

Advent comes to us in the grey, bleak days of December when things get darker and darker and colder and shorter. It comes to us when, with the tinny, glitzy surroundings of our material pleasures and prosperities, we know in our inner heart of hearts that all that glitters is not gold. . . . It is into such a season as this, against the tide, against the world, against the culture, against the fashion, that we Christians are invited to hope in the face of hopelessness. Advent is the season of hope: that the darkness will not cover the light, that the cold will not overwhelm the warmth, that hatred will not prevail over love, and that repression will not triumph over freedom.

Peter J. Gomes, *The Scandalous Gospel of Jesus*

## 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 Saturday, December 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; Monday, January 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, January 19 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)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Robert Lau*

**PRELUDE**  
(9:30 and 11:00)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Savior of the Nations, Come  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Savior of the Nations, Come  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Leo Sowerby*  
*Johann Sebastian Bach*  
*Kenneth Leighton*  
*Helmut Walcha*  
*Robert Lau*

**INTROIT**

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”  
Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight  
his paths. Rejoice, the Lord is at hand!

*Richard Proulx*

**\*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 5**

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

*Tune: PICARDY*

**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**

(11:00)

**UNISON PRAYER**

(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**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

**PSALTER**

Psalm 72:1–7 (*responsively*)

(page 504, O.T.)

**ANTHEM**

“Rorate Coeli”

*Christopher Tye*

Drop dew, ye heavens, from above and let the clouds break forth in showers upon the righteous, in rain upon the just. Let the earth be opened and blossom forth a Savior.

**FIRST LESSON**

Matthew 3:1–12

(page 2, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

**SECOND LESSON**

Isaiah 11:1–9

(page 602, O.T.)

**SERMON**

by John M. Buchanan

**PEACE**

“They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” Isaiah 11:9 (NRSV)

**\*HYMN 48**

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

*Tune: Es Ist Ein' Ros'*

**\*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”

*John Stainer*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SOLO**

(8:00)

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

*Hugo Distler*

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung;  
of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung. It came,  
floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was  
the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind. With  
Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind. To show God's love  
aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

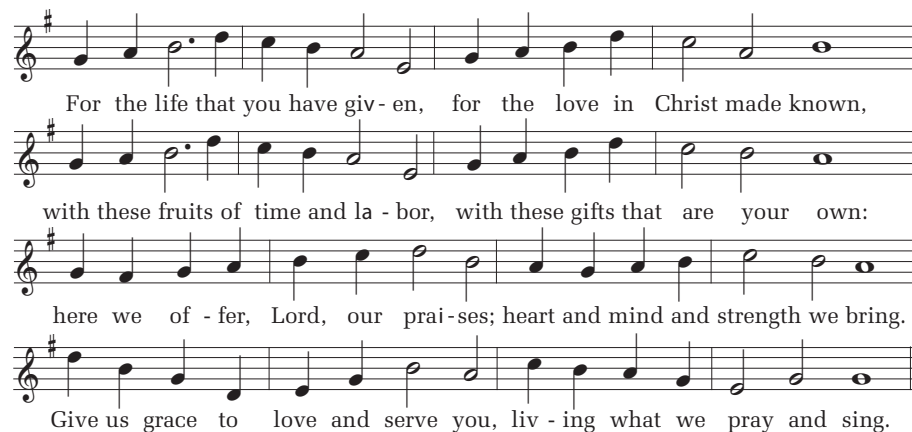
(9:30 and 11:00)

“And the Glory of the Lord” from *Messiah*

*George Frideric Handel*

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall  
see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

**\*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 11**

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

*Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN*

**BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**  
(8:00)

Savior of the Nations, Come

*Paul Manz*

**POSTLUDE**  
(9:30 and 11:00)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Adolphus Hailstork*

# *Christmas Worship*

*at Fourth Presbyterian Church*

**Christmas Eve** — Monday, December 24 in the sanctuary

**4:00 p.m.**

Children's Pageant

**6:00 p.m.**

Family Service

Calum I. MacLeod 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** — Tuesday, December 25 in the sanctuary

**11:00 a.m.**

John W. Vest preaching

*A traditional Christmas dinner in Anderson Hall will be served at 12:30 p.m. Dinner tickets are available during Coffee Hour following 9:30 and 11:00 worship and at the reception desk during the week.*

## *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.	Martha Langford, Adam Fronczek, John M. Buchanan
9:30 a.m.	John W. Vest, Dana Ferguson, John M. Buchanan
11:00 a.m.	Elizabeth B. Andrews, Adam Fronczek, John M. Buchanan

## Lighting the Advent Wreath

9:30 a.m.	Diana Anton
11:00 a.m.	Daniel Alvarez

## The Music Today

8:00 a.m.	The Chancel Choir; Alexia Kruger, soprano 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

**Today's Minute for Mission** about the "Light Up a Life" year-end giving campaign is presented by Marc Miller.

**Fourth Church welcomes the youth group from John Calvin Presbyterian Church in Bridgeton, Missouri**, to 9:30 worship this morning.

**The child being baptized** this morning during 11:00 worship is Ryan Scott Knight, son of John and Jennifer Knight.

**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