

March 18, 2007

Fourth Sunday in Lent

God of compassion,
you are slow to anger and full of mercy,
welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts.
Receive in your loving embrace
all who come home to you.
Seat them at your bountiful table of grace,
that, with all your children, they may feast with delight
on all that satisfies the hungry heart.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Prayer of the Day for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

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.

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 Sunday, March 25 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Monday, April 2 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, April 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. 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).

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) Prelude on an Irish Melody *Charles Villiers Stanford*

PRELUDE (9:30 and 11:00) Jesus, Friend of Sinners *Edvard Grieg
arr. Donald Frederick*
Prelude on an Irish Melody *Charles Villiers Stanford*
Prelude on “Rhosymedre” *Ralph Vaughan Williams
arr. Greg Fudala*
Marcia Celtica *Eric H. Thiman*
If with All Your Hearts from *Elijah* *Felix Mendelssohn
arr. Robert Nagel*

INTROIT “Even Now, Says the Lord, Return to Me” *Richard Proulx*
Even now, says the Lord, return to me with
your whole heart, for I am gracious and merciful.

***DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION** (The Hymnal, 592)

***HYMN 83** “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”
Tune: DEO GRACIAS

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 glory of your holy name. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS
(11:00)

**Stand as you are able.*

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 32 (*responsively*) (page 479, O.T.)

ANTHEM "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"
(8:00) *African American spiritual*
arr. Tim Harbold

I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey, Lord,
I want Jesus to walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk
with me. When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me. When my
head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

ANTHEM "Ach, arme Welt, du trügest mich" *Johannes Brahms*
(9:30 and 11:00)
Ah, poor world, thou mockest me, that I do know most
certainly, but still I must perceive thee. Thou faithless
world, thou art not true, in pain and woe I know that, too.
The fires of hell shall grieve thee. Thy goods, thy worth cannot
prevail. In death, in need they all shall fail. Thy wealth is
but an empty tale. God help me and grant me peace.

FIRST LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:16–21 (page 170, N.T.)
Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI** (The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32 (page 73, N.T.)

SERMON by Adam Fronczek
(8:00)

SERMON by Barbara Brown Taylor
(9:30 and 11:00) THE PARABLE OF THE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY

***HYMN 298** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" *Tune: IN BABILONE*

***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"

Johann Sebastian Bach

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO

(8:00)

"The Thorn Bush"

Mary E. Caldwell

In dreams I saw a sunlit garden, fragrant and fair. Our Lord,
the blessed Jesus Christ, was standing there; an ugly thorn bush
seemed so strange amid the blossoms rare, but Christ gave
each a loving smile and tended each with care. For me he
gathered fragile buds and poppies bright and tall. He said,
"Now cherish every flower, though petals fade and fall." And
then he led me by the hand up to the thorn bush tree. "Come
pluck this single crimson rose, but leave the thorns for me."
Awake, and in the morning's light my garden's wondrous fair.
I sense his touch on every flower; I feel his presence there.
Then passing by the red rose tree, once more the thorns I see.
I know Christ saved them for a crown to wear in love for me.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

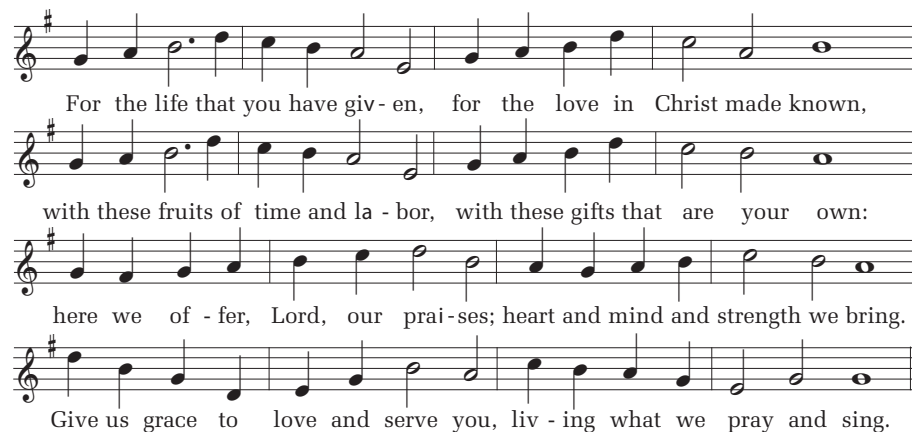
(9:30 and 11:00)

"Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein"

J. Brahms

When we suffer grief and woe and know not where our feet must
go and find no guide to show the way, though we do seek it all
the day, let this be our only grace, that here together in this place
we do cry to thee, O God, most dear, to save us from all pain and
fear. O look not on our grievous sin, but grant that we may love
thee. Stand by us in our time of need, that from all grief we may
be freed. That from a grateful spirit we may offer joyful thanks
to thee, serve and praise thee whom we adore forevermore.

***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.

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***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 compassion,**

**we praise you that you look upon our frail lives
with love and understanding
and that you desire for us all new life in Jesus Christ.
We are overwhelmed by your love,
which goes to the cross for us, endures the grave,
and leads us to new life.**

**By your Spirit, strengthen our souls to be brave and
bold in Christ's service. Take our offerings,
and use them and us for your purposes,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord.
Amen.**

***HYMN 308**

“O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”

Tune: KINGSFOLD

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE
(8:00)

Toccata in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel

POSTLUDE
(9:30 and 11:00)

Praise the Lord, Eternal

*Joseph Schuetky
arr. D. Frederick*

Join the Journey through Lent to Easter

Midweek Lenten Services

Wednesdays, March 21–April 4
7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel

Palm Sunday, April 1

8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.

Holy Week Noonday Services

Monday–Friday, April 2–6 at 12:10 p.m.
*Lunch will be served immediately following the service each day.
Tickets can be purchased at the door.*

Maundy Thursday, April 5

12:10 p.m. Communion Service
7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Communion Service

Good Friday, April 6

12:10 p.m. Good Friday Service
4:00 p.m. Near North Ministry Alliance Good Friday Walk for Justice
(beginning at Larrabee and Hobbie)
4:00 p.m. Children's Experience in Anderson Hall
5:15 p.m. Silent Retreat begins
7:30 p.m. Choral Service

Easter Sunday, April 8

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Oak Street Beach
8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. Easter Service
*Easter Brunch will follow the 11:30 a.m. service. Tickets are available
in Coffee Hour and at the reception desk.*
9:30 a.m. Children's Service in Westminster House
6:30 p.m. Jazz Vespers Service

*Please note that the last morning service on
Palm Sunday and Easter begins at 11:30 a.m.*

Also please keep in mind that sanctuary seating for all services on Easter morning fills quickly and early and be prepared for possible delays in entering and exiting parking garages as a result of increased traffic volume.

Worship Leaders

8:00 a.m.	John W. Vest, Donna Gray, Adam Fronczek
9:30 a.m.	Dana Ferguson, John M. Buchanan, Barbara Brown Taylor
11:00 a.m.	Dana Ferguson, John M. Buchanan, Barbara Brown Taylor

The Music Today

8:00 a.m.	The Chancel Choir; Marnie Pomeroy, soprano soloist
9:30 a.m.	The Morning 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
Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

Worship Notes

Fourth Church welcomes Barbara Brown Taylor to the pulpit during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship this morning. A widely acclaimed preacher, Ms. Taylor served as a parish priest in the Episcopal church for fifteen years. More recently, she has turned her attention to college and seminary teaching. She is also the author of several books, including the popular *Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith*.

Fourth Church welcomes the orchestra from Westminster Schools in Atlanta, Georgia, to 11:00 worship this morning.

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 members of Tower Brass are Matthew Comerford, Matthew Lee, and David Inmon, trumpet; Gregory Flint and Christine Worthing, horns; Ward Stare and Adam Moen, trombone; Charles Schuchat, tuba; and Jeffrey Handley, percussion.

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is being received throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support the work of the Presbyterian Self-Development of People Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Interfaith Homes Initiative as well as the Chicago Lights Partners in Education program and the Elam Davies Social Service Center. To make a "One Great Hour of Sharing" gift, use the envelopes in the pew racks or write "Lenten Offering" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

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
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