



## First Sunday of Advent

### 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.*

**Call to Worship** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**Advent Reading**

**Advent Candle Lighting**

*Instead of lighting a traditional Advent Wreath, during the Sundays of Advent the congregation is invited to come forward and light a prayer candle of their own.*

*Your candle may signify something special that you are waiting for during this season, a confession of sin, someone you are holding in prayer, a joy or a concern, an openness to listen for God’s voice, or anything that you feel moved to offer.*

Leader: Everything came into being through the Word,  
and without the Word nothing came into being.  
What came into being through the Word was life,  
and the life was the light for all people.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness doesn’t extinguish the light.

People: **Thanks be to God for the light of the world.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Leader: We are the light of the world. We are children of God. Therefore, let us not be strangers to one another, but sisters and brothers in Christ. Please stand and 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.*

**\*Opening Hymn** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

# Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

## Prayer for Illumination

**Scripture** Mark 1:1–20

(page 32, N.T.)

**Sermon** Now Is the Time!  
*Part of the Advent Sermon Series "Who Is Jesus?"*

John W. Vest

## Musical Reflection

# Sealing the Word

## Sharing of Gifts

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

**Offertory Music** "When Love Comes to Town"

U2

**\*Doxology**

Lucy Smith

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: Jesus of Bethlehem and Nazareth and Calvary,  
we are expecting you.

People: **Come and be born in us.**

Leader: Jesus of the manger and the inn,  
Jesus of the workshop and the temple,  
Jesus of the lakeside and the city,  
Jesus of the fireside and the roadside,  
we are expecting you.

People: **Come and be born in us.**

Leader: Jesus of Mary and Joseph,  
Jesus of shepherds and angels,  
Jesus of children and animals,  
Jesus of fishermen and priests,  
Jesus of women and men disciples,  
Jesus of tax collectors and prostitutes,  
Jesus of all who will receive you,  
we are expecting you.

People: **Come and be born in us.**

Leader: Look and see,  
we have brought our bread and cup  
to be your body for us.  
Look and see,  
we have brought our flesh and blood  
to be your body for you.  
Look and see,  
the same Spirit which lived in your flesh  
is living in your people here.  
Look at us and let us look at you  
and see you now.  
We are expecting you.

People: **Come and be born in us.**

**Sanctus**

*Lucy Smith*

**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 Music** "I Love to Tell the Story"

*William Fischer*

**Prayer After Communion** (*unison*)

**God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life.  
May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other,  
in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.**



**Sending**

**\*Closing Song** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

**\*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**

**John W. Vest**

Associate Pastor

**Judith L. Watt**

Associate Pastor

**Lucy Smith Jazz Quartet**

### ***Acknowledgments***

*Words*—The Advent Reading and Great Thanksgiving are adapted from *Alternative Worship: Resources from and for the Emerging Church*. The Prayer After Communion is from the *Worship Sourcebook* (Calvin Institute of Christian Worship). “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” by Jane Parker Huber, copyright © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.

*Music*—“New Doxology” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2010. All rights reserved. “Gospel Sanctus” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2011. All rights reserved.

### **The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago**

John Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; [www.fourthchurch.org](http://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 Judith Watt, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 312.573.3360 ([jwatt@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jwatt@fourthchurch.org)).

# News and Opportunities

## News and Resources

**Notes, letters, memories, and photos for John and Sue Buchanan**, thanking them for their ministry among us and wishing them well post-retirement, are being collected through January 15. They can be mailed to the church, dropped off at the reception desk, or emailed to [memorybox@fourthchurch.org](mailto:memorybox@fourthchurch.org). These private expressions of gratitude, shared memories, and well wishes will be collected and presented to John and Sue in late January.

**Save the date! Carnival 2012**, the annual Mission Benefit, will be Friday, March 2.

**To see pictures from the children's musical, "Like"** Fourth Church on Facebook. Fourth Church is also on Twitter: @FourthChicago.

**Inquirers' Class** offers opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class, which next meets on Monday, December 5 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room, is also a prerequisite for membership.

**A giving kiosk in the Narthex** makes it possible to use credit or debit cards to give to Fourth Church or Chicago Lights. A receipt will be printed immediately, and gifts can be made anonymously or recorded to Fourth Church giving records.

**The 737 building**, which provides additional off-site program and office space on the 19th floor during P2C construction, is located on Chicago Avenue, two blocks south of Fourth Church and just east of Michigan Avenue and Walgreens.

## Enrichment

**The Center for Life and Learning Bible Study** meets Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

## Mission and Outreach

**This Thursday is the deadline for the Mexico mission trip** in February. Trip details and an application form are available in the literature racks, at [www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html), and by contacting Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 ([ndavis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:ndavis@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. To purchase a \$5 booklet, contact Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 ([ndavis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:ndavis@fourthchurch.org)).

## Children, Youth, and Family

**Sunday school classes** meet at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Dining Room.

**Fourth Church youth**, including Elevation (grades 6–7), Fourth Church Rising (grade 8 confirmation), and Senior Highs (grades 9–12), meet on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. on the 19th floor of the 737 building.

