

I do not think we are in a very good situation historically. I do not believe our relationship to the earth is liable to change for the better until it gets catastrophically worse. Our record indicates that we can walk with our eyes wide open straight into sheer destructiveness if there is a profit on the way. . . . I have no great expectations that human cussedness will somehow be quickly modified and turned into generosity or that humanity's care of the earth will improve much.

But I do go around planting trees on the campus.

Joseph Sittler
Grace Notes and Other Fragments

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, December 3 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, January 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 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).

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)

Savior of the Nations, Come *Johann Sebastian Bach*

PRELUDE
(9:30 and 11:00)

Savior of the Nations, Come *Johann Sebastian Bach*
Come Thou Now, Jesus, Down from Heaven *J. S. Bach*
“Sleepers, Wake!” a Voice Astounds Us *J. S. Bach*

INTROIT

“God Came as Savior to His Own” *Thomas Tallis*
God came as Savior to his own, the way of love he trod.
He came to win us by good will, for force is not of God.

***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 9**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *Tune: VENI EMMANUEL*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
(*unison*)

**God of the future, as you came long ago in the birth
of a child, so you are coming into the world
to save and reconcile and make all things new.
We confess that we have not expected your kingdom.
Distracted by the bright holiday lights,
we have failed to see and to welcome you in the poor,
the marginalized, the weak and vulnerable.
Discouraged by newspaper headlines,
we have failed to see and welcome signs
of your healing presence. In your mercy, forgive us.
Renew hope within us, that we may be awake and alert,
watching for our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

**Stand as you are able.*

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

PSALTER

Psalm 122 (*responsively*)

(page 540, O.T.)

ANTHEM
(8:00)

“Who at My Door Is Standing”

English folk song
arr. K. Lee Scott

Who at my door is standing, there patiently drawing near,
who entrance is demanding? Whose is the voice I hear? Sweetly
the tones are falling, “Now open the door for me! If thou wilt
heed my calling, I will abide with thee.” Within, the rooms
are darkened, all filled with dust and sin; how shameful,
how unworthy for Christ to enter in. Yet the tones are falling,
“Now open the door for me! If thou wilt heed my calling,
I will abide with thee.” Door of my heart, I hasten! Thee will
I open wide. Though he rebuke and chasten, he shall with me
abide. Sweetly the tones are falling, “Now open the door for me!”
Lord God, I hear thee calling, come now, abide with me.

ANTHEM

(9:30 and 11:00)

“Lo, in the Time Appointed”

Healey Willan

Lo, in the time appointed the Lord will come; the mountains
and the hills shall break forth into singing, and all the trees
of the field shall clap their hands. For the Lord God
shall come into his everlasting kingdom, and upon
the throne of David shall he reign forever. Alleuya.

FIRST LESSON

Matthew 24:36, 42–44

(page 26, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 2:1–5

(page 594, O.T.)

SERMON

by John M. Buchanan

HOPE—OR HUMBUG?

“They shall beat their swords into plowshares, . . .
spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not
lift up sword against nation, neither shall they
learn war any more.” Isaiah 2:4 (NRSV)

***HYMN 1**

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Tune: STUTTGART

***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”

Thomas Morley

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO

(8:00)

“Christ Is the World’s True Light”

W. K. Stanton

Christ is the world’s true light, its captain of salvation, the daystar
clear and bright of everyone and nation. New life, new hope
awakes wherever we own his sway. Freedom her bondage breaks,
and night is turned to day. In Christ all races meet, their ancient
feuds forgetting, the whole round world complete, from sunrise
to its setting. When Christ is throned as Lord, we shall forsake
all fear, to plowshare beat the sword, to pruning hook the spear.
One Lord, in one great name unite us all who own thee;
cast out our pride and shame that hinder to enthrone thee.
The world has waited long, has travailed long in pain;
to heal its ancient wrong, come Prince of peace and reign.

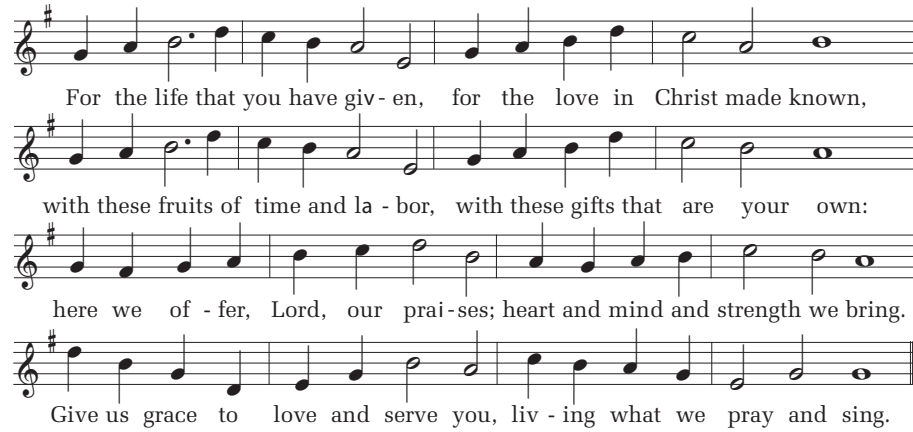
OFFERTORY ANTHEM
(9:30 and 11:00)

“Vigilate”

William Byrd

Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, in the middle of the night, at cock-crow, in the morning. Watch, therefore, lest he should come suddenly and find you asleep. What I say to you, I say to everyone: watch.

***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 ©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: **Eternal God, as you led your people in ages past,
you direct our journey into the future.**

**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 over all the world.**

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 your Holy Spirit,

now and forever. Amen.

***HYMN 3**

“Comfort, Comfort You My People”

Tune: PSALM 42

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

Aaron David Miller

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)*

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.

The children being baptized at the 9:30 worship service are
Suzanne Elizabeth Avakian, daughter of Keg and Amy Avakian
Duke Michael Bowman, son of Wade and Alison Bowman
Ryan Christian Schoenstedt,
son of Robert Schoenstedt and Christy Christian

The children being baptized at the 11:00 worship service are
Miles Osborn Canning, son of Greg and Rachel Canning
Charlotte Louise Dellin, daughter of T.R. and Becky Dellin
Jack Eduard Dellin, son of T.R. and Becky Dellin
Katherine Page Pilgrim, daughter of Blake and Sarah Pilgrim
Madeline Kate Zubel, daughter of Christopher and Alison Zubel

Worship Leaders

8:00 a.m.	Joyce Shin, Calum I. MacLeod, John M. Buchanan
9:30 a.m.	Joyce Shin, Calum I. MacLeod, John M. Buchanan
11:00 a.m.	John H. Boyle, Dana Ferguson, John M. Buchanan

Lighting the Advent Wreath

9:30 a.m.	Gerald Bloomer and Linda Crane
11:00 a.m.	Jacob and June Dorn

The Music Today

8:00 a.m.	The Chancel Choir; Carol Carpenter, 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

- The “Light Up a Life” Christmas offering** is being received throughout December. This offering supports congregational programs; mission and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs; and denominational programs. “Light Up a Life” gifts can be made using the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks or by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.
- 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
Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families
Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Young Adults
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Elizabeth B. Andrews, Parish Associate
John H. Boyle, Parish Associate
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
Hardy Kim, Pastoral Resident
Martha Langford, Pastoral Resident
David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus