

vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday May 4, 2008

A LIGHT IN THE CITY
FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
www.fourthchurch.org

FIFTH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHTING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

PRELUDE Ascension Day *Olivier Messiaen*
I. Majesty of Christ praying that
his Father should glorify him

INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of God, as our Creator spoke to the Hebrews saying, "I am the Lord your God," so God lays claim to us in a bond of love.

People: **As God summoned the people to the holy mountain, so God still summons us to gather in worship to hear God's voice.**

Leader: Let each of us affirm God's love declaring in your heart,

All: **"Speak, Lord, for your servant hears."**

Leader: Let us worship God.

***HYMN 276** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" *Tune: FAITHFULNESS*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison) **God, you created us in your image, with gifts and needs. For the times we have failed to recognize our own limitations and abilities, forgive us, O Lord. Too often we do not accept, as sisters and brothers, people with mental illness and their families. For the times we see people through the lens of**

**Stand as you are able.*

a label and not for who they truly are, forgive us, O Lord.

God, help us to break down barriers that separate us from others—our insensitivity, our failure to listen to the yearning of the heart, our failure to offer support, our failure to invite people with mental illness to be part of our lives and our congregation. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

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

THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 68:1–10, 32–35*(responsively)* (page 500, O.T.)

LITURGY AND CANDLELIGHTING

Leader: We light the first candle for illumination in the midst of our struggle.

People: **We pray for illumination!**

Leader: The second candle we light is for healing.

People: **We pray for healing!**

Leader: We light the third candle for understanding.

People: **We pray for understanding!**

Leader: The fourth candle we light is for hope.

People: **We pray for your sign, for hope!**

Leader: We light the fifth candle for people struggling with mental illness and for their families.

People: **We pray for people struggling with mental illness and for their families!**

Leader: The sixth candle we light as our commitment to become a caring community.

People: **We pray for the caring community! Bless the covenant we make this day to be supportive of our sisters and brothers struggling with mental illness. Help each of us accept our special place in the caring community.**

Leader: We light the seventh candle, the final candle, as a sign of God's steadfast love.

People: **We celebrate and thank God for the promise of steadfast love!**

All: **So, let it be so. Amen!**

SOLO "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

African-American spiritual

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 4:12–14, 5:6–11 (page 221, N.T.)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION

by Alice M. Trowbridge

LIFT UP A SONG

"Cast all your anxiety on him,
because he cares for you."

1 Peter 5:7 (NRSV)

*HYMN 404 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD

*(The first verse will be sung by the cantor;
then the congregation will sing both verses.)*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(unison) **In a broken and fearful world the spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

(From A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Brother James' Air" *Gordon Jacob*

*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.**

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
(sung) **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)*

**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.**

THE COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(unison) **O Holy One, we have been nurtured by your
word and fed at your table.
Lord, bless us with your enabling love.
Heal our brokenness that we may be
true signs of that love. As you send us,
your servants, out from this place, be our
constant companion.
Guide us in our efforts to better serve our neighbor,
those with mental illness and their loved ones.
Help us share the life-giving power of your love
that those in need may experience**

**the profound peace of your steadfast love.
In our hearts we silently promise to be true signs
of your love for those with a mental illness
among us and their families. Amen.**

***HYMN 539** “Savior, Again, to Thy Dear Name We Raise”

Tune: ELLERS

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Ascension Day

Olivier Messiaen

II. Outburst of joy from a soul before the glory
of Christ which is its own glory

WORSHIP LEADERS

Associate Pastor	Alice M. Trowbridge
Director, Center for Whole Health	Terrill L. Stumpf
Chair, Mental Health Ministry	Barbara Doyle
Lector and Liturgist	Joyce H. Wakeman
Liturgists	Ann Brody, Roberta Harper, Karen Horning, Liz Houston, Peyton Randy Keller
Candlelighter, Old Saint Pat's Church	Carolyn LaGioia
Associate Organist	Thomas Gouwens
Alto Soloist	Carol Carpenter
Cantor	Daniel Henry
	The Vespers Choir

The Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, a ministry of Fourth Church, offers support groups as well as individual, couples', and premarital counseling. Information about the Center is available in the literature racks or by calling 312.787.8425.

Parking is available Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$6.25 after 5:00 p.m.

*Adapted from Interfaith Worship Service—Pathways to Promise;
Presbyterian Serious Mental Illness Network—PHEWA, PCUSA;
and the Lutheran Network on Mental Illness/Brain Disorders—ELCA.*

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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Fifth Annual Candlelighting for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding

The planning for this Fifth Annual Candlelighting Vespers was provided by the work and ministry of the Mental Health Ministry of the Center for Whole Health, a program of Chicago Lights at the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago.

In 2000 the session of Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago instructed the Serious Mental Illness Task Force (now the Mental Health Ministry) to help foster a supportive and inclusive environment for the mentally ill and their families. Their mission statement states that:

The Mental Health Ministry of the Center for Whole Health fosters a welcoming environment for individuals, families, and friends of Fourth Presbyterian Church affected by mental illness. Through advocacy and education, this ministry builds bridges to hope, help, and healing.

Did you know . . . ?

One in four individuals in the U.S. experiences a mental health disorder in a given year.

One in five families has someone in their immediate family that has a mental health disorder.

Fewer than one-third of adults and **half** of children with diagnosable mental disorders receive any mental health services.

The vast majority of those affected by mental illness sit in lonely silence. They fear that rather than receiving support they will be shunned.

**Treatment works!
Recovery is possible!**

**“Carry each other’s burdens and in this way
you will fulfill the law of Christ.”**

Galatians 6:2 (NRSV)

What can you do as an individual and what can we do as a congregation to make those with mental illness feel welcome and safe in our midst? What can you do to help them understand that God loves them and is with them even in their most difficult times?

How can you help carry the burden of someone who has a mental illness?

1. Educate yourself about mental health and mental illness.
2. Be there! Show up!
3. Be a friend.
4. Listen without a judgmental attitude.
5. Empower by demonstrating that you believe in him or her.
6. Let the person know that he or she is not alone.
7. Ask what you can do to make a difference.
Ask, “What can I do to help?”
8. Learn about serious mental illness in order that you can have some understanding of what it is like to “walk in his or her shoes.”
9. If it seems indicated, refer him or her to persons specially trained to help with mental illness issues. If necessary, assist them with making the appointment and provide transportation.
10. If medication has been prescribed, reassure him or her that medication is almost always necessary for those with a serious mental illness and that it can enable one to function very well.
11. Reassure your friend that God is constantly with him or her, even if he or she can’t sense it at that moment.
12. Follow through and come back to see your friend even when he or she is feeling well.
13. Advocate in the community for persons with mental illness.

*Adapted from the Serious Mental Illness Network, Presbyterian Health,
Education and Welfare Association, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*