

Mary is who we are. She is a person of faith who does not always understand but who seeks to put her trust in God. She is one who is blessed not because she sins less or has keener insights into the things of God. She is instead blessed, as we are, because she is called by God to participate in the work of God. . . . To call Mary blessed is to recognize the blessedness of ordinary people who are called to participate in that which is extraordinary.

Beverly Roberts Gaventa and Cynthia L. Rigby  
*Blessed One: Protestant Perspectives on Mary*

## 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. Worship also can be heard through the "T" setting of hearing aids.

**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, January 8 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, January 28 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 Ali Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 312.573.3360 (atrowbridge@fourthchurch.org).

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**The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago**

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; 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) Benedictus *Max Reger*

**PRELUDE** (9:30 and 11:00) Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine *Hieronymus Praetorius  
arr. Erich Peterson*  
Savior of the Nations, Come *Johann Sebastian Bach*  
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming *Johannes Brahms  
arr. Robert King*  
Benedictus *Max Reger*  
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice *Michael Praetorius  
arr. Aaron David Miller*

**INTROIT** (8:00) "Advent Introit" *Iain Quinn*  
Our King and Savior now draws near; come let us adore him.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

**INTROIT** (9:30 and 11:00) "Of the Father's Love Begotten" *Plainsong*  
Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be;  
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he;  
of the things that are, that have been, and that future  
years shall see, evermore and evermore. O ye heights of  
heaven adore him; angel hosts his praises sing; powers,  
dominions bow before him and extol our God and King;  
let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert  
ring, evermore and evermore. Christ, to thee with God  
the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and  
high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be; honor, glory,  
and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore.

**\*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 2** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" *Tune: HYFRYDOL*

*\*Stand as you are able.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*(unison)*

**God of our salvation, you straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin. We confess that we have not watched for your coming into the world and have missed the signs of your kingdom in our midst. Our commitment to truth, justice, and peace wavers. Our love for our neighbors is compromised by our own desires. Our passion for the world you love is diminished by the contours of our selfishness. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us faith to welcome your advent and keep our hearts awake and watchful. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near, your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ANTHEM**

(8:00)

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” *Eric H. Thiman*

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding; “Christ is nigh,” it seems to say, “Cast away the dreams of darkness, O ye children of the day!” Wakened by the solemn warning, let the earthbound soul arise. Christ, her sun, all ill dispelling, shines upon the morning skies. Lo, the lamb, so long-expected, comes with pardon down from heaven. Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiven that when next he comes with glory and the world is wrapped in fear, with his mercy he may shield us and with words of love draw near. Christ, to thee be endless glory, from all on earth be praise, who from heaven wilt come to save us and redeem from sinful ways. Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son, with the everlasting Spirit, while eternal ages run. Amen.

**PSALTER**

Psalm 72:1–7 (*responsively*)

(page 504, O.T.)

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 1:39–56

(page 53, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

by John M. Buchanan

MARY AND HER SONG

“My soul magnifies the Lord, . . . for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.”

Luke 1:46, 48 (NRSV)

**\*HYMN 600**

“Song of Mary”

*Tune: MORNING SONG*

**\*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**

“Amen”

*Vincent Persichetti*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SOLO**  
(8:00)

“Quia Respexit” from *Magnificat*

*Antonio Vivaldi*

He hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden; for behold,  
from henceforth shall all generations call me blessed.

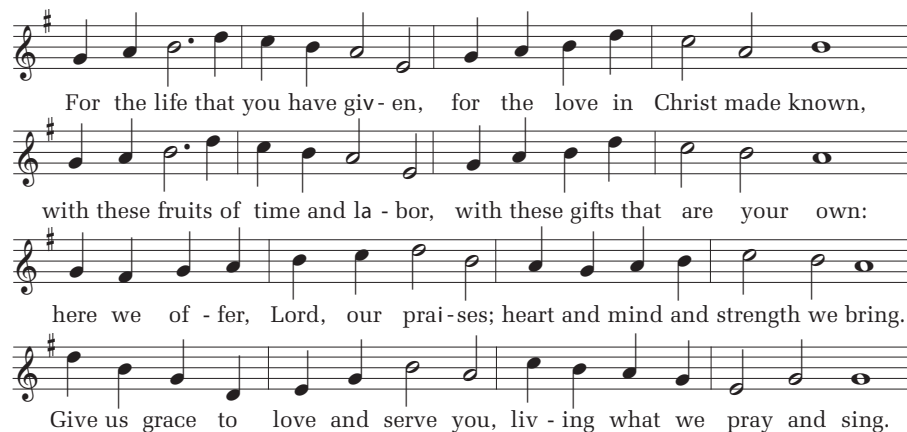
**OFFERTORY CANTATA**  
(9:30 and 11:00)

