

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, program, and service life of Fourth Church.

During Today's Worship

Large-print bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals 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 child needs care or becomes disruptive during the worship service, you may leave the Sanctuary and return as you wish.

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.

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.

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership and includes a light meal. Attend Monday, January 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, February 11 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).

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). Please note that under current law, medical institutions no longer automatically inform churches when a church member is admitted.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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

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

Louis Claude d'Aquin

Of the Father's Love Begotten

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 41

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS (*unison*)

Angels sang their anthems at the midnight hour
to awaken a sleeping creation;
shepherds came to worship you,
and went away rejoicing; wise ones gave their hearts to you,
so they could dwell in yours. O Emmanuel, we adore you!
You came to us as a baby, to hold us in your grace;
you came to us in a stable,
so we would have no trouble finding you;
you came to us in poverty, to enrich our lives.
O Beautiful Messenger of Peace, we adore you!
You play with us in the streets of the kingdom;
you build your home deep within our souls;
you walk with us in the winter of life.
O Wisdom from on high, we adore you!
Gracious and loving God,
all the faithful lift their songs of joy to you
and give you thanks. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WELCOME

- ***HYMN 46** “On This Day Earth Shall Ring” *Tune: PERSONENT HODIE*
- PSALTER** Psalm 98 (*responsively*) (page 521, O.T.)
- SOLO** “A Child My Choice” *Richard Dirksen*
- FIRST LESSON** Hebrews 1:1–4 (page 204, N.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** Descending with Blessing JUDITH L. WATT
- ***HYMN 53** “What Child Is This” *Tune: GREENSLEEVES*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*) from *Philippians 2:6–11*

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

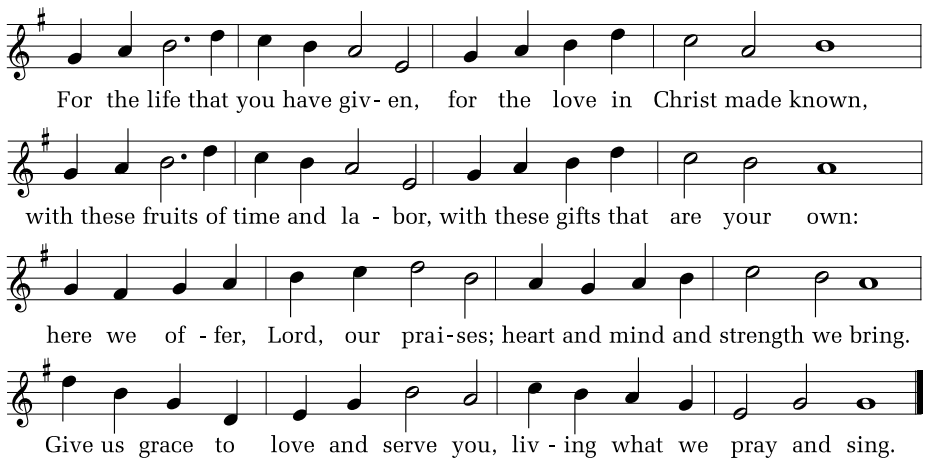
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO "Gesù Bambino" (The Infant Jesus)

Pietro A. Yon

***PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE**



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: **Lord of the universe,
through your true Child
born of a young woman
you came to share our humanity.
Renew us by your holy coming
and make us children of love,
that we may embody your Word
and be agents of mercy and peace. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation: “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

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
 Roy and Evelyn Anderson
 Ruth Andrews
 Evelyn Artwick
 Hartley Bass Barker
 Richard Beilfuss
 Pat and Rudolph Beranek
 Barbara Bluhm
 Eileen and Earl Boan
 Mary E. Bolton
 Marvin and Anna Bomgaars
 Allan and Florence Book
 Colver R. Briggs
 Eleanor T. Briggs
 Jayne Brophy
 Jesse and Dorothy Brown
 Robert and Blanche Buchanan
 Steve Bumpus
 Claire Malis Callaway
 Michael Campanella
 Sarah Campbell
 Roy and Marguerite Carlson
 Chester and Lillie Stean Carter
 Philip Carter
 Norman Cobb
 Fran and Marian Rutgers Cogsdill
 Dave and Bertha Collier
 Mike, Sally, and Mary Alice Conlon
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 Robert and Arvilla Crouch
 Roy Daleo
 Elam and Grace Davies
 Joseph F. and LuAnn S. Desmond
 Marelia and Walter Dixon
 Bonnie Drucker

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Karen V. Wineman
Roy and Rosemary Winkler
Edwin and Marjorie Withaeger Sr.
Edwin L. Withaeger Jr.
Warren Wyszynski
Frances M. Youngwirth
Ruth and Eugene Zeltmann

In Honor of

Larry Brown
George and Josephine Horsman
Trey and Maurine McAdams and Family

Rosaria M. Rinkoski
Janice Rolls
Barbara D. Thomsen