



Third Sunday of Advent

Gathering

Gathering Music “Feels So Good”
“Lookout for Hope”

Chuck Mangione
Bill Frisell

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”

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader 1: In the Gospel of Luke, John the Baptizer points to Jesus:

Leader 2: As the people were filled with expectation, . . .
questioning whether John might be the Messiah,
John answered them by saying,
“I baptize you with water,
but one who is more powerful than I is coming. . . .
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Leader 1: If we follow Jesus Christ,
we will get everything we hope for
and more than we bargained for.

People: **We light our third candle to praise God,
whose Spirit comes to us
with disturbing and wonderful blessings.**

***Opening Hymn** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**While we ask, Lord, for the most meaningful Advent season ever,
we sadly confess having done so little with so much.
Forgive us, Lord,
for not bending the knee,
for not reading your Word,
for not searching our hearts,
for not facing our sins.
Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God!
Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year,
we may have a fresh sense of your presence
and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ’s glory. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: 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.

***Song** "Soon and Very Soon"

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Isaiah 35:1–10

(page 623, O.T.)

Sermon "Ugly Times and Beautiful Things"

Adam H. Fronczek

Jazz Improvisation

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

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

Offertory Music "The Desert and the Parched Land"

Dave Brubeck

***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 "Jesus Gonna Be Here"

Tom Waits

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of extravagant mercy,
we give you thanks for these gifts of hope
that you give to us in bread and the fruit of the vine.
We give you thanks that shepherds and wise men modeled for us
different ways of giving themselves to Christ.
We thank you for John the Baptist's call
that we, too, should give of ourselves.
As we go from this place,
help us to know what that means for each one of us,
for we all are brothers and sisters in faith,
waiting for the Christ child. Amen.



Sending

***Closing Song** "People, Look East"

***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 H. Fronczek	Associate Pastor
Edwin Estevez	Pastoral Resident
Greg Lewis	Lay Liturgist
Mary Strek	Lay Liturgist
Lucy Smith Quartet	Lucy Smith, vocals Bryan Doherty, bass Marcus Evans, drums Marcin Fahmy, piano

Acknowledgments

Music—"Praise God (Dox)" by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2013. All rights reserved. "Gospel Sanctus" by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2011. All rights reserved. "People, Look East" by Martin Shaw, copyright © 1928 Oxford University Press. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.

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



PASTORAL STAFF

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor and Head of Staff
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Matt Helms, Minister for Children and Families
Hardy H. Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Edwin Estevez, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

Be sure to “like” **Fourth Church** on Facebook to see the latest photos of church life, keep up-to-date on news, and access resources, including excerpts from sermons and prayers.

Follow Fourth Church on Twitter:
(@FourthChicago).

Inquirers’ Class offers opportunity to learn about Fourth Church. This one-session class, which is a prerequisite for membership, next meets on Monday, January 13 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 4F.

The Pastor Nominating Committee (www.fourthchurch.org/pnc) continues to be in conversation with candidates.

Worship

A service in the style of Taizé will next be held on New Year’s Eve, Tuesday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. It will be preceded by opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Anderson Hall between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Buchanan Chapel is available on Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Mission and Outreach

Due today are applications for the women’s mission trip to Cuba (March 21–29) and the musical mission trip to Guatemala (February 21–March 1). Applications for the mission trip to Mexico (March 8–15) are due January 8. Application details are available in the literature racks.

Music and the Arts

Tenor Stephen Edwards will perform this Friday’s free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

The art exhibit “Work: Curse or Calling” is on display in the Loggia through Monday, December 30.

Enrichment

Men’s Bible Study will gather on Tuesday, December 17 at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details, contact Ryan Loeckel at 312.640.2570 (rloeckel@fourthchurch.org).

“Endings and Beginnings,” a spiritual retreat led by Vicky Curtiss, will be held Saturday, January 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Pilgrim Congregational Church (460 Lake St., Oak Park). To RSVP, contact Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 (ndavis@fourthchurch.org) by Sunday, December 29.

It’s easy to fulfill your 2013 pledge online:

Just go to www.fourthchurch.org (or scan this QR code) and click on “To Make a Gift.” There you will find an option to make a gift toward your Annual Appeal pledge for 2013.

On the same page you can also make Light Up a Life gifts in honor of friends, family, and colleagues, gifts that offer important year-end support to programs that serve others.



News and Opportunities

Advent and Christmas

Through “**Light Up a Life**” gifts, you can honor or remember someone special while also providing important year-end support of programs that help 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.

An Advent Bible study, led by Vicky Curtiss, will be held next Sunday, December 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Today filled bags for the “Christmas Gift Bag” project, which provides gifts for Sunday Night Supper guests, are due to the reception desk.

Young Adults will gather for an Advent dinner this Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. on the first floor of the Manse. To RSVP, contact Edwin Estevez at eeestevez@fourthchurch.org.

The Lakeside Singers Holiday Concert will be held this Friday, December 20 at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available online at www.lakesidesingers.com.

A “**Christmas with Tower Brass**” concert will be held this Saturday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Parking on Christmas Eve for those entering the 900 garage before 5:00 p.m. on December 24 will cost \$16 this year due to a change in management at the garage. The \$16 orange parking voucher will need to be purchased at Fourth Church on Christmas Eve and will be available before and after the Children’s Pageant that day. Those entering the garage after 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve will be able to park for the usual \$8 evening rate with a green voucher available at the church. Parking on Christmas Day in the 900 garage will also cost \$16. There will be no discounted parking at the Hancock garage on either day.

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Tutors for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program; one evening a week; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday; 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Teachers and health professionals for the Center for Life and Learning

Librarian for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program

Current Donation Needs

Men’s sturdy seasonal clothes in all sizes

Women’s sturdy seasonal clothes in larger sizes

Nonperishable food items for the food pantry

Department store bags

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

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School classes are held at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Youth in grades 6–12 gather on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room.

La Posada Family Night will be held this Friday, December 20 at 5:30 p.m.

Rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant will be held next Sunday, December 22 at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The pageant takes place on Christmas Eve during the 4:00 p.m. service.

No Sunday School or youth gatherings will be held on Sundays, December 29 or January 5.

Fellowship

Young Adults meets for a discussion and fellowship on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

Christmas Worship

AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 22

Vivaldi's *Gloria*

at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services

Four Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Tuesday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Children's Pageant

6:00 p.m. Family Service

Adam H. Fronczek preaching

8:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols

Calum I. MacLeod preaching

11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

Calum I. MacLeod preaching

Christmas Day Service

Wednesday, December 25

11:00 a.m.

Hardy Kim preaching

A traditional Christmas dinner in Anderson Hall will be served at 12:15 p.m. Dinner tickets (seating is limited) are available at the reception desk during the week.

New Year's Eve Taizé Service

Tuesday, December 31

7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel

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.

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.

Please turn off all cell phones when in the Sanctuary.

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 for children, are available from a greeter.

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/index.html.

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 Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).

If You Are New to Fourth Church

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 13 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, February 3 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).

Information about opportunities and resources available to you here at Fourth Church is available in the literature racks as you're leaving the church. You can also find information on our website (www.fourthchurch.org), our page on Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to news@fourthchurch.org).

If you are interested in considering baptism or membership at the 4:00 p.m. service at Fourth Presbyterian Church, please see Adam Fronczek or any pastor involved in the service. Information is available about the Baptism Seminar and Inquirers' Class, which are necessary for preparation. A monthly opportunity to be baptized or join the church at the 4:00 service is available on January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, and May 25.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8. Validation tickets must be picked up from the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.