



**First Sunday after Christmas**

## **We Approach God**

### **Gathering Music**

#### **\*Opening Sentences**

We are here  
because we have heard a promise of peace  
**and we believe its day will come;**  
we have heard a rumor of justice  
**and we believe its day will come;**  
we have heard a whisper of hope  
**and we believe its day will come;**  
we have heard a hint of love  
**and we believe its day will come;**  
we have heard of the birth of the Christ child  
**and we believe Christ's day is here.**  
Welcome to Christmas;  
welcome to worship!

\* Please rise in body or spirit

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*Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, mental health, educational background, economic situation, religious background, or documentation status.*

**\*Opening Song** . . . . . “O Come, All Ye Faithful”



**Please note**

Copyrighted musical pieces that we do not have permission to distribute online (but only to include in the printed order of worship) are not shown in this version of the bulletin.

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## **We Tell the Truth about Ourselves**

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

God of grace and truth,  
in Jesus Christ you came among us as a word of hope made flesh.  
We confess that we have not welcomed you.  
Our hearts, lives, and communities have so often been closed off from you.  
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less.  
Forgive our fear and doubt.  
Renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace  
and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

### **God Forgives and Blesses Us**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*All are invited to stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.*

**We Proclaim the Story**

**Welcome**

**Reading** ..... Luke 2:1–7

**Carol** ..... “Go Tell It On the Mountain”

**Reading** ..... Luke 2:8–20

**Carol** ..... “Angels We Have Heard on High”

**Reading** ..... Luke 2:22–39

**Carol** ..... “Love Has Come”

## **We Offer Ourselves**

### **Musical Reflection**

#### **\*Sharing of Gifts**

*In gratitude for the love and grace extended to us by God, we share our resources to support ministries of justice, mercy, and beauty. Please place your gifts and pledges in the plate as it passes.*

### **Offertory Music**

**\*Doxology** . . . . . "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

## **We Feast Together**

### **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise!**



**Sanctus** . . . . . “Angels We Have Heard on High” (*Refrain*)

## 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

*We celebrate an open table. All, including children, are invited to the Lord’s Table to receive Communion. You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.*

## We Go Out with Gratitude

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** . . . . . “Now the Work of Christmas Begins”

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
**when the star in the sky is gone,**  
when the kings and princes are home,  
**when the shepherds are back with their flocks,**  
the work of Christmas begins:  
**to find the lost,**  
to heal the broken,  
**to feed the hungry,**  
to release the prisoner,  
**to rebuild the nations,**  
to bring peace among the people,  
**to make music in the heart. Amen.**

**\*Closing Song** . . . . . “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**\*Benediction**  
**Sending Music**

## Worship Leaders

<b>Joseph L. Morrow</b>	Minister for Evangelism
<b>Shawn M. Fiedler</b>	Ministerial Associate for Worship
<b>Maggie Shreve</b>	Lay Liturgist

### 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

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## PASTORAL STAFF

**Shannon J. Kershner**, Pastor  
**Lucy Forster-Smith**, Senior Associate Pastor  
**Victoria G. Curtiss**, Associate Pastor for Mission  
**Matt Helms**, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry  
**Nanette Sawyer**, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry  
**Rocky Supinger**, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry  
**Judith L. Watt**, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care  
**Joseph L. Morrow**, Minister for Evangelism  
**Jeffrey Doane**, Parish Associate for Older Adults  
**Abbi Heimach-Snipes**, Pastoral Resident  
**Shawn Fiedler**, Ministerial Associate for Worship  
**John Buchanan**, Pastor Emeritus

# News and Opportunities

## Worship

**A candlelit New Year's Eve Taizé service** will be held tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. This service, which is cohosted by Holy Name Cathedral, offers space for prayer as well as meditative pause for reflecting on the year past and looking ahead to the year to come.

**A New Year's Eve labyrinth walk** will be held tomorrow between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

**Daily devotions for the Christmas season** are available in the literature racks; via email (subscribe online at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)); and on facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), and our website, [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)

**Morning Prayer** is held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel as a time to join staff in praying for Fourth Church members and for those in need.