### Advent and Christmas

**The “Christmas Wishes” gift project** collects gifts for more than 700 children who might not otherwise receive them. Wish lists are available by calling Julia Bergen at 312.573.3369.

**The “Light Up a Life” holiday giving program** is underway. Through “Light Up a Life” gifts, you can honor or remember someone special while also helping neighbors whose needs are great this holiday season. Gifts can be made using the brochures in the literature racks or online at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

**The annual Fair Trade Bazaar** will be held Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

**“A Chanticleer Christmas” concert** will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 6 and 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are only available at [www.cso.org](http://www.cso.org).

**“Holidays a cappella,”** a concert featuring Chicago *a cappella*, will be held on Friday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available at [www.chicagoacappella.org](http://www.chicagoacappella.org).

**Memorialize or honor loved ones** by contributing to the 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 in the literature racks. Completed cards must be returned by Friday, December 9 for names to appear in the bulletin.

**An Advent Contemplative Retreat**, led by Associate Pastor for Mission Vicky Curtiss, will take place Friday and Saturday, December 9–10 at The Well (1515 W. Ogden Ave., La Grange Park). To register, contact Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 ([ndavis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:ndavis@fourthchurch.org)).

**The “Christmas Gift Bag” project** provides gifts for Sunday Night Supper guests. Instructions and a bag, to decorate and fill, are available during Coffee Hour. Filled bags are to be returned to the reception desk by Sunday, December 11.

**The annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** will be held Sunday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A cookies-and-hot-cocoa reception hosted in Anderson Hall by Women@Fourth Connect will follow.

**Tickets for the annual Christmas Dinner**, which will take place on Sunday, December 25 at 12:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall, are available at the church reception desk during the week.

### Volunteers and Donations

#### **Current Volunteer Needs**

**Tutors for children** from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays at Fourth Church

**Assistants at the Chicago Light Urban Farm** at Art Club on Mondays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and at cooking classes on Fridays from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m.

**Gift gatherers** for the silent auction for Carnaval 2012

#### **Current Donation Needs**

**Children’s winter clothes** for a family in need  
**Men’s clothing, especially pants**, for the Elam Davies Social Service Center

**Double paper/plastic bags from Treasure Island** for the Elam Davies Social Service Center

*For details or to volunteer, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 ([lnicholson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:lnicholson@fourthchurch.org)).*



# News and Opportunities

## Worship

**Special prayer requests** are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can pray there with a Deacon at 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. or place their prayer requests, written on paper, in one of the prayer boxes outside Stone Chapel or in the Narthex.

**World AIDS Day Morning Prayer**, in which those affected by HIV and AIDS will be remembered, will take place on Thursday, December 1 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow in the Loggia.

**Morning Prayer** is held weekdays in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesdays, when it is at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for the opportunity to remember in prayer members of the congregation and those in need.

**A service in the style of Taizé** is held at 7:30 p.m. each fourth Friday of the month, except in November and December. The next service will be on New Year's Eve, Saturday, December 31.

## Annual Appeal

**The fiscal year for Fourth Church and Chicago Lights ends on December 31.** The Resource Development Committee asks members to please complete 2011 Annual Appeal pledge payments by that date. Those who have not yet pledged for 2011 are invited to either make a pledge or a gift before year end.

**Church Alive Annual Appeal pledges for 2012** have been made by 701 households for \$2.6 million toward the \$5.2 million goal for pledges and gifts. Pledge cards can be found in the pew racks and online at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

## Fellowship

**Young Adults** meet on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. on the 19th floor of the 737 building for fellowship and an Advent discussion.

**The Cornerstones Christmas Party** will take place on Friday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the 737 building. To register (required), call the Cornerstones Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 454, by Tuesday, November 29.

**Fourth for Bridge** will gather on Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m. at a member's home. To RSVP, call Julia Bergen at 312.573.3369.

**Fourth Dimension** will meet for a holiday party on Friday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the 737 building.

**The Men's Group** will gather for breakfast and a program of seasonal music, led by Carl Grapentine of WFMT, on Saturday, December 10 at 8:00 a.m. in the Dining Room.

**Books by Women** will celebrate its twentieth anniversary on Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. at the 737 building when they will also discuss *Burning Bright* by Tracy Chevalier.

## Music and the Arts

**Chicago Ensemble** will perform a concert this Tuesday, November 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available online at [www.thechicagoensemble.com](http://www.thechicagoensemble.com).

**Soprano Theresa Ludden** will perform this Friday's free Noonday Concert in the Sanctuary.

## 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 Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care.

**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 H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for  
Adult Education and Worship

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

**Please** turn off all cell phones when in the Sanctuary.

**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](http://www.fourthchurch.org/sermons.html).

## 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 Anderson Hall (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 Street) 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 5 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, January 9 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. For membership information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 ([hkim@fourthchurch.org](mailto:hkim@fourthchurch.org)).