Christmas Eve 2008

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

Phillips Brooks
"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Prelude Noël Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier

Introit "That Boy-Child of Mary" Tom Colvin

PROCESSIONAL "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" Gustav Holst

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This night is one of profound mystery,

People: a night for unusual sounds and sights in the heavens.

Leader: This night is one of wonderful clarity,

People: a night for the blessed event of our Savior's birth into

this world.

Leader: This night is one of far-reaching complexity,

People: a night for strangers crowding into a stable and for kings

starting upon a journey.

Leader: This night is one of touching simplicity,

People: a night for receiving a gift and for cradling God's love in

our hearts.

All: We gather to worship on this best of all nights!

*Carol 31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Tune: MENDELSSOHN

First Lesson Luke 1:26–33, 38 (page 53, N.T.)

Mary Sings "Magnificat" Tune: Morning Song

Anthem "The Angel Gabriel" Basque carol

SECOND LESSON Luke 2:1–7 (page 54, N.T.)

*CAROL 25 "Away in a Manger" Tune: MUELLER

(Congregation remains seated)

THIRD LESSON Luke 2:8 (page 54, N.T.)

Anthem "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night" Handel

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:9–14 (page 54, N.T.)

Anthem "Angels We Have Heard on High" French carol

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:15–20 (page 55, N.T.)

ANTHEM "What Child Is This?" English ballad

4:00 p.m.

Sixth Lesson Matthew 2:1–2, 10–11 (page 1, N.T.)

ANTHEM "We Three Kings" John H. Hopkins Jr.

(Congregation remains seated and sings stanza 5, Hymn 66)

PRESENTATION OF WHITE GIFTS

 $(Congregation\ remains\ seated\ and\ sings\ "The\ First\ Nowell,"$

Hymn 56)

Offertory Anthem "Prepare Thyself Zion" Johann Sebastian Bach

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (traditional) (page 16, The Hymnal)

ACT OF DEDICATION

SPREADING THE LIGHT (Congregation remains seated)

Songs of Praise (Congregation remains seated)

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!

Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine.

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo;

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

"Silent Night" – Verses 1 and 3 (see back cover)

SILENCE (Please extinguish your candle prior to the carol.)

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Carol 40 "Joy to the World!" Tune: Antioch

BENEDICTION

Postlude Noël Malcolm Archer

FAMILY WORSHIP

6:00 p.m.

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

Prelude Noël Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier

He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child

La Nativité

Carol

Douglas Wagner

Jean Langlais

Gerald Finzi

Introit "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Polish carol

arr. David Willcocks

OPENING RESPONSES

Minister: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.

Minister: Born in humility, Christ came to rule over all.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.

Minister: Helpless as an infant, he showed the power of God's love.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.

Minister: Poor in the things of the world, he brought the wealth of

your grace.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.

Minister: The Light of the world has come: Mighty God, Everlasting

Lord, Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.

*CAROL 41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Tune: Adeste Fideles

A STORY FOR CHRISTMAS

*CAROL 56 "The First Nowell" Tune: The First Nowell

THE STORY OF JESUS' BIRTH

Luke 2:1–20 (page 54, N.T.)

MEDITATION TELLING THE STORY

A Reflection for Christmas by Adam Fronczek

*CAROL 36 "In the Bleak Midwinter" Tune: CRANHAM

PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "How Far Is It to Bethlehem?" Geoffrey Shaw

Spreading the Light "Silent Night" Tune: Stille Nacht

(Words printed on the back of the bulletin)

*Unison Prayer

This night, O God, the soles of your feet have touched the earth. This night, O God, the back street and the forgotten place have been lit up with significance. This night, O God, the households of earth welcome the King of Heaven. For you have crept in beside us, you have come among us, you are one of us. So may our songs rise to your throne as our knees bend at your cradle. Amen.

