

December 21, 2008

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m.

The deer came into the field.
I saw her peaceful face and heard the shuffle of her breath.
She was sweetened by merriment and not afraid,
 but bold to say
whose field she was crossing; spoke the tap of her foot:
“It is God’s, and mine.”

But only that she was born into the poem that God made, and called the world.

Mary Oliver
Thirst

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.

A church tour begins at 12:15 p.m., starting at the back of the sanctuary.

Parking is available Sundays at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$7.00 for three hours 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 for 900 parking must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk. Hancock tickets must be validated in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary.

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, January 5, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.; or Sunday, January 25 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at 312.981.4025.

Fourth Church Cares

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns and anxieties, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; 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

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

PRELUDE O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? *Paul Manz*

INTROIT “Our King and Savior Draws Nigh” *Stephen Sturk*
Our King and Savior draws nigh; O come, let us adore him.

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

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Leader: In the coming of Christ, we hear God’s message to us: “I have exalted one chosen from the people. I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him; my hand shall always remain with him.” (Psalm 89:19–20, 26)

People: **We shall cry out to Christ, “You are my God, the Rock of my salvation!”**

Leader: The fourth candle on the Advent wreath reminds us that our Savior has almost come. He will bring light to the darkness and hope to the world.

People: **We are called into God’s house to bear witness to the light. We are sent from God’s house to take light into the world.**

Leader: A voice cries out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

People: **Soon the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.**

***HYMN 19** “To a Maid Engaged to Joseph” *Tune: ANNUNCIATION*

PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (*unison*)

God of grace, whose eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will, we confess that we have not expected your kingdom. We live casual lives, O God, ignoring your promises. We accept lies for truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM

“O Thou the Central Orb”

Charles Wood

O thou the central orb of righteous love, pure beam of the most high, eternal light of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith; hope soars above. Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine, gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine. Thy saints with holy luster round thee move, as stars about thy throne, set in the height of God’s ordaining counsel, as thy sight gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove. Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin; our nature all shall feel eternal day, in fellowship with thee, transforming day to souls ere while unclean, now pure within. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18

(page 545, O.T.)

*GLORIA PATRI

(The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:26–38

(page 53, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

by Jocelyn C. Cadwallader

MISSION: POSSIBLE

“Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord.”

Luke 1:38 (NRSV)

*HYMN 16

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

Tune: GABRIEL’S MESSAGE

*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,**

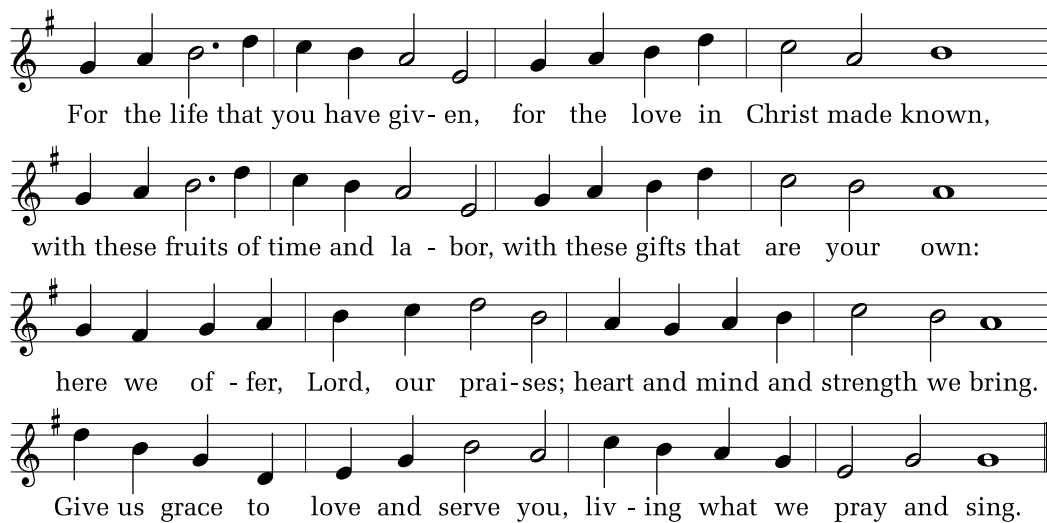
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Ghost;
 the holy catholic church;
 the communion of saints;
 the forgiveness of sins;
 the resurrection of the body;
 and the life everlasting.
 Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO “O Holy Night”

Adolphe Adam

*OFFERTORY 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Minister: It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .
. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:



Music: John W.W. Sherer; © 1997. Used by permission.

Minister: . . . Great is the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Minister: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(traditional)*

(The Hymnal, page 16)

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM "Come, Kingdom of Our God!"

George Brandon

Come, kingdom of our God! Sweet reign of light and love, shed peace and hope and joy abroad and wisdom from above. Come, kingdom of our God! And make the broad earth thine; stretch over the lands and isles the rod that flowers with grace divine. Soon may all tribes be blest with fruit from life's glad tree and in its shade like children rest, one family.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(unison)*

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life and renewed us for your service. Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup to be faithful disciples, so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 4

"Creator of the Stars of Night"

Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Finale from *Variations on a Noël*

Marcel Dupré

Christmas Worship

at Fourth Presbyterian Church

4 Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Wednesday, December 24

4:00 p.m.

Children's Pageant

6:00 p.m.

Family Service

Adam Fronczek 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 Service

Thursday, December 25

11:00 a.m.

Joyce Shin preaching

A traditional Christmas dinner in Anderson Hall will be served at 12:30 p.m. Dinner tickets are available during Coffee Hour 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 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.

WORSHIP LEADERS Sarah A. Johnson, John W. Vest, Jocelyn C. Cadwallader

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Andrews Family

THE MUSIC TODAY

The Chancel Choir

Laura Kubelka, alto soloist

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

WORSHIP NOTES

This morning, Communion is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they will then dip into the chalice of grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles. The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

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 musical angels on the bulletin cover adorn a stained-glass window, by Charles J. Connick, located in the reception area west of Anderson Hall. Psalm 150 encourages us to join in praising God with trumpet, harp, and string.

PASTORAL STAFF

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod, Acting Executive Associate Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission

Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship

Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Jocelyn Cadwallader, Pastoral Resident

Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident

Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus