

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
Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Claude Louis d'Aquin
Wilbur Held*

*CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Minister: Come, holy people, redeemed of God,
to follow the way prepared for you.

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

Minister: Once again the earth is surprised at a manger,
as the glory of God transforms the commonplace.

People: **Let us go to Bethlehem to see what God has made known to us.**

Minister: Experience anew the wonder of God's ways.

People: **We light the Christ candle to proclaim that,
out of love for the world, God dispelled darkness
forever through the birth of Jesus Christ.**

Minister: Let us glorify and praise God for the Light of the world!

*HYMN 28

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS (*unison*)

Gracious and loving God, with Mary and Joseph,
the angels, the shepherds, and the magi,
we too sing praises to the newborn King.
We marvel at the greatness of your love for us,
a love prepared to take on our flesh and
be born in the humblest of circumstances.
Each year, the breadth of your love brings forth joy from us
as we sing carols and hear familiar words of scripture.
We praise you for your great gift of love—Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord—who brings to birth in us love for you,
O God, and love for one another. Come, Lord Jesus,
be light for our darkness and empower us with your spirit
to be faithful bearers of your light into all the shadowy
and clouded areas of the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

WELCOME

**Stand as you are able.*

*HYMN 46	“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”	<i>Tune: PERSONENT HODIE</i>
PSALTER	Psalm 98 (<i>responsively</i>)	(page 521, O.T.)
SOLO	“A Child My Choice”	<i>Richard Dirksen</i>
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 Victoria G. Curtiss LIVING AMONG US	
*HYMN 30	“Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”	<i>Tune: MARY’S CHILD</i>
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	<i>(unison) from Philippians 2:6–11</i>	
	<p>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.</p>	

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 "Gesù Bambino" (The Infant Jesus) *Pietro A. Yon*

***PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE** *Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH*

**Praise God whose dawn transfigures night,
whose Daystar shines for us on high,
whose Spirit brings into our sight
the hope which to our world draws nigh.**

***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: **Gracious God,
may our offerings sing a new song of praise,
as we marvel at your care for us and the whole world.
Bless these gifts that they may bear witness to
the light and show forth your grace and truth.
We dedicate them in thanksgiving
for your glorious gift of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation: “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

Tune: PERSONENT HODIE

*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

Evelyn Artwick

Richard C. Baird

Hartley B. Barker

Henry and Eleanore Bates

Richard Beilfuss

Carol S. Bird

Mary E. Bolton

Martha T. Boyce

Henry M. “Jud” Bowman

Dora Smith Brent

George Brent

Lula W. Brent

Robert J. Brent

Eleanor T. Briggs

Caspar Brown

Dorothy V. Brown

Jesse C. Brown

Blanche and Robert Buchanan

Mary Elizabeth Elphick Buckley

Steve Bumpus

Claudette Buxton

Bob Cagle

Sarah Campbell

Helen Carstensen

Marie Carstensen

Philip Glen Carter

Chester and Lillie Stean Carter Sr.

Dr. and Mrs. Harold E. Clark

Bertha Hinn Collier

Mike, Sally, and Mary Alice Conlon

Dian A. Cooper

Margaret and Thomas Crosby

Roy F. Daleo

Elam and Grace Davies

Allen and Helen Dryhurst

William Stewart Edgar

Emmie Lou and Bill Fedoryk

Dana Ferguson

Robert D. Ferguson

Marshall Forde

Edward C. Fordney

Jerry and Rose Foster

Denise Fredlund

Paul Galloway

Robert Gates

Kenneth Gibboney

Charles and Dorothy Glas

Darrell M. Green

Jeanne P. Habicht

Molly Luise Harris

Mary Patric Herbst

Kathleen Hippen

Ida Hofmeister

Bambi Holloway

David Hooker

Virginia and Archibald Hug

Gladys and Harry Hutchison

Peyton Smith Hutchison Jr.

Annette and Harry Igo

Florine and Oscar Jacobs

Lee Jennings

Phillip J. Joseph

George Jousma

George and Gladys Kaspar

Bertha and Robert Kearney

Ruth Kortkamp
Edward A. Kuhn
Marjorie J. Loop
John R. Lopatka
The Mackie Family
Fred and Velma Maloof
Chris Malysa
Paul M. Martin
Charles D. McAdams Jr.
Mary Frances and James McMurria
Frae McGuire
Ann Murray Miller
Marcus J. and Betty Cole Miller
Ed and Julia Miller
Ruby and Orrin Millie
Charles Wayne Mitchell
Frederick D. Montgomery
Reedie G. Moore
Manuela Morales
Kimberly Joy Morgan
Patricia Kathryn Morgan
Judy Neel Murphy
Ruth F. O'Connell
Glenn Oliver
Frank and Angela Pace
John L. Parr Jr.
John Petty
Virginia Pidgeon
Abigail F. Pouncey
Eleanor and Thomas Reese
Edward L. Renno
Celia and Herman Retzler
Alice H. Reynolds
Thomas Rinkoski
Dorothy Ritchie
Brenton Hills Ruppel

Maynard B. Russell
Floyd B. Salter
Judith Parks Sanderson
Richard J. Schade
Adeline and Lawrence Schramm
Charles and Katherine Schmidt
Burton Sherrod
Marc Sherrod
John and Maude Singleton
Dan and Ann Stone
Douglas and Hazel Storer
Ella and Ernest Sweeney
Jim, Alex, and Gordon Telford
Avys Terrill
Ruth Thompson
Oey Beng Toh
Dorothy Tollifson
Leo Ulfers
Nell Vincent
Daniel W. Vittum Jr.
Kathryn Jones Vittum
David von Peterffy
Erich and Mary Jane Weissenberger
Robert and Jeanne Whitmer
Roger E. Whitmer
Kenneth Burns Wilson
Marjorie and Alvin Wilson
Roy and Rosemary Winkler
Edwin L. and Marjorie Montgomery Withaeger Sr.
Edwin L. "Chip" Withaeger Jr.
Edith Lockman Woolfolk
Ernest Woolfolk
Frances M. Youngwirth
Ruth and Eugene Zeltmann
Harold V. Zimmerman
Irene H. Zimmerman

In Honor of

Rudolph E. Beranek
Diane and Jim Bonnell
Colver R. Briggs
Larry Brown
John and Sue Buchanan
Mirian Cardona
Kate Carle
Chester Carter Jr.
Steven M. Hegedus
George and Josephine Horsman

Sue Thompson McAdams
Joan Dixon Mooney
Jack and Gwen Pixler
Robert G. Reynolds
Rosaria M. Rinkoski
Janice Rolls
Barbara D. Thomsen
Albi and Adolph Vent
Scott, Thomas, and Clayton Wilson

WORSHIP LEADERS Kerri N. Allen, Victoria G. Curtiss

THE MUSIC TODAY Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist
Carol Carpenter, Alto Soloist

WORSHIP NOTES

The “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout 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.

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.

Sunday worship services will be held tomorrow, Sunday, December 26, at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. There will not be an 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. service tomorrow; those will resume on Sunday, January 2. This Friday evening, December 31, a New Year’s Eve Taizé service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

PASTORAL STAFF

John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families
Sarah A. Johnson, Minister for Congregational Care
Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
John H. Boyle, Parish Associate
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
Kerri N. Allen, Pastoral Resident
Matthew J. Helms, Pastoral Resident
David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus