



Gathering

Gathering Music

We invite you to complete the prayer card found in this worship bulletin and to place it in the plate during the sharing of gifts. Information about the prayer cards is printed on the outside back cover of the bulletin.

Welcome

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Presbyterian Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical limitation, educational background, or economic situation.

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: As God's forgiven people,
let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

All are invited to stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.

* Stand as you are able

***Call to Worship**

Leader: In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established
as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

People: **Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain
of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.**

Leader: He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

People: **O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!**

***Song** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 28:1–6, 15–19 (page 175, O.T.)

Musical Reflection

Psalter Reading Psalm 121 (page 539, O.T.)

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**Gracious God,
Jesus will come soon in the gift of Christmas
and as usual, we are not ready.
We have not been good to our friends and our families,
and we have not reached out to strangers around us.
We hold grudges and refuse to forgive,
and we put off until tomorrow, or leave for someone else,
things that we ourselves should do, today.
Forgive us, Lord.
As we enter this season of Advent,
help us to be moved to make real preparations
for the coming of Christ,
living among one another as he calls us to live.
As we remember the preparations that each of us must make,
hear now our silent prayers . . .**

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Reading Matthew 24:36–44

(page 26, N.T.)

Sermon by Adam Fronczek
Watching and Waiting

Jazz Improvisation

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

Please place gifts and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.

Offertory Solo “All Good Gifts”

Stephen Schwartz

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav’nly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

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!**

Sanctus

Stephen Rush

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.

The Communion

Communion Solo "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

Robert Kreutz

Prayer after Communion *(unison)*

God, we thank you for this meal that strengthens us in our weakness.
We thank you for this table where we find forgiveness in the midst of
our flaws. We thank you for this community, where we wait together
for Jesus Christ and prepare ourselves for his coming. Send us out into
the world prepared to live the life you have given us with faith and
confidence, inspired by your love, and challenged by your truth. Amen.

Sending

***Song** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God will be named corporately in a variety of ways that are gender neutral. This allows for your personal expressions as you are led to name the Holy in ways meaningful to you.

Worship Leaders

Adam Fronczek

Associate Pastor

Matthew J. Helms

Pastoral Resident

Lucy Smith Jazz Quartet

Acknowledgments:

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Music— “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” to the tune of “Veni Emmanuel”; “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” to the tune of “Picardy”; “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” to the tune of “Hyfrydol.” Used with permission. LicensgOnline. License L18227.

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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



Fourth Church Cares

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion with a Deacon, contact Sarah Johnson, Minister for Congregational Care, at 312.981.4034 (sjohnson@fourthchurch.org).

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Advent and Christmas at Fourth Church

Festival of Advent Lessons and Music

Sunday, December 12, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Featuring the combined choirs of Fourth Church,
this service celebrates the season through scripture and song
A cookies-and-hot-cocoa reception follows in Anderson Hall.



Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 19 in the Sanctuary

During 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship
Featuring the world premiere of *Magnificat* by Aaron David Miller
with the Fourth Church Morning Choir, Tower Brass, and organ



Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel

For those for whom the Christmas celebration is made difficult by loss and sadness



4 Candlelight Services on Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24 in the Sanctuary

4:00 p.m. Children's Pageant
6:00 p.m. Family Service with John W. Vest preaching
8:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
Service of Lessons and Carols with John Buchanan preaching



Christmas Day Service

Saturday, December 25 at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

with Victoria G. Curtiss preaching



Sunday Worship with Christmas Hymns and Readings

Sunday, December 26 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

(No 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. services on December 26)

News and Opportunities

Advent and Christmas

Daily Advent devotions, written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available in printed booklets that can be found in the church literature racks, by email (send email addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org), and at www.fourthchurch.org.

The “Christmas Wishes” gift project collects gifts for more than 700 children who might not otherwise receive them. Wish lists are available during Coffee Hour or by contacting Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

“Operation Christmas Gift Bag” provides holiday gifts for Sunday Night Supper guests. Instructions and a bag, to decorate and fill, are available during Sunday morning Coffee Hour or by contacting Jill Keiser at 312.981.3590. Filled bags are to be returned to the reception desk by Monday, December 6.

Chicago Lights Holiday Cards, designed by Tutoring students, are available at the reception desk and online at www.chicagolights.org. All proceeds benefit the Tutoring program.

An Advent book study of *Watch for the Light* meets Sundays prior to Christmas at 12:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room and will be hosted by the Young Adults and ThirtiesForties fellowship groups.

A Fair Trade Gift Bazaar will be held Saturday and Sunday, December 4 and 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall to benefit impoverished families around the world.

The annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Music will be Sunday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A cookies-and-hot-chocolate reception hosted in Anderson Hall by Women@Fourth Connect will follow. Volunteers are needed to help set up the hall, bake cookies, and serve cocoa; contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org) for more details.

Memorialize or honor loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Christmas flowers and garlands for the sanctuary. A list of those remembered will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made by completing the forms available in the literature racks. Completed cards must be returned by Friday, December 10 for names to appear in the bulletin. For details, contact Wydetta Carter at 312.274.3833.

“Light Up a Life” this holiday season! Gifts to this year-end giving campaign will make a difference in the lives of those touched by Fourth Church and Chicago Lights while also serving as a meaningful gift and way to honor the special people in your life. Brochures are being mailed to member homes and will be available in the literature racks in December.

Fellowship

Cornerstones, a fellowship group for couples over fifty, is holding their annual Christmas party on Friday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse. Prepaid reservations are required; to RSVP, call the Cornerstones Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 454.

The monthly Cycling Club ride will be Saturday, December 4. Call the Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 409 for details.

Fourth Dimension, a fellowship opportunity for individuals forty-seven and older, will meet for a Christmas social on Friday, December 10. For details, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

The Fourth Church Men’s Group will gather for a holiday program on Saturday, December 11 at 8:00 a.m. in the Dining Room. To RSVP, call 312.878.4570 by Wednesday, December 8 at 12:00 noon.

The ThirtiesForties fellowship group will have their Christmas luncheon on Sunday, December 12. For details or to RSVP, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

News and Opportunities

Volunteers

Current Volunteer Needs

Cookie providers, setup team, cocoa servers for the reception after the December 12 Festival of Advent Lessons and Music

Clothes sorters on Mondays and Fridays

Social Service Center helpers on the first Friday of each month to help with clothes distribution

Current Donation Needs

Men's seasonal sturdy clothes, especially jeans and other pants, long-sleeved shirts, and underwear in larger sizes

For details, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org).

Worship

Morning Prayer is held weekdays at 9:30 a.m. except Tuesdays, when it is at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for daily Morning Prayer, which takes place in Stone Chapel.

A Morning Prayer service remembering those who have died from and those who are living with AIDS will be held Wednesday, December 1 at 9:30 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

Sunday morning worship services are held at 8:00 (Communion) and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

The monthly Taizé service will not be held in November. The next meditative service in the style of Taizé will be held on New Year's Eve at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can place their prayer requests, written on paper, in one of the prayer boxes, which are located outside Stone Chapel, in the Narthex, and in Anderson Hall.

Enrichment

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities:

John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.

Life and Learning, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

A book conversation with Chicago Sinai

Congregation members will be held Tuesday, November 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room. The topic of discussion, led by Rabbi Levinsky and Joyce Shin, will be Philip Roth's *Nemesis*.

An informational meeting about the June 20–29, 2011, trip to the Holy Land will be held Sunday, December 5 at 1:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room.

"This I Believe," an evening with Bob Edwards, public radio host, will be held Wednesday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets for this Michigan Avenue Forum are available at www.wbez.org (enter FPC for discount).

Books by Women will gather Tuesday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse to discuss Jacqueline Winspear's *Maisie Dobbs*.

Children and Family

Sunday School classes meet Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House.

Fourth Church Youth meet Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Elevation (grades 6–7) meets in the Manse basement, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8 confirmation) meets in the Page Smith Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets in the Crow's Nest.

The annual La Posada Family Night will be held Friday, December 17 at 5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Melissa Scanlan at 312.640.2578 (mscanlan@fourthchurch.org).

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

P2C construction work may begin as soon as this week with the building of a temporary ramp in the Garth to facilitate handicap access to the church when the 126 E. Chestnut entrance is demolished in early 2011 and the new building construction work begun. While the ramp is being built, the Garth will be closed to the public. For more information about Project Second Century, see www.fourthchurch.org/P2C.html.

Deacons and pastoral staff will be conducting visits to members who are homebound and cannot make it to worship this Advent. Names of those who are unable to attend worship are being collected by the Pastoral Care Office; to submit a name, contact Sarah Johnson at 312.573.3360.

The Fourth Church website, www.fourthchurch.org, makes available audio (including podcasts) of the 11:00 a.m. services; sermon transcripts from all worship services; the text of worship bulletins; devotions; and programming information.

Mission and Outreach

Mission trip applications for the March 11–19 mission trip to Cuba are due Wednesday, December 1; the deadline to apply for the March 26–April 2 Colombia trip is Wednesday, December 15. Details are available in the literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org.

Chicago Shares voucher booklets offer a way to give to those in need on the streets while knowing that the \$1 gift will be redeemed at a participating grocery store or restaurant (but not for liquor or tobacco). For information or to purchase a \$5 booklet, contact Natasha Holbert at 312.274.3831 (nholbert@fourthchurch.org).

Music and the Arts

“Peaceable Kingdom,” works by Chicago artist David Csicsko, is on exhibition in the Loggia.

Soprano Victoria Holland will perform this Friday’s Free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The Chicago Ensemble will be in concert Tuesday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel. Tickets are available by calling 773.889.4206 or visiting www.thechicagoensemble.org.

Chanticleer will perform their annual Christmas concerts at Fourth Church on Monday, December 6 and Tuesday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available through the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (www.cso.org; 312.294.3000).

The “Holidays a cappella” concert with Chicago *a cappella* will be Friday, December 10 at 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets are available at www.chicagoacappella.org (773.755.1628).

The Lakeside Singers Holiday Concert will be Monday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets are available at www.lakesidesingers.com (847.382.5085).

The Tower Brass Christmas concert will be Saturday, December 18 at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Those who would like to receive *Music Notes*, a weekly email newsletter about music at Fourth Church, are invited to subscribe by sending email addresses to music@fourthchurch.org.

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to use the prayer card, found in this worship bulletin, to offer joys and/or concerns. The cards will be collected during the Sharing of Gifts (simply place the card in the offering plate as it is passed). The prayers will then be incorporated into this afternoon's Prayers of the People.

If you have a prayer you would rather not share during worship, you are invited to complete a prayer card found by one of the prayer boxes in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary, and it will be passed on to Sarah Johnson of the pastoral staff.

All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion, which is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available in the paper "cup" within the basket of bread), which they will then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles.

Pastoral Staff for 4:00 Worship

Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for
Adult Education and Worship
Kerri N. Allen, Pastoral Resident
Matthew J. Helms, Pastoral Resident
Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Sarah A. Johnson, Minister for Congregational Care

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.

The large banners hanging in the middle of the Sanctuary were created by liturgical artist Shawna Bowman during the 4:00 worship service and are artistic representations of our worship experience.

Large-print Bibles 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. There is also an area in the side aisle where your child can play quietly.

Worship folders, containing quiet activities and a bulletin designed for children, are available from an usher.

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/sermons.html.

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 the community meal or the Loggia (through the doors to your left as you face the front of the sanctuary) after worship for fellowship, conversation, and information about church programs and volunteer opportunities.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Streets) at the rate of \$7.75. Validation tickets must be picked up from

the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, December 6 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, January 10 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. For information, contact Jo Preuninger, Interim Director of Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (jpreuninger@fourthchurch.org).