



## Third Sunday of Advent



**Gathering Music** "What Am I Here For?" . . . . . Duke Ellington and Frankie Laine  
"I Saw the Light" . . . . . Hank Williams

*During Advent we ready our hearts to encounter the coming light of Christ. This active anticipation of the Christ child takes many forms. We invite you to participate with us in preparing the way for Jesus to enter our lives again through our prayers this season. Instead of using our usual prayer cards, we will be offering our Advent prayers of expectation in a new way—please use a strip of cloth (distributed in the aisles) and a marker to write one word or phrase to express something for which you are waiting expectantly. Each week, we will focus our prayers and waiting on the particular theme for that Sunday in Advent.*

*This Sunday in Advent, we are thinking about joy. Please write on your strip of cloth the word or phrase that represents the joy for which you wait, and then place it in the wooden manger as you come forward to receive communion.*

### 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 Solo** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Leader: We light a third candle for all God's messengers,  
preparing the way for change,  
signs pointing to a new age to come.

People: **Give us light, give us hope, give us joy.**

Leader: As we continue on our Advent journey,  
may we travel expectantly.

People: **Give us light, give us hope, give us joy.**

Leader: Startling God, fill us with your grace  
so that we may accept your call  
and rejoice in your salvation.

All: **Lord, by your presence,  
light up the past,  
that we might learn from it with thankfulness.  
Light up the present,  
that we might live in it with love.  
Light up the future,  
that we might prepare for it in hope.  
As we watch and wait and pray,  
may we be always ready to encounter the Lord  
who is already and always with us.  
Amen.**

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

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**Boundary-breaking God,  
you call us to speak up  
on behalf of those whose voices have been silenced.  
You took on flesh and called us to stand  
with those who are pushed to the margins.  
You call us to serve you ahead of any earthly power.  
We confess that we are blinded by our privilege.  
We confess that we benefit from the status quo  
and are often unwilling to risk rocking the boat.  
Forgive our apathy and our inability to be fully loyal to you.  
Prepare our hearts to receive you yet again,  
in this time and for this time. Amen.**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

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 siblings 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 Readings

Isaiah 61:1–3a (*unison*)

**The Lord God’s spirit is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me.  
He has sent me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
to bind up the brokenhearted;  
to proclaim release for captives  
and liberation for prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor  
and a day of vindication for our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for Zion’s mourners;  
to give them a crown in place of ashes,  
oil of joy in place of mourning,  
a mantle of praise in place of discouragement.**

Luke 1:46b–55. . . . . (*New Testament, page 53*)

John 1:6–8, 19–28 . . . . . (*New Testament, page 86*)

**Sermon** Who Are You? . . . . . John W. Vest

## Musical Reflection

# Sealing the Word

**Offertory Music** “Jesus Gonna Be Here” . . . . . *Tom Waits*

**Sharing of Gifts** (*Please place gifts in the plate as it is passed.*)

\*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

### 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 and Prayers of the People

Communion Music "People Get Ready" . . . . . Curtis Mayfield

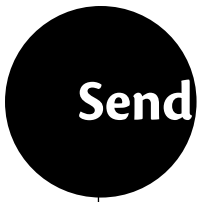
### Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**Gracious God, at this sacred meal,  
you draw us into communion with you and with each other.**

**You have given us a vision of your kingdom  
that will sustain us as we go from this table into the waiting world.**

**Help us to have faith in the good news of Jesus  
and hope that the amazing things we have heard  
will indeed become reality.**

**Help us to follow in the way of Christ, to live in joy,  
and to love others as you love us. Amen.**



# Sending

**\*Closing Song** ..... “Canticle of the Turning”

**\*Benediction**

**Sending Music**

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## Worship Leaders

<b>John W. Vest</b>	Associate Pastor
<b>Layton Williams</b>	Pastoral Resident
<b>Teresa Larson</b>	Lay Liturgist
<b>Allison Maxwell</b>	Lay Liturgist
<b>Lucy Smith Quartet</b>	Lucy Smith, vocals Michael Caskey, drums Bryan Doherty, bass Marcin Fahmy, piano

### A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God is 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.

### Acknowledgments

*Words*—The Advent Wreath liturgy is adapted from *Candles and Conifers* by Josie Smith, Jan Berry, David Hamflett, Ruth Burgess, and the Notting Hill Group Ministry, copyright © 1968 Wild Goose Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission. The prayer of confession is by Teri Peterson (liturgylink.net). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Music*—“Praise God (Dox)” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2013. All rights reserved. “Gospel Sanctus” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2011. All rights reserved.

*Words and Music*—“Canticle of the Turning” by Rory Cooney, copyright © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.



### PASTORAL STAFF

**Shannon J. Kershner**, Pastor  
**Victoria G. Curtiss**, Associate Pastor for Mission  
**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  
**Layton Williams**, Pastoral Resident  
**John Buchanan**, Pastor Emeritus

# News and Opportunities

## News and Resources

**Visit the Fourth Church page on Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)) for worship and programming information. If you have a Facebook account, be sure to “like” Fourth Church to keep up-to-date on the news and photos.

**Follow Fourth Church on Twitter:**  
@FourthChicago and @FPCAngel

## Children, Youth, and Family

**La Posada Family Night** will be held this Friday, December 19 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

A “**Parenting in Faith**” opportunity for parents to connect as a community through casual conversation and fellowship will be held next Sunday, December 21 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 4G.

**Rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant** will be held next Sunday, December 21 at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The pageant takes place on Christmas Eve during the 4:00 p.m. service.

## Music and the Arts

**Vocalist Ann Marie Boyle** will perform this Friday’s free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

## Worship

**A memorial service** for Margaret (Greta) Telford will be held this Friday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**A memorial service** will be held for James Durham on Saturday, December 20 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

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

## Enrichment

“**Endings and Beginnings,**” a spiritual retreat, will be held on Saturday, January 3 at Pilgrim Congregational Church in Oak Park. To register (required), call Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 by Sunday, December 28.

## Volunteers

### **Current Volunteer Needs**

**Audio recording operators** for worship

**Tutors** for Chicago Lights Tutoring

*A complete list of volunteer opportunities is available online at [www.fourthchurch.org/mission/volunteer](http://www.fourthchurch.org/mission/volunteer)*

### **It’s easy to fulfill your 2014 pledge online:**

Just go to [www.fourthchurch.org](http://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 2014.

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.





### Advent and Christmas

**The Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** will take place today at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A cookies-and-cocoa reception will follow in Anderson Hall.

**Through “Light Up a Life” gifts**, you can honor or remember someone special while also providing important year-end support of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights programs that help neighbors whose needs are great this holiday season. Gifts can be made online or by completing the form available in the literature racks.

**A “Longest Night” service** for those for whom Christmas is made difficult by loss and sadness will be held this Thursday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

**Expectations for the holidays** can be different from the realities. Feelings of grief over losses can be heightened. Fourth Church’s Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being offers various resources and a supportive environment for reflecting on, exploring, and coping with such experiences. To learn how the Center can help, call 312.787.8425.

**A Lakeside Singers “Holiday Road”** concert will be held this Friday, December 19 at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available online at [www.lakesidesingers.com](http://www.lakesidesingers.com)

**A “Christmas with Tower Brass”** concert will be held this Saturday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A \$20 suggested donation will be received at the door.

**A Christmas Cantata**, featuring Britten’s *A Ceremony of Carols*, will be sung by the Morning Choir, accompanied by harpist Kara Bershad, next Sunday, December 21 during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship.

**Four candlelight services** will be held on Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. (Children’s Pageant); 6:00 p.m. (Family Service); and 8:30 and 11:00 p.m. (Service of Lessons and Carols). The Christmas Day service will be at 11:00 a.m.

**The annual Christmas Dinner** will take place on Thursday, December 25 at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Register, with cash or check, at reception.

#### **Parking rates for Christmas Eve and Day:**

For those entering the 900 garage before 5:00 p.m. on December 24, discounted parking will cost \$16, which is the holiday rate. The \$16 orange parking voucher for that discount will need to be purchased at Fourth Church on Christmas Eve—cash or check only—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 cost \$16. The voucher for discounted parking on Christmas Day must be purchased, with cash or check, at the church on Christmas morning. There will be no discounted parking at the Hancock garage on either day.

### Fellowship

**Young Adults** will gather for an Advent dinner this Thursday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. on the first floor of the Manse. To RSVP, contact Hardy Kim at [hkim@fourthchurch.org](mailto:hkim@fourthchurch.org)

### Mission and Outreach

**Due this Monday, December 15** are applications for mission trips to Cuba and Haiti. More information is available in the literature racks and online at [www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html)

## During Today's Worship

**During Advent**, we ready our hearts to encounter the coming light of Christ. We invite you to participate with us in preparing the way for Jesus to enter our lives again through our prayers this season. Instead of using our usual prayer cards, we will be offering our Advent prayers of expectation in a new way—please use a strip of cloth (distributed in the aisles) and a marker to write one word or phrase to express something for which you are waiting expectantly. Each week, we will focus our prayers and waiting on the particular theme for that Sunday in Advent.

**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.

**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 left-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](http://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](mailto: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 5, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, February 2, 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)).

**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](http://www.fourthchurch.org)), our page on Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to [news@fourthchurch.org](mailto:news@fourthchurch.org)).

**If you are interested in considering baptism or**

**membership** at the 4:00 p.m. service at Fourth Church, please contact Liz Nickerson (312.573.3366; [lnickerson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:lnickerson@fourthchurch.org)) 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 December 28 and January 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.

### The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)  
312.787.4570; Fax: 312.787.4584; [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)