

vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday May 3, 2009

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

SIXTH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHTING FOR MENTAL ILLNESS RECOVERY AND UNDERSTANDING

PRELUDE Brother James' Air *Searle Wright*

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
our hearts,

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

Leader: Let us worship God.

***HYMN 465** "Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather" *Tune: Tōkyō*

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 a label and not for who they
truly are, forgive us, O Lord. God, help us to**

**Stand as you are able.*

**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, and our failure to invite people with
mental illness to be part of our lives and our
congregation. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Hear and 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 91:1–6, 14–16 (*responsively*) (page 518, O.T.)

LITANY 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 those struggling
with mental illness.

People: **We pray for those struggling with mental illness.**

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.**

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

SOLO "There Is a Balm in Gilead"
African American spiritual

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 5:1–12 (page 4, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION by Victoria G. Curtiss

I WILL DELIVER

"Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect
those who know my name. When they call to me,
I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble."

Psalm 91:14–15 (NRSV)

***HYMN 404** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" *Tune: PRECIOUS LORD*
(Congregation sings second verse only)

***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.
Amen.

(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

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

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he 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 for their families. Amen.

***HYMN 543** “Abide with Me”

Tune: EVENTIDE

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Rubrics

Dan Locklair

“The people respond—Amen!”

WORSHIP LEADERS

Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission
and Executive Director of
Chicago Lights

Terrill L. Stumpf Director of the Chicago Lights
Center for Whole Health

Barbara Doyle Chair of Mental Health Ministry

Karen Horning Liturgist

Liz Houston Liturgist

Peyton Randy Keller Liturgist

John McIndoe Liturgist

Lois Roelofs Liturgist

Carolyn LaGioia Candlelighter,
Old Saint Patrick's Church

Thomas E. Gouwens Associate Organist

Carol Carpenter Alto Soloist

Daniel Henry Cantor

The Vespers Choir

*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*

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

<i>At Fourth Church</i>	<i>In Chicago and beyond</i>
Lorene Replogle Counseling Center 312.787.8425	National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Northwestern Hospital Chicago, IL 60611 (312.404.3038)
Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care 312.573.3360 atrowbridge@fourthchurch.org	NAMI Illinois 218 West Lawrence Springfield, IL 62704 (800.346.4572)

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

SIXTH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHTING FOR MENTAL ILLNESS RECOVERY AND UNDERSTANDING

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

In 2000, the session of Fourth Presbyterian Church 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 Chicago Lights Center for Whole Health fosters a welcoming environment for individuals, families, and friends of the Fourth Presbyterian Church community affected by mental illness. Through advocacy and education, this ministry builds better tomorrows for recovery, hope, help, and healing.

May the peace of God and the freshness of the Holy Spirit rest in our thoughts and all that we do in this, our chosen ministry. May the will of God rule in our dreams and guide our plans as we work together to bring hope and wholeness to those who struggle with mental anguish and pain. May God's love be manifest in wonderful ways never yet experienced. May hopes be fulfilled, dreams brought closer, and prayers answered for our ministry, for our church, and for the community at large that we prayerfully work to serve. In God's name we pray. Amen.

—Prayer by Joyce Wakeman,
Member of Fourth Presbyterian Church
and the Mental Health Ministry

DID YOU KNOW...

One in four individuals in the U.S. experience 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 a diagnosable mental disorder 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.

*“Bear one another’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 as part of this 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?**

- Educate yourself about mental health and mental illness.
- Be there! Show up!
- Be a friend.
- Listen without a judgmental attitude.
- Empower by demonstrating that you believe in him or her.
- Let the person know he or she is not alone.
- Ask what you can do to make a difference. Ask, “How can I help?”
- 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.”
- 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.
- If medication has been prescribed, reassure him or her that it is almost always necessary for those with a serious mental illness and that it can enable one to function very well.
- Reassure your friend that God is constantly with him or her, even if he or she can’t sense it at that moment.
- Follow through and come back to see your friend when he or she is feeling well.
- Advocate for persons with mental illness in the community.

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