

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*(unison)* God of heaven and earth,  
you call us to come in humility before you,  
bringing the offering of our very selves.  
As you revealed Jesus to be your Son  
in his baptism at the hand of John,  
so you claimed our lives in baptism,  
that we might die to sin and be raised with him to new life.  
At this table we renew our commitment to you,  
even as you renew your Spirit within us.  
You have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup  
and have made us one with Christ.  
Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all the world.  
By your Spirit, confirm in our hearts the witness  
that Christ is Savior of the world and our Lord.  
Accept all that we have and are, O God,  
in the service of Jesus Christ,  
and strengthen us with your Spirit's power,  
now and forever. Amen.

**\*HYMN 516** "Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"  
*Tune: O QUANTA QUALIA*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Dialogue *Jean François Dandrieu*

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**WORSHIP LEADERS**

**John W. Vest** Associate Pastor

**Hardy Kim** Pastoral Resident

**Thomas Gouwens** Associate Organist

**The Vespers Choir**

A prayer service in the style of Taizé is held the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The next service is Friday, January 25.

Daily devotions, written by Fourth Church staff, are available in the literature racks and by e-mail from [devotions@fourthchurch.org](mailto:devotions@fourthchurch.org).

**The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago**

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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**Fourth Presbyterian Church**

**Sunday, January 13, 2008**

**Baptism of the Lord**

**6:30 p.m.**

# vespers

**PRELUDE** Variations on a French Theme

*Jean Langlais*

**INVOCATION**

**LITANY FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

Minister: O Christ, by your epiphany your light shines upon us,  
giving us the fullness of salvation.

Help us show your light to all we meet today.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: O Christ of glory, you humbled yourself to be baptized,  
showing us the way of humility. Strengthen us  
to serve you in humility all the days of our life.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: O Christ, by your baptism you cleansed us from our sin,  
making us children of your Father. give the grace  
of being a child of God to all who seek you.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: O Christ, by your baptism you sanctified creation and  
opened the door of repentance to all who are baptized.  
Make us servants of your gospel in the world.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: O Christ, by your baptism you revealed to us  
the glorious Trinity when the voice from heaven  
proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son," and the  
Holy Spirit descended upon you like a dove.  
Renew a heart of worship within all the baptized.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with  
the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son.  
Keep us, your children born of water and the Spirit,  
faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called  
children of God; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

**\*HYMN 70** "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized" *Tune: CAITHNESS*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(unison)* Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another; we allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism, so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace. Amen.

## DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

## CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 29 *(responsively)* (page 477, O.T.)

## FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 42:1–9 (page 630, O.T.)  
Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM “When Jesus Came to Jordan” *Frederik Mehrrens*

## SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 3:13–17 (page 3, N.T.)

COMMUNION MEDITATION by John W. Vest  
WATER WORKS

\*HYMN 497 “With Grateful Hearts Our Faith Professing”  
*Tune: ST. CLEMENT*

## REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

### \*PROFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?  
People: **I do.**  
Minister: Who is your Lord and Savior?  
People: **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**  
Minister: Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?  
People: **I will, with God’s help.**

### \*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.

### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

#### OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “The Baptism of Jesus” *Peter Hallock*

\*DOXOLOGY (The Hymnal, 592)

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

### INVITATION

Minister: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
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.**

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:  
People (sung): **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One  
who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(unison)* (The Hymnal, 16)

### THE COMMUNION