The Christmas Spirit is that hope which tenaciously clings to the hearts of the faithful and announces in the face of any Herod the world can produce and all the inn doors slammed in our faces and all the dark nights of our souls that with God all things are still possible, that even now unto us a Child is born!

Ann Weems Kneeling in Bethlehem

# 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.

If your infant or small child needs car e 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.

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, January 9 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 14, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, January 22, 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).

# MORNING WORSHIP

11:00

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

PRELUDE The Old Year Has Now Passed Away

Johann Sebastian Bach

The Bells of Destiny and Eternity Frank Ferko
Apparition of the Church Eternal Olivier Messiaen

INTROIT "Now Is the Old Year Passed Away" Michael Praetorius

Now is the old year passed away; let us begin the new this day, praising our God, who here on earth kept us in quietness and mirth! O, like the glad New Year, may we wholly renewed this day be, praising our God eternally!

\*DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION

(The Hymnal, 592)

\*CAROL 23 "Angels We Have Heard on High" Tune: GLORIA

PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS (unison)

God most high,

your only Son embraced the weakness of flesh to give us power to become your children; your eternal Word chose a dwelling among us

that we might live in your presence.

Grant us a spirit of wisdom to know how rich is the glory you have made our own, and how great the hope

to which we are called in Jesus Christ,

your Word made flesh.

Amen.

**DECLARATION OF PARDON** 

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

READING

ANTHEM "A New Year Carol" Paul Stetsenko

Here we bring new water from the well so clear, for to worship God with, this happy New Year. Sing levy dew, the water and the wine, the seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine. Sing reign of fair maid, with gold upon her toe. Open you the west door and turn the old year go. Here we bring new water from the well so clear, for to worship God with, this happy New Year. Sing levy dew, the water and the wine, the seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine. Sing reign of fair maid, with gold upon her toe. Open you the west door and turn the old year go. Open you the east door and let the New Year in.

READING

\*CAROL 22 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" *Tune:* REGENT SQUARE

READING Luke 2:22–40 (page 59, N.T.)

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

\*CAROL 31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Tune: MENDELSSOHN

SERMON by Keith C. Harris

\*CAROL 29 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" Tune: Go Tell It

\*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.

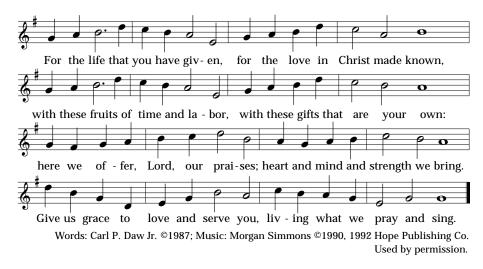
#### **OFFERING**

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM "The Old Year Now Away Is Fled"

Richard Peek

The old year now away is fled. The New Year, it is entered. Then let us now our sins down tread and joyfully all appear. Let's merry be this day, and let us now both sport and play. Hang grief, cast care away! God grant us a happy New Year! The name day now of Christ we keep, who for our sins did often weep. His hands and feet were wounded deep and his blessed side with a spear. His head they crowned with thorn, and at him they did laugh and scorn, who for our good was born. God grant us a happy New Year. And now with New Year's gifts each friend unto each other they do send. God grant we may all our lives amend and that the truth may appear. Now, like the serpent's skin, cast off all evil thoughts and sin, and so the year begin; God grant us a happy New Year.

# \*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: We thank you, dear God, for the gift of your love.

Accept these our gifts; use them and us for the work of your kingdom. Amen.

Leader: A boy has been born for us.
All: A child has been given to us.
Leader: And his name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, the Prince of Peace.

Once we were no people.

All: Now we are God's people.

Leader: Once we walked in darkness

All: Now we have seen a great light.

\*CAROL 40 "Joy to the World!" Tune: ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Fanfare for the New Year Calvin Hampton

# IN THE DETAILS



These kneeling angels—beginning with the Alpha and the Omega—grace the roof supports on the colorful arches far above the pews; the eight motifs pictured here are repeated four times each. Like all of the painting in the sanctuary, they were executed under the direction of famed Chicago muralist Frederick Clay Bartlett.

### Worship Leaders

Keith C. Harris, Associate Pastor Elizabeth Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care Nancy Baird, Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church

### The Music Today

The Morning Choir John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

## **Worship Notes**

Today's postlude, "Fanfare for the New Year," was written by Calvin Hampton. It was composed in December of 1983 and premiered at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City for their New Year's Eve service.

Today is the last day to make a gift to "Light Up a Life." Offering envelopes for "Light Up a Life" can be found in the pew racks. This year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs; mission and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs; and denominational programs. "Light Up a Life" gifts can be made using these envelopes or by writing "Light Up a Life" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Details about this giving opportunity are also available in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org.

The stained glass depiction of the birth of Christ, shown on the bulletin cover, can be seen in Blair Chapel. It is part of the memorial "children's windows" that were donated in the 1930s, when the former Blair Chapel space was used, as the current chapel is now, for weekly Sunday School worship services.

### Pastoral Staf f

John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor
Elizabeth Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care
John H. Boyle, Parish Associate
Patrick Daymond, Pastoral Resident
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