

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	<i>Louis Claude Daquin</i>
The Snow Lay on the Ground	<i>Leo Sowerby</i>
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	<i>Keith Chapman</i>
A Child Is Born	<i>Everett Titcomb</i>

*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*)

God Most High,
your only son embraced the weakness of flesh,
to give us power to become your children;
your eternal Word chose a dwelling among us,
that we might live in your presence.
Grant us a spirit of wisdom
to know how rich is the glory you have made our own,
and how great the hope to which we are called
in Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
in the splendor of eternal light,
God forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*HYMN 49 “Once in Royal David’s City” *Tune:* IRBY

WELCOME

PSALTER Psalm 98 (*responsively*) (page 521, O.T.)

SOLO “The Little Road to Bethlehem” *Michael Head*
As I walked down the road at set of sun, the lambs were coming homewards, one by one. I heard a sheepbell softly calling them along the little road to Bethlehem. Beside an open door, as I drew nigh, I heard sweet Mary sing a lullaby. She sang about the lambs at close of day and rocked her tiny King among the hay. Across the air the silver sheepbell rang, “The lambs are coming home,” sweet Mary sang. “Your star of gold is shining in the sky, so sleep, my little King, go lullaby.”

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 “Risky Christmas” HARDY H. KIM
“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.”
John 1:14 (NRSV)

*HYMN 31 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *Tune:* MENDELSSOHN

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

(The Hymnal, page 16)

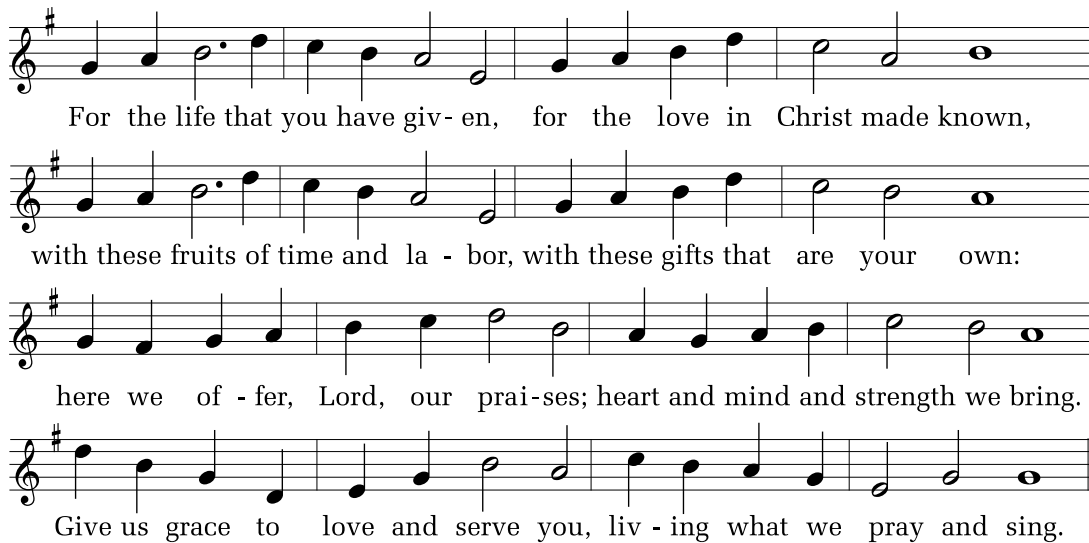
OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO "Gesù Bambino"

Pietro Yon

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night
was born the child, the Christmas rose, the King of love and
light. The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth
rejoiced, and at his blessed birth the stars, their exultation
voiced. O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord. Again the
heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night that gave the
world its Christmas rose, its King of love and light. Let every
voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell, from
paradise to earth he came that we with him might dwell.

*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: **God of all creation,**

in your son Jesus Christ, born like one of us,

you risked all to live among us,

sharing our pain and trials

and making your love known to the whole world.

Accept the gifts we offer this day

as signs of the gratitude we feel in knowing your Son.

May they help to make his presence felt

wherever it is needed,

and may they remind us that we are called

to the risky business of following in his way.

Amen.

*HYMN 40

“Joy to the World!”

Tune: ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Noël”

José Jesús Estrada

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
Ruth Baldwin Barker
Freda Baron
Henry and Eleanore Bates
Albert H. Beard
B. Hardy Bedford Jr.
Buell and Betty Bedford
Michael Buell Bedford
Vlasta and Rudolph Beramek
JoHelen Bevis
Jim Blanco
Mary E. Bolton
Marvin and Anna Bomgaars
Allan, Florence, and Audrey Book
Jean Mitchel Boyes
John H. Boyle
Eleanor T. and Colver R. Briggs
Blanche and Robert Buchanan
Steve Bumpus
Claudette Buxton
Michael Campanella
Sarah Campbell
Edward Carlson
Roy and Marguerite Carlson
Sue and Carl Carlson
Lillie Stean and Chester Carter Sr.
Joseph A. Cervac
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Ellen Screven Cleveland
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William and Lenora Coke
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Jeffrey Gubbins
Mary Haas
Jeanne Habicht
William and Rose Hamp
Raymond Harris
Loved Ones of Harris and Stevenson
Wilbur Hathaway
Murel and Ed Hemmer
Mary Patric Herbst
Elsie and Ed Jacob
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Barbara Rose Stout
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Jean and William Wetherald
Robert A. White
Jeanne M. and Robert W. Whitmer
Roger Whitmer
Roy and Rosemary Winkler
Frances M. Youngwirth

In Honor of

Jay and Hildur Brees
Patsy Habicht and Bill Conlon
Ikram Goldman
Diane and Harry Heimann
Josephine and George Horsman
Helena Joho
Rosaria Kinkoski
Micah
Janice Rolls
The Benevolent Guild
Barbara Thomsen
Mike and Alice Ann Younger

WORSHIP LEADERS Hardy H. Kim, Associate Pastor
Grace Yim

THE MUSIC TODAY John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Carol Carpenter, Soloist

WORSHIP NOTES

The “Light Up a Life” offering supports mission and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs; congregational programs; and denominational programs. Gifts can be made by using the 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); in the Narthex, at the back of the Sanctuary; and in the Gignilliat Commons. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org.

Fourth Church offers a variety of worship opportunities in addition to Sunday morning services. A jazz service with Communion is held each Sunday at 4:00 p.m. On weekday mornings, Morning Prayer is held in the Sanctuary as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need (9:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday; please note Morning Prayer will not be held tomorrow, as the church office will be closed). Next week the Taizé service will be held on New Year’s Eve at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. From January to October, the monthly Taizé service takes place on the fourth Friday of the month.

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

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