

PRELUDE

Choral II in B Minor

César Franck

(9:30 and 11:00)

INTROIT "God Be In My Head"

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking. God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in my heart and in my thinking. God be at mine end and in my departing.

*DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION

(The Hymnal, 592)

*HYMN 478

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

Tune: LAUDA ANIMA

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 heart and 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 glor y of your holy name. 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 "Awake, My Heart" Jane Marshall

(8:00) Awake, my heart, and render to God thy sure defender, thy maker, thy preserver, a song of love and fervor.

Confirm my deeds and guide me. My day, with thee beside me beginning, middle, ending, will all be upward tending. My heart shall be thy dwelling, with joy and gladness swelling; thy word is my nurture, given to bring me on toward heaven.

ANTHEM "Cantate Domino" Claudio Monteverdi

(9:30 and 11:00) Sing to the Lord a new song, and bless God's name for

God has done wonderful things. Sing and praise God with the psaltery and harp and with the voice of melody.

PSALTER Psalm 14 (responsively) (page 495, O.T.)

*GLORIA PATRI (The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 16:19–31 (page 79, N.T.)

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

SERMON by John M. Buchanan

REASONS OF THE HEART

"Fools say in their hearts, 'There is no God.'"

Psalm 14:1 (NRSV)

*HYMN 399 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

Tune: DUNLAP'S CREEK

*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 Mar y, 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"

Milton Dieterich

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO (8:00)

"O Divine Redeemer"

Charles Gounod

Ah, turn me not away; receive me, though unworthy. Hear thou my cry; behold, Lord, my distress. Answer me; haste thee, Lord, to my aid; thy pity show in my deep anguish. Let not the sword of vengeance smite me, though righteous thine anger, O Lord. Shield me in danger. O regard me. On thee, Lord, alone will I call. O divine redeemer, I pray thee; grant me pardon and remember not my sins. Forgive me, divine redeemer, I pray thee, grant me pardon. Night gathers round my soul; have mercy, Lord. Fearful, I cry to thee; come to my aid, O Lord.

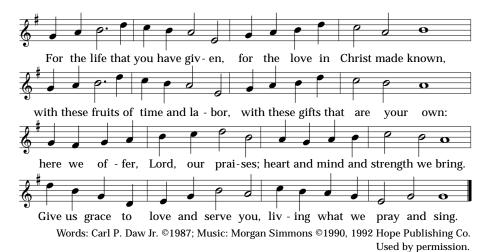
OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Jubilate Deo" (9:30 and 11:00)

Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord, he is God. It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him and speak good of his name for the Lord is gracious. His mercy is everlasting and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE



*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 275 "God of Our Life" Tune: SANDON

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune in D Major Georg Philipp Telemann (8:00)

POSTLUDE Sortie in D Major C. Franck

(9:30 and 11:00)

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 ar e
Jamie McKenzie Barnett, daughter of Dan and Lauren Barnett
Charles Leighton Calkins, son of Tim Calkins and Carol Saltoun
Sarah Courtney Cavatoni, daughter of Courtney and Philip Cavatoni
Gustav Thomas Dickerhofe, son of Stephen and Sandra Dickerhofe
Joshua Paul Hawthorn Enright, son of Daniel and Pamela Enright
Emmerson Scarlett McLean, daughter of Andrew and Sandra McLean

Children being baptized at the 11:00 worship service ar e
Gabriella Grace Buchanan, daughter of Andrew Buchanan and Mary McMahon
Samuel Lewis Cifani, son of Tony and Nancy Cifani
Madeline Momongan Dixon, daughter of Allen Momongan and Tori Dixon
Jordan Dinarés Dykema, son of Carlos Cardinale and Julie Dykema
Elizabeth Marie Grieve, daughter of Andrew and Julie Grieve
Elizabeth Blake Racine, daughter of Darren and Anne Racine
Jonathan Ryland Tardio, son of Stephen and Amy Tardio

Worship Leaders

8:00 a.m. Tamara Leonard Lara, Pastoral Resident

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

9:30 a.m. Carol J. Allen, Associate Pastor

Keith C. Harris, Associate Pastor

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

11:00 a.m. Carol J. Allen, Associate Pastor

Keith C. Harris, Associate Pastor

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

The Music Today

8:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir; Beena David, alto soloist

9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir 11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir

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

Thomas Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

A Tutoring 40th Anniversary Offering is being received today and throughout September in celebration of the 40th anniversary of Partners in Education Tutoring, a program of Chicago Lights at Fourth Presbyterian Church. Gifts to this offering support the Tutoring Program, which each year serves more than 450 students from economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. These students come to Fourth Church each week to work one-to-one with a volunteer. To learn more about becoming a tutor, stop by the Volunteer table during Coffee Hour. Special envelopes for making gifts to this offering are available in the pew racks.

The Chancel Choir returns to the 8:00 worship service this morning. Anyone interested in singing with this volunteer choir is encouraged to contact John Sherer at the church at 312.981.3592 (jsheer@fourthchurch.org).

The carving shown on the bulletin cover can be seen atop of the Children's Fountain. Located in the Garth, the fountain was the gift of Howard Van Doren Shaw, the Chicago-based architect who designed the Parish House, Manse, and Cloisters. Included in the carving is the verse "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9).

Other Worship and Prayer Opportunities at Fourth Church

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can leave their prayer requests written on paper in the box outside the chapel or they can pray together with the Deacon who is in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship.

Daily prayer is held each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

A Vespers Communion service is held each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

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, September 24.

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

For a preview of next Sunday's worship, subscribe to the weekly e-mail newsletter News@FourthChurch by sending e-mail addresses to news@fourthchurch.org.