*Carol 40 "Joy to the World!" Tune: Antioch

BENEDICTION

Postlude Noël Malcolm Archer

PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICES

4:00 Children's Pageant

Donna Gray

Minister for Children and Families

Joann H. Lee Pastoral Resident

Abigail Canfield

Jacqueline Walker

Bert Rogers

Carl Roy Ohlhaber

Caroline Staublin

John E. Buchanan

The Cherub Choir and the Children's Choir

Beverly Escuder

Children and Youth Music Director

John W. W. Sherer

Organist and Director of Music

6:00 Family Service

Adam Fronczek Associate Pastor Jocelyn C. Cadwallader Pastoral Resident Sarah A. Johnson Pastoral Resident The Chancel Choir John W. W. Sherer Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens Associate Organist

8:30 Service of Lessons and Carols

John W. Vest *Associate Pastor* Beverly Washington

Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church Sarah A. Johnson Pastoral Resident

Joyce Shin Associate Pastor

John H. Boyle Parish Associate

Martin Sherrod

Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church

Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor

John M. Buchanan Pastor

Adam Fronczek Associate Pastor

Alice M. Trowbridge Associate Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod

Acting Executive Associate Pastor

The Morning Choir and Tower Brass

Marnie Pomeroy Soprano Soloist

John W. W. Sherer

Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens Associate Organist

Matthew Comerford

Artistic Director of Tower Brass

11:00 Service of Lessons and Carols

John W. Vest *Associate Pastor* Melanie Oh

Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church

Thomas C. Rook Parish Associate

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader Pastoral Resident

 ${\bf Victoria~G.~Curtiss~} Associate~Pastor$

Henry Feldman

Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church

Joann H. Lee Pastoral Resident

John M. Buchanan Pastor

 ${\bf Adam\ Fronczek}\ {\it Associate\ Pastor}$

Alice M. Trowbridge Associate Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod Associate Pastor

The Morning Choir and Tower Brass

Marnie Pomeroy Soprano Soloist

John W. W. Sherer

Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens Associate Organist

Matthew Comerford

Artistic Director of Tower Brass

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

8:30 and 11:00 p.m.

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

PRELUDE O Wondrous Mystery Giovanni Gabrieli

> Noël Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Michael Praetorius He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child Douglas Wagner Christ Is Born Today Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina La Nativité Jean Langlais What Child Is This? John Stainer

> Gerald Finzi Carol

O Holy Night Adolphe Adam

Introit "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" Polish carol

arr. David Willcocks

CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

*CAROL 49 "Once in Royal David's City" Tune: Irby

(stanza 1 sung by soloist)

*Prayer for Christmas Eve

Leader: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace

and truth.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people

on earth. Alleluia!

All: Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Savior of all, lying in a manger. On this holy night draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host, that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds, that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7 (page 600, O.T.)

ANTHEM "How Far Is it to Bethlehem?" Geoffrey Shaw

LESSON Psalm 98 (page 521, O.T.)

*CAROL 41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Tune: Adeste Fideles

*Stand as you are able.

Lesson Luke 1:26–35, 38 (page 53, N.T.)

Anthem "There Is No Rose of Such Virtue" Stephen Caracciolo

Lesson Luke 2:1–12 (page 54, N.T.)

*CAROL 44 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Tune: St. Louis

Lesson Luke 2:13–20 (page 55, N.T.)

SERMON by John M. Buchanan

*Carol 23 "Angels We Have Heard on High" Tune: Gloria

Lesson 1 John 4:7–9, 16b (page 226, N.T.)

PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY **A**NTHEM "Love Came Down at Christmas" *John Rutter*

Lesson John 1:1–5 (page 86, N.T.)

SPREADING THE LIGHT "Silent Night" Tune: Stille Nacht

(Words printed on the back of the bulletin)

*Unison Prayer Great God, as you came at night when all was still,

so enter our lives this night. Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence, that we may clearly see the way before us, the truth to speak, and the life to live for him, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*CAROL 31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Tune: MENDELSSOHN

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE "Beside Thy Cradle, Here I Stand" Johann Sebastian Bach

POSTLUDE Go Tell It on the Mountain African American spiritual

arr. Aaron David Miller

Gifts of socks, known as "White Gifts" from the tradition of wrapping them in plain white paper, are being collected in baskets in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary, at the 6:00, 8:30, and 11:00 services. At 4:00, they are presented as part of the service.

