

MORNING WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Leo Sowerby
Savior of the Nations, Come Johann Sebastian Bach
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Kenneth Leighton
Savior of the Nations, Come Helmut Walcha
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Robert Lau

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

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

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: In expectation of her child, Mary sang out for joy:
“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God
my Savior, for he has looked with favor upon the lowliness
of his servant.” (Luke 1:47–49)

People: **“Surely, from now on all generations will call us blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for us, and holy
is God’s name.”**

Leader: The third candle on the Advent wreath stands for joy.
It reminds us to be thankful that God’s presence is becoming
brighter in our world.

People: **The light reminds us that God’s child is coming to bring joy
to 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 3** “Comfort, Comfort You My People” Tune: PSALM 42

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(unison)*

**Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you;
now prepare the world for your rule. Come quickly to
save us, so that wars and violence shall end and your
children may live in peace, honoring one another with
justice and love; through Jesus Christ, who lives in power
with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever. Amen.**

**Stand as you are able.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**God of the future, you are coming in power
to bring all nations under your rule.
We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,
for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.
In our seasonal preoccupations, we overlook light shining
in the darkness. We have not trusted good news to
be good and we have missed glory in our midst.
In your mercy, forgive us. Open our eyes and our hearts to
welcome Him whose coming is sure, whose day draws near:
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(9:30)

UNISON PRAYER

(9:30)

**Holy God, remind us of the promises given in
our own baptism and renew our trust in you.
Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

(11:00)

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM

“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree”

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green;
the trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.
His beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know, but never can tell,
the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.
For happiness I long have sought and pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all, but now I see, 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.
I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile; under
the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ the apple tree. This fruit doth
make my soul to thrive; it keeps my dying faith alive, which makes
my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

PSALTER

Psalm 97 *(responsively)*

(page 521, O.T.)

***GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Luke 2:8–11 (page 54, N.T.)
Philippians 4:4–7 (page 187, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

JOHN M. BUCHANAN

Rejoicing

“I am bringing you good news of great joy.” Luke 2:10 (NRSV)

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.”

Philippians 4:4 (NRSV)

***HYMN 9**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

***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.

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

“Amen”

Vincent Persichetti

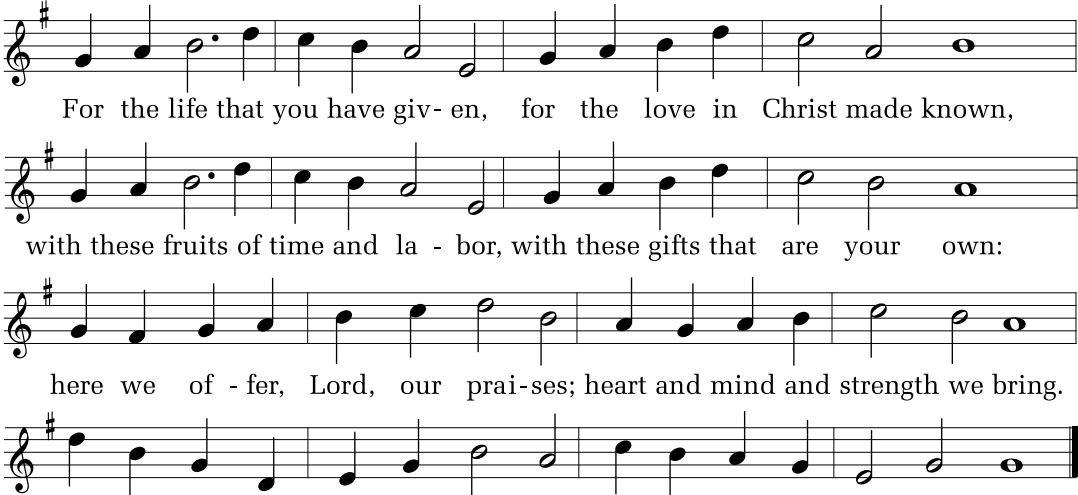
OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
(Anthem text: Hymn 1)

Richard Webster

*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.

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*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

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.**

All: **Eternal God, as you led your people in ages past,
you direct our journey into the future. We give you thanks
that you came to us in Jesus Christ, and we eagerly await
his coming again, so that his rule may be complete and
your righteousness reign over all the world. By your Spirit,
open our eyes to the generosity of your hand. Fill us with
gratitude overflowing, so that we may share life and love
in praise to you, God of all the ages, in the gracious name
of Jesus Christ, your Son, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
now and forever. Amen.**

*HYMN 40

“Joy to the World!”

Tune: ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Adolphus Hailstork

Advent and Christmas Worship

AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

■ **Festival Service of Advent Lessons and Carols** ■

Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary
Cookies-and-cocoa reception to follow in Anderson Hall

■ **Christmas Cantata** ■

Freide auf Erden by Arnold Schönberg

Sung by the Morning Choir

Sunday, December 20 during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship

■ **Four Christmas Eve Candlelight Services** ■

Thursday, December 24

4:00 p.m. *Children's Pageant*

6:00 p.m. *Family Service* ♦ Linda C. Loving 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** ■

Friday, December 25

11:00 a.m. ♦ Adam Fronczek 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

9:30 a.m. Joyce Shin, Adam Fronczek, John M. Buchanan

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LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

9:30 a.m. Derek and Kim Lopez

11:00 a.m. David, Janet, and Elizabeth Love

THE MUSIC TODAY

9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir

11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

WORSHIP NOTES

The child being baptized during 9:30 worship is John Cleveland Ordway, son of Philip and Angela Ordway.

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.

John Buchanan's Advent sermons are based on favorite Advent hymns and Christmas carols.

December 20: "What I can I give him: give my heart." (*In the Bleak Midwinter*)

December 24: "Come to Bethlehem and see." (*Angels We Have Heard on High*)

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks outside the South Transept doors (leading to Anderson Hall) and in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org.

PASTORAL STAFF

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod, 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

Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism

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