**Video of our Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service** can be viewed online at [www.bit.ly/FPCworship](http://www.bit.ly/FPCworship)

**Expectations for the holidays can be different from the realities**, and feelings of grief over losses can be heightened. Fourth Church's Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being offers a supportive environment for reflecting on and coping with such experiences. For information, call the Center at 312.787.8425.

## News and Resources

**In order to conclude 2018 with a balanced budget**, we are counting on gifts pledged for 2018 to be fully fulfilled by year end and welcome additional generosity where it is possible! In order for gifts to be reflected on your 2018 giving statement, those gifts must be placed in the offering plate today, received online by midnight on December 31 ([www.fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online)), or have been postmarked in 2018. *(For information about making gifts through stock transfers or required distributions from one's IRA or prepaying one's 2019 Annual Appeal pledge, contact Katy Frey Bever at [kbever@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kbever@fourthchurch.org))*

**A weekday daytime training course for Stephen Ministers** will begin in the spring. Information about this fifty-hour class is posted online at [www.bit.ly/fpcstephen](http://www.bit.ly/fpcstephen)

## Enrichment

**"Fifteen Days of Free Liberal Arts Education"** describes the January Series of one-hour lectures offered by Calvin College and shown via live Internet video feed at Fourth Church on weekdays January 3–23 (except Monday, January 21) at 11:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room. Nicholas Kristof, Jenna Bush Hager, and Craig Detweiler are among the lecturers. For a full list of speakers, see [www.calvin.edu/january-series](http://www.calvin.edu/january-series)

**Women at Fourth's Horizons Bible study** meets Wednesday noon, January 9 in Room 5H.

**Men's Bible Study** next meets on Tuesday, January 15 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; [aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

**The Presbyterian Historical Society** will present a program on Sunday, January 13 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 4G.

**A "Connecting to the Heart" workshop** will be offered by the Replogle Center on Saturday, February 9 at 10:00 a.m. Learn more and register at [www.bit.ly/2Cdff9D](http://www.bit.ly/2Cdff9D)

**An Enneagram workshop** will be offered by the Replogle Center on Saturday, February 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Learn more and register at [www.bit.ly/2S18OWh](http://www.bit.ly/2S18OWh)

## Children, Youth, and Family

**Sunday School** meets at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

**Youth** will worship together in the Sanctuary next Sunday, January 6 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and will share in a time of fellowship at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room.

**Details about summer 2019 youth trips** to New Jersey, Detroit, and the Presbyterian Youth Triennium are posted at [www.bit.ly/summertrips19](http://www.bit.ly/summertrips19); register by January 15.

**Our Day School** will hold an open house on Saturday, January 12 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. as a time for parents and children to learn about our weekday preschool program.

## Mission

**January 15 is the application deadline for mission trips to Cuba** (May 6–15) and to **Guatemala** (August 4–11). Learn more or apply at [www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips](http://www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips)

**A trip to Alabama and Mississippi** that focuses on the civil rights movement is being planned by the Racial Equity Council for October 26–November 2, 2019. For details and an application see [www.bit.ly/crtrip2019](http://www.bit.ly/crtrip2019)

**Benevolent Guild** resumes its weekly gatherings on Wednesday, January 9 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create taggies and stuffed animals for hospitalized children.

**The Gala of Hope**—benefiting Chicago Lights, the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church, and the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being—will be held Friday, March 1 at the Radisson Blu Aqua. Tickets will be available in January.

## Fellowship

**Take part in our chili cook-off** on Sunday, January 13! Enter your chili into the contest by signing up online (at [www.bit.ly/chili2019](http://www.bit.ly/chili2019)). Or come enjoy chili for lunch that day. Proceeds will support the summer youth mission trips.

**Books by Women** will discuss *A Walk Lillian Boxfish Takes* by Kathleen Rooney on Tuesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

**Men's Faith Discussion Groups** combine autobiography and active listening to Jesus' life and teachings; no knowledge of the Bible or theology is required. Thursday and Friday morning groups begin January 10 and January 11 at 7:00 a.m. For details or to sign up, contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; [aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

**Women at Fourth** will gather on Thursday, January 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bumpus Room for fellowship and a program by our Minister for Evangelism, Joe Morrow.

**LGBTQIA Brunch** will be held on Sunday, January 27 at 12:15 p.m. Meet in the Commons near the Chestnut Street doors to walk to a neighboring restaurant. Those attending are encouraged to invite friends as well.

## Volunteers Needed

**Volunteers to unload food trucks** on second and fourth Monday mornings

**Sunday Night Supper greeters and servers** on Sundays from 3:45 to 6:15 p.m.

To sign up or to learn about other volunteer opportunities or donation needs, stop by Coffee Hour today or contact Robert Crouch (312.981.3382)

## Calendar for December 30–January 6, 2018

### Sunday, December 30 *First Sunday after Christmas*

- 4:00 p.m. **Jazz at Four • Christmas Lessons and Carols** . . . . . Buchanan Chapel  
 5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper . . . . . Anderson Hall

### Monday, December 31 *New Year's Eve*

- 4:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Monday Night Supper . . . . . Catholic Charities  
 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Hosted New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk. . . . . Anderson Hall  
 7:30 p.m. **New Year's Eve Taizé Service** . . . . . Buchanan Chapel

### Tuesday, January 1 *New Year's Day: Church Office Closed*

### Wednesday, January 2

- 9:30 a.m. **Morning Prayer**. . . . . Buchanan Chapel  
 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunches . . . . . Anderson Hall

### Thursday, January 3

- 11:30 a.m. January Series from Calvin College . . . . . Page Smith Room  
 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunches . . . . . Anderson Hall

### Friday, January 4

- 11:30 a.m. January Series from Calvin College . . . . . Page Smith Room  
 12:10 p.m. Noonday Concert: Flute and Piano . . . . . Buchanan Chapel

### Saturday, January 5

### Sunday, January 6 *Epiphany*

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship • Victoria G. Curtiss preaching**. . . . . Sanctuary  
 8:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal . . . . . Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft  
 9:00/10:00/10:30 a.m. Cherub/Youth/Children's Choir Rehearsals . . . . . Room 4F  
 9:00, 10:30 a.m.; 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour . . . . . Anderson Hall / Commons  
 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Nursery . . . . . Nursery / Day School  
 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. **Worship • Joseph L. Morrow preaching** . . . . . Sanctuary  
 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School . . . . . Fourth Floor  
 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Youth in Worship . . . . . Sanctuary  
 10:30 a.m. Youth Fellowship . . . . . Allison Hall and Library  
 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Time of Prayer with Deacons . . . . . Stone Chapel  
 12:00 p.m. Sanctuary Tour . . . . . Sanctuary  
 12:15 p.m. Organ Tour . . . . . Sanctuary  
 4:00 p.m. **Jazz at Four • Joseph L. Morrow preaching** . . . . . Buchanan Chapel  
 5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper . . . . . Anderson Hall

## During Today's Worship

**All are encouraged to visit a prayer station** to offer joys and concerns by writing them on a prayer card. The cards will be collected at the end of worship, read by the pastoral staff during the week, and then displayed in an ongoing art project.

**We celebrate an open table at Communion. All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion.** You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.

**Worship can be heard** through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids.

**Please** silence all electronic devices when in the Chapel.

**Printed copies of sermons** recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks. They are also available at [www.fourthchurch.org/sermons](http://www.fourthchurch.org/sermons) and by email: subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcsermons](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons)

## If You Are New to Fourth Church

**Inquirers' Class** explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Sunday, January 13 or February 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room (register online for the class at [www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers](http://www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers)). We invite you to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. the day you attend the class. For details or membership information, contact Joe Morrow ([member@fourthchurch.org](mailto:member@fourthchurch.org); 312.981.3399) or go to [www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers](http://www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers)

**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 (subscribe online at [www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)).

**If you are interested in considering baptism or becoming a member** of Fourth Church during the 4:00 p.m. service, please contact Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@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 January 27.

**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)).

**Sunday parking is available** at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up from the Chestnut Street reception desk.

### 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)