The "Light Up a Life" year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs; mission and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs; and denominational programs. Gifts can be made using the offering 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 campaign can be found in the literature racks.

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, Round you virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing: "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Raidant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Eileen and Walter Herget

Peyton S. Hutchison Jr.

Annette and Harry Igo

Alison Ives Hires

David Hooker

Gifts supporting Christmastime sanctuary adornments have been made in memory and in honor of family, friends, and loved ones.

In Memory of

Jeanne Habicht

Ray Harris Mary Patric Herbst

Donald D. Hagerty Jr.

James and Millicent Hansen

Mary Shawn Addington Evelyn Artwick Janey Quay Atkins Marian Pierpoint Baker Barbara Hires Baxter Richard Beilfuss Rudolph Beranek Jean Bielitzki Mary E. Bolton Mr. and Mrs. J. Clinton Bowman Blanche and Robert Buchanan Claudette Buxton **Bob Cagle** Bertha Hinn Collier Rov Daleo Elwin and Laura "Sue" DeLong Bonneau Dickson Francis J. and Mary E. Dorn Mr. and Mrs. Allen N. Dryhurst Sue Duffy David Erickson Herman and Ruth Eschmann Ronald E. Felty Dana Ferguson Myers Robert D. Ferguson Mary Drew Feurer Marshall Forde Harrison I. and Hazel Walther Frey Mr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Moffat Bonnell T. C. Gardner **Robert Gates** Helen McCulloch Gee Sydney and Ruth Gerrans R. M. Gifford Norman and Doris Goenne Paul and Dorothy Grueninger G. Ralph Guthrie Jr. Helen B. Haberlen

Richard and Dianne James **Ruth James** Lee W. Jennings Marie Jewell Ruth Kort Kamp Gladys and George Kasper William and Irene Katona Bertha and Robert Kearney Dorothy L. and Richard W. Kerch Claire Grace Kostal Edward A. Kuhn Julia E. Lee Norma A. Lineberger Marjorie J. Loop John R. Lopatka Rudolph and Mary Lopatka Thomas Lucchetti The Mackie Family Fred and Velma Maloof Marcus J. and Betty Cole Miller Ruby and Orrin Millie Eva Jane Milligan Glenn Oliver Mrs. Hae Jung Park John L. Parr Jr. Lorraine and Keith Parsons Marion E. Radtke Ross and Emilie Randall Eleanor and Thomas Reese Edward L. Renno Herman and Celia Retzler Robert G. Reynolds Edward and Gregg Rohlin Elizabeth A. Rossley Richard P. Rudnicki Charles and Katherine Schmidt

Katherine W. Smith Mercedes Freeman Smith Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Snorf Jr. Dan and Ann Gardner Stone William Storm Ernest and Ella Sweeney Beth and Harold Taft Alex Telford Gordon Telford Jen Telford Avys Terrill Betty and Joseph Thomas James W. Thornton Wendell Tozer Donald E. Trost Alan W. Tuckey Leo Ulfers Robert K. Unglaub Sr. Kathrvn I. Vittum Brian Vogel Charles H. and Grace Nichols Waddel Mary Jane and Erich Weissenberger Ralph and Geneva Westerman Susanne Willson Frances M. Youngwirth Ruth and Eugene Zeltmann Harold V. and Irene H. Zimmerman

In Honor of

John M. Buchanan William Fedoryk Harry and Mary Ellen Giambrone Harry and Gladys Hutchison Cathy Mellott Tom Mellott Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Rinkoski Janice Rolls Iean Storm Mrs. D. R. Ruth Volyes