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

Leader: Among the poor, among the proud,
Women: among the persecuted,
Men: among the privileged,
All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Leader: In the private house, in the public place,
Women: in the wedding feast,
Men: in the judgment hall,
All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Leader: With a gentle touch, with an angry word,
Women: with a clear conscience,
Men: with burning love,
All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Leader: That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,
Women: that the powerful might stumble,
Men: that the hidden might be seen,
All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

Leader: Within us, without us, behind us, before us,
Women: in this place, in every place,
Men: for this time, for all time,
All: Christ is coming to make all things new.

*Opening Song  “Gather Us In”
**Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Because you made the world and intended it to be a good place and called its people your children; because, when things seem at their worst, you came in Christ to bring out the best in us; so, gracious God, we gladly say:

People: **Goodness is stronger than evil, love is stronger than hate, light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.**

Leader: Because confusion can reign inside us, despite our faith; because anger, tension, bitterness, and envy distort our vision; because our minds sometimes worry small things out of all proportion; because we do not always get it right, we want to believe:

People: **Goodness is stronger than evil, love is stronger than hate, light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.**

Leader: Because you have promised to hear us and are able to change us and are willing to make our hearts your home, we ask you to confront, control, forgive, and encourage us, as you know best.

Please observe some moments of silence for silent prayers of confession.

Leader: Then let us cherish in our hearts that which we proclaim with our lips:

People: **Goodness is stronger than evil, love is stronger than hate, light is stronger than darkness. Truth is stronger than lies.**

Leader: Lord, hear our prayer, and change our lives until we illustrate the grace of the God who makes all things new.

People: **Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace*

Leader: As with a new year, God’s grace enables us to have a fresh start. As forgiven children of God, 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.
Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Hearing the Word

Reader: In the beginning was the Word
People: and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

Reader: Our scripture reading is Mark 2:18–22.
Listen for God’s Word.

(the scripture is read)

Reader: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon
John W. Vest
From Hair of the Dog to New Wine

Musical Reflection

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

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

Offertory Music “Come Along with Me” Joe Sample

*Doxology Lucy Smith
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

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 “God of Many Names”

William Rowans

Prayer After Communion (unison)

In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of God’s kingdom. Amen.
*Closing Song*  “Be Thou My Vision”

**Closing Response**

Leader: From where we are to where you need us,
All: **Jesus, now lead on.**
Leader: From the security of what we know to the adventure of what you will reveal,
All: **Jesus, now lead on.**
Leader: To refashion the fabric of this world until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,
All: **Jesus, now lead on.**
Leader: Because good things have been prepared for those who love God.
All: **Jesus, now lead on.**

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

Adam H. Fronczek  
Associate Pastor

Lucy Smith Jazz Quartet

Acknowledgments

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John 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 Judith Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).
**News and Opportunities**

**Children, Youth, and Family**

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

**Sunday School classes** meet at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**Mission**

A mission trip to Cuba will take place April 21–28. Trip details and an application form are available in the literature racks, at www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html, and by calling Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815. The application deadline is Monday, January 9.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day** is Saturday, January 14. There will be several sites where intergenerational volunteer teams can work, with times in the morning and afternoon. To volunteer or for details, call Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 or pick up an information card from the literature racks.

**Music and the Arts**

*Light*, the new CD featuring the Fourth Church choirs, is available by contacting Ryan Loeckel at 312.640.2570 (rloeckel@fourthchurch.org).

**Oboist Jennet Ingle** will perform this Friday’s free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**Fellowship**

**Young Adults** meets on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. at the 737 building for fellowship and discussion.

**Cornerstones** will gather for “History of Tap Dance,” on Friday, January 6 at the 737 building. To register (required), call the Cornerstones Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 454 by Wednesday, January 4.

**Fourth Dimension** will meet for the presentation “The Amazing Case of the Disappearing Bees,” by Dr. May Berenbaum of the University of Illinois, on Friday, January 13 at 6:00 p.m. at the 737 building.

**Men’s Group** will gather for breakfast and the presentation “Cameroon Update” by Dr. Bernie Blaauw on Saturday, January 14 at 8:00 a.m. in the Dining Room. RSVP to 312.787.4570 by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, January 11.

**Enrichment**

Join us in reading through the entire Bible in a year! Beginning today, Fourth Church is launching a congregation-wide Bible journey that will take us through the entire Bible by December 31. A weekly Bible study of the texts for the week begins this Tuesday at the 737 building (Chicago Avenue, just east of Michigan; 19th floor) at 6:00 p.m. and is repeated on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. To register for the Bible studies, call Deanna Fedaj at 312.573.3364. Daily devotionals (available via Facebook, Twitter, the website, email from devotions@fourthchurch.org, and in the literature racks) also reflect on the daily readings. For details, visit www.fourthchurch.org/bibleyear.html.

**Men’s Bible Study** will gather on Tuesday, January 3 at 7:30 a.m. at 300 N. LaSalle (Kirkland and Ellis Office).
Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs
Tutors for children  Mondays–Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Fourth Church
Gift gatherers for the silent auction for Carnaval 2012

Current Donation Needs
Men’s sturdy winter clothes in larger sizes for the Chicago Lights 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).

News and Resources

Photographs of the congregation—signed beam installation are posted online at www.facebook.com/fourthchurch.

Save the date! Carnaval 2012, the annual Chicago Lights gala, will be Friday, March 2.

At a Michigan Avenue Forum honoring John Buchanan, Walter Brueggemann will speak about Christianity—“where it’s been and where it’s going.” A panel of Chris Chakoian, Patrick Daymond, Bill Golderer, Jeannine Oakes, and John Vest will respond to Dr. Brueggemann’s comments at this special January 19 event to be held in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

A special meeting of the Fourth Presbyterian Church congregation has been called by the Session for Sunday, January 22. At that time the congregation will act to dissolve the pastoral relationship with John Buchanan, effective Tuesday, January 31. The gift of the congregation—a memory box of notes and messages from members and friends—will be presented; there will be a brief program; and a reception with light refreshments will follow.

John Buchanan’s last Sunday as Pastor of Fourth Church will be January 29. He will preach at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m. services that day. (Please note that the third morning service on January 29 will be at 11:30 a.m.) An open house reception for John and Sue will follow the 11:30 service and will be held at the Drake Hotel.

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 church reception desk, or emailed to memorybox@fourthchurch.org. These private expressions of gratitude, shared memories, and well wishes will be collected and presented to John and Sue on Sunday, January 22 as a gift from the congregation.

Connect with Chicago Lights, a nonprofit organization at Fourth Church serving those facing the challenges of poverty. Chicago Lights is on Facebook, Twitter (@Chicago_Lights), and online at www.chicagolights.org.

Help us double our number of Facebook friends!
If you’ve not yet “Liked” Fourth Church on Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch), please do so today—and invite your friends to like us too. You can see photos from the Christmas season, follow along as we read the entire Bible in a year, and stay up-to-date on Fourth Church news and events.
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 Pastoral 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 Pastoral 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.

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, January 9 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, January 29 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For membership information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (hkim@fourthchurch.org).