“Gloria”

*Dan Locklair*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people  
on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you  
for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer. For you alone are the holy one, you alone  
are the Lord, you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**\*OFFERTORY 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 ©1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co. 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: **God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us  
when Mary placed her life at the service of your will.  
We thank you for the gift of incarnation,  
your love given to live among us.  
We thank you for her faithful obedience,  
in spite of uncertainty and fear. Give us courage  
to be steadfast in hope and faithful in service.  
And use us in the coming of the kingdom;  
through him whose coming is certain, whose day  
draws near, your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 27**

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

*Tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM*

**BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

*Bruce Neswick*

# *Christmas Worship*

## *at Fourth Presbyterian Church*

**Christmas Eve** – Sunday, December 24 in the sanctuary

**9:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

John M. Buchanan preaching

*Please note that there will be no 8:00 a.m. worship service.*

**4:00 p.m.**

Children's Pageant

**6:00 p.m.**

Christmas Meditation and Children's Message

John W. Vest preaching

**8:30 p.m.**

Lessons and Carols

John M. Buchanan preaching

**11:00 p.m.**

Lessons and Carols

John M. Buchanan preaching

**Christmas Day** – Monday, December 25 in the sanctuary

**11:00 a.m.**

Calum I. MacLeod preaching

*A traditional Christmas dinner in Anderson Hall will be served at 12:30 p.m. Dinner tickets are available during Coffee Hour and at the reception desk.*

## *Light Up a Life through Joyous Giving!*

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 the envelopes in the pew racks 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](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

## Worship Leaders

8:00 a.m.	Dona Gray, Calum I. MacLeod, John M. Buchanan
9:30 a.m.	Alice M. Trowbridge, John W. Vest, John M. Buchanan
11:00 a.m.	Alice M. Trowbridge, Adam Fronczek, John M. Buchanan

## Lighting the Advent Wreath

9:30 a.m.	John and Stacey Shonkwiler
11:00 a.m.	The Sinclair Family

## The Music Today

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

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music  
Thomas Gouwens, Associate Organist  
Beverly Escuder, Director of Children's and Youth Music  
Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

## Worship Notes

**Today's Christmas Cantata, *Gloria***, was written by Dan Locklair in 1998. The work is scored for a twelve-part chorus, brass octet, and percussion. Locklair writes, "*Gloria*, set in Latin, uses the traditional *Gloria in excelsis* text, which begins with the biblical words found in Luke 2:14. This ancient canticle is known both as the Greater Doxology and, because of its opening sentences, as 'the angel's song.'"

**Tower Brass**, Fourth Church's brass octet, assists in worship leadership this morning. Tower Brass participates in 9:30 and 11:00 worship each third Sunday of the month during the academic year.

**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 stained glass window** shown on the bulletin cover depicts angels praising God with harp and strings, as Psalm 150 calls us to do. The window, located in the reception area west of Anderson Hall, was designed by Charles J. Connick.

## Pastoral Staff

**John M. Buchanan**, Pastor  
**Dana Ferguson**, Executive Associate Pastor  
**Elizabeth B. Andrews**, Parish Associate  
**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  
**Hardy Kim**, Pastoral Resident  
**Catherine Knott**, Pastoral Resident  
**Martha Langford**, Pastoral Resident  
**Calum I. MacLeod**, Associate Pastor for New Members and Young Adult Ministry  
**Thomas C. Rook**, Parish Associate  
**Joyce Shin**, Minister for Congregational Activities  
**Alice M. Trowbridge**, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care  
**John W. Vest**, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry  
**David A. Donovan**, Associate Pastor Emeritus