
Christmas Day 2008

We do know that you hold initiative for our lives,
that your love planned our salvation
before we saw the light of day.

And so we wait for your coming,
in your vulnerable baby
in whom all things are made new. Amen.

Walter Brueggemann
“In Violence and Travail”

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.

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.

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore 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, Acting Executive 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

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

11:00 a.m.

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

PRELUDE	Noël	<i>Claude Balbastre</i>
	The Holy Boy	<i>John Ireland</i>
	The Fifers	<i>Jean-François Dandrieu</i>
	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	<i>Johannes Brahms</i>
	He Is Born the Divine Christ Child	<i>Douglas Wagner</i>

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

***LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE** (*from Isaiah 9:2, 6 and 1 Peter 2:10*)

Minister: A boy has been born for us.

People: **A child has been given to us.**

Minister: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Eternal Father, the Prince of Peace.
Once we were no people;

People: **now we are God's people.**

Minister: Once we walked in darkness;

People: **now we have seen a great light.**

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS (*unison*)

Loving God, you have come to us, not with great signs and wonders, but in a babe who became a humble carpenter. You took on human form, not with the trappings of power and might, but among folk who fasted, prayed, and gave thanks in the midst of poverty. You made your witness, not with devices of intimidation and coercion, but through an instrument of suffering and scorn. For your foolishness is wiser than human thought and your weakness is stronger than all human powers. Grant that we may hear and respond to your wisdom, O God. Amen.

***CAROL 23** "Angels We Have Heard on High" *Tune: GLORIA*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Light of the world, you gave us the transforming birth of the child Jesus as a light for our path. Yet we confess that we shut our eyes to the light. We admit that we do not want to see the gift you have given us. We acknowledge our

reluctance to see and share our gifts with our sisters and brothers.

We are often dazzled by the glitter and tinsel the world has made of Christ's birth. We ask that your spirit be lit within us, that we may share your gifts of peace and justice with all people. We seek to receive and return the gift of Christ's birth and death, again and again. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 98 (responsively) (page 521, O.T.)

SOLO "Gesù Bambino" *Pietro Yon*
When blossoms flowered amid the snows upon a winter night
was born the child, the Christmas rose, the King of love and light.
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced;
and at his blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced. O come
let us adore him, Christ the Lord. Again the heart with rapture glows
to greet the holy night that gave the world its Christmas rose, its King
of love and light. Let every voice acclaim his name, the grateful
chorus swell; from paradise to earth he came that we with him
might dwell.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 52:7–10 (page 642, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI** (The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON John 1:1–14 (page 86, N.T.)

SERMON by Joyce Shin
THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

***CAROL 29** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" *Tune: GO TELL IT*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*) from *Philippians 2:6–11*

**We believe in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited, but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,**

being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. 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.

OFFERING

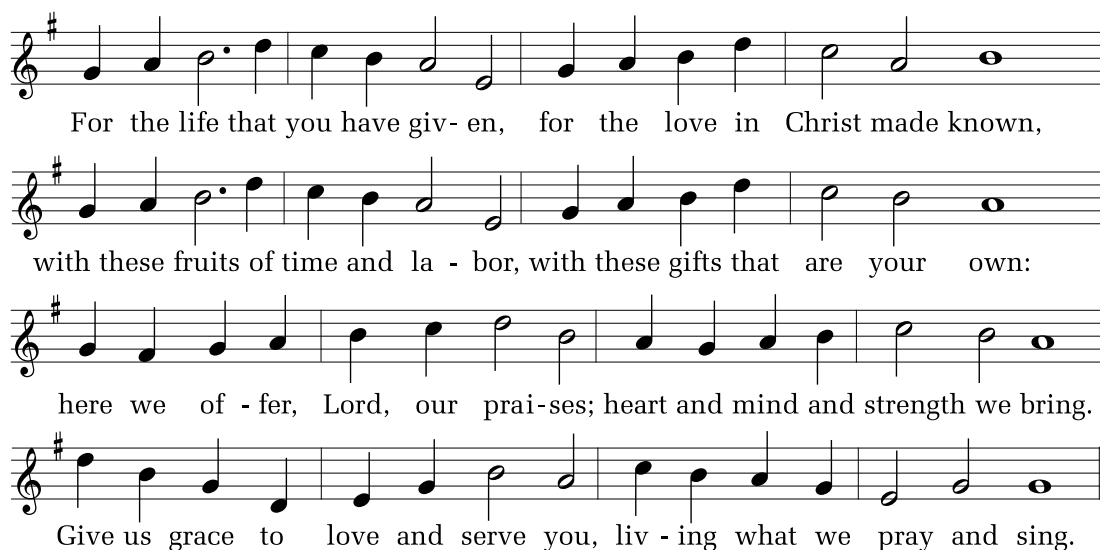
OFFERTORY SOLO

“Shepherd’s Pipe Carol”

John Rutter

Going through the hills on a night all starry on the way to
Bethlehem, far away I heard a shepherd boy piping on the way
to Bethlehem. Angels in the sky brought this message nigh,
“Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to
bring us peace on earth and he’s lying cradled there at Bethlehem.”
“Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily on the way to
Bethlehem, who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely on
the way to Bethlehem?” “None may hear my pipes on these hills
so lonely on the way to Bethlehem, but a King will hear me play
sweet lullabies when I get to Bethlehem.” Angels in the sky came
down from on high, hovered over the manger where the babe was
lying cradled in the arms of his mother, Mary, sleeping now at
Bethlehem. “Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily,
is he there at Bethlehem?” “I will find him soon by the star shining
brightly in the sky over Bethlehem.” “May I come with you,
shepherd boy piping merrily, come with you to Bethlehem? Pay my
homage too at the new King’s cradle, is it far to Bethlehem?”

*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 up to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

All: **As we bring our gifts before you, O Lord, we give thanks that you have shown your great love for us by using commonplace things for your purpose—water to mark your children, bread and wine to feed and nourish us ordinary people to be disciples, a child in a manger to announce your grace. Take these commonplace things, these gifts of paper and metal and the lives that stand behind them. Bless and use them to proclaim your gracious love, for we offer them in the name of Jesus, the Emmanuel. Amen.**

*CAROL 40

“Joy to the World!”

Tune: ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION (*responsively*)

Minister: Gabriel foretold it. The angels heralded it.

People: **The shepherds came to see for themselves, and it is true: God is with us through Jesus Christ, the babe of Bethlehem and our resurrected Lord.**

Minister: The world will never be the same; we ourselves will never be the same. Go then and tell the world—Jesus Christ is born.

POSTLUDE

Go Tell It On the Mountain

*African American spiritual
arr. John Behnke*

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

In Memory of

Mary Shawn Addington	Donald D. Hagerty Jr.	Edward L. Renno
Evelyn Artwick	James and Millicent Hansen	Herman and Celia Retzler
Janey Quay Atkins	Ray Harris	Robert G. Reynolds
Marian Pierpoint Baker	Mary Patric Herbst	Edward and Gregg Rohlin
Barbara Hires Baxter	Eileen and Walter Herget	Elizabeth A. Rossley
Richard Beilfuss	Alison Ives Hires	Richard P. Rudnicki
Rudolph Beranek	David Hooker	Charles and Katherine Schmidt
Jean Bielitzki	Peyton S. Hutchison Jr.	Katherine W. Smith
Mary E. Bolton	Annette and Harry Igo	Mercedes Freeman Smith
Mr. and Mrs. J. Clinton Bowman	Richard and Dianne James	Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Snorf Jr.
Blanche and Robert Buchanan	Ruth James	Dan and Ann Gardner Stone
Claudette Buxton	Lee W. Jennings	William Storm
Bob Cagle	Ruth Kort Kamp	Ernest and Ella Sweeney
Bertha Hinn Collier	Gladys and George Kasper	Beth and Harold Taft
Roy Daleo	William and Irene Katona	Alex Telford
Elwin and Laura "Sue" DeLong	Bertha and Robert Kearney	Gordon Telford
Bonneau Dickson	Dorothy L. and Richard W. Kerch	Jen Telford
Francis J. and Mary E. Dorn	Claire Grace Kostal	Avys Terrill
Mr. and Mrs. Allen N. Dryhurst	Edward A. Kuhn	Betty and Joseph Thomas
Sue Duffy	Julia E. Lee	James W. Thornton
David Erickson	Norma A. Lineberger	Wendell Tozer
Herman and Ruth Eschmann	Marjorie J. Loop	Donald E. Trost
Ronald E. Felty	John R. Lopatka	Alan W. Tuckey
Dana Ferguson Myers	Rudolph and Mary Lopatka	Leo Ulfers
Robert D. Ferguson	Thomas Lucchetti	Robert K. Unglaub Sr.
Mary Drew Feurer	The Mackie Family	Kathryn J. Vittum
Marshall Forde	Fred and Velma Maloof	Brian Vogel
Harrison I. and Hazel Walther Frey	Marcus J. and Betty Cole Miller	Charles H. and Grace Nichols Waddel
Bonnell T. C. Gardner	Ruby and Orrin Millie	Mary Jane and Erich Weissenberger
Robert Gates	Eva Jane Milligan	Ralph and Geneva Westerman
Helen McCulloch Gee	Mr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Moffat	Susanne Willson
Sydney and Ruth Gerrans	Glenn Oliver	Frances M. Youngwirth
R. M. Gifford	Mrs. Hae Jung Park	Ruth and Eugene Zeltmann
Norman and Doris Goenne	John L. Parr Jr.	Harold V. and Irene H. Zimmerman
Paul and Dorothy Grueninger	Lorraine and Keith Parsons	
G. Ralph Guthrie Jr.	Marion E. Radtke	
Helen B. Haberlen	Ross and Emilie Randall	
Jeanne Habicht	Eleanor and Thomas Reese	

In Honor of

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

WORSHIP LEADERS Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor
Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

THE MUSIC TODAY John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Carol Carpenter, Soloist

WORSHIP NOTES

The “Lighting of the Christ Candle” litany is from “A Boy Has Been Born for Us,” *Cloth for the Cradle* by John W. Bell and Wild Goose Worship Group. “Prayer for Christmas,” “Prayer of Confession,” and “Benediction” are from *Flames of the Spirit* by Ruth C. Duck. A portion of the Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication is from *The Worship Sourcebook* by Emily Brink and John Witvliet.

The “Light Up a Life” offering is being received through the Christmas season. 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.

Fourth Church gathers for worship each Sunday at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. A Taizé service is held at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel on the fourth Friday of each month. The Christmas Taizé service will be Friday, December 26.

The stained glass depiction of the birth of Christ, shown on the bulletin cover, can be seen in Blair Chapel. It is part of the memorial “children’s windows” that were donated in the 1930s, when the former Blair Chapel space was used, as the current chapel is now, for weekly Sunday worship services.

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 C. Cadwallader, Pastoral Resident
Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident
Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident
David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus