

Welcome to Worship at Fourth Presbyterian Church!

Visual and hearing aids: Large-print bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals are available in the Narthex. Worship can be heard through the “T” or “T-coil” setting of hearing aids. Individual listening devices for improved sound are also available from ushers.

Children are always welcome in worship, and bulletins specifically designed for children are available from the ushers. If you need to step out to comfort your child, you may return at any point. The Hospitality Suite, located on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is also available as a quiet space for families.

During the Concerns of the Church, please sign the pew information pads, so that we might know you are here and all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service.

Please silence all electronic devices when in the Sanctuary.

If You Are New to Fourth Church

Please wear a lapel pin, found in the pew racks, so we may greet you after worship.

We invite you to stop by Coffee Hour after worship for fellowship, conversation, and information about church programs and volunteer opportunities.

Parking is available on Sundays 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 during morning Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk. Discounted parking at the Hancock garage, 875 N. Michigan, is available on Sunday mornings only at the rate of \$8 between 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and only for three hours in that period. Separate validation tickets must be picked up during Coffee Hour.

A church tour begins at 12:00 p.m. starting at the back of the Sanctuary.

An organ tour begins at 12:15 p.m. at the front of the Sanctuary.

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

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, contact Judith Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org). (Please note that medical institutions do not inform churches when a member is admitted.) Those experiencing challenging times are invited to learn more about meeting with a Stephen Minister: leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

What Child Is This Ralph Vaughan Williams

Introit

“Glory to God” Peruvian Melody
Glory to God in the highest! To God be glory forever! Alleluia, amen!

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.[†] Amen.

*Litany for Christmastide

Leader: *The Word was made flesh.*
People: Alleluia, Alleluia!
Leader: *And dwelt among us.*
People: Alleluia, Alleluia!
Leader: *Jesus, Son of the living God, splendor of the Light eternal—*
People: **Glory to you, our God!**
Leader: *Jesus, child of glory, Son of righteousness,*
born of the Virgin Mary—
People: **Glory to you, our God!**
Leader: *Jesus, friend of all, protector of the poor, treasure of the faithful—*
People: **Glory to you, our God!**
Leader: *Jesus, Good Shepherd, inexhaustible Wisdom,*
our Way, our Truth, our Life—
People: **Glory to you, our God!**
Leader: *Jesus, joy of the angels and crown of all the saints—*
People: **Glory to you, our God! Let us worship God.**

*Carol 133 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Lord Jesus Christ, you have been born again into our world,
and yet we do not know peace.
Lord Jesus Christ, you have been born again into our world,
and yet pain abounds.
Lord Jesus Christ, you have been born again into our world,
and yet there are those with no hope.
We know that you have promised abundant life, healing, and hope,
and yet we don't trust the promise—
the true and fully reliable promise—
that you have come among us, with healing in your wings.
Forgive our failure to trust your way, your truth, your life, this day.
Make us radiant in our gratitude for the gift of Jesus.
And renew our hope that it would sustain our faith in you, O Christ.
Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*
People: And also with you.
We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

"To Us Is Born Emmanuel" Michael Praetorius
*To us is born Emmanuel, Christ the Lord, as proclaimed by Gabriel, Christ,
the Lord, who is our blessed Savior. Here lieth in a manger small, Christ,
the Lord, who was born to save us all. He, very Light of very Light, Christ,
the Lord, was of Mary born that night, Christ, the Lord, who is our blessed Savior.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter *(responsively)*

Psalms 111 Old Testament, page 531

*Gloria Patri *(sung)*. The Hymnal, 581
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:[†]
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:22–39. New Testament, page 55
Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*
People: Thanks be to God.

Homily Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

*Carol 110 "Love Has Come"
*Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed
I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly. Keith Chapman

[†]Or "to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost."

*Offertory 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.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*
People: *And also with you.*
Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*
People: *We lift them up to the Lord.*
Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*
People: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Prayer

Leader: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .
 . . . forever singing to the glory of your name:*

Sanctus (sung) The Hymnal, 552

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Leader: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (sung). The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord’s Prayer (unison) The Hymnal, page 35

The Communion

Communion Anthem

“Under the Stars” George F. Reynolds
*Under the stars one holy night, a little babe was born. Over his head a star
shone bright and glistened till the morn. And wise men came from far away, and
shepherds wandered where he lay upon the lowly bed of hay. Under the stars one
blessed night, the Christ child came to earth, and through the darkness broke
the light of morning at his birth, and sweet hosannas filled the air, and guardian
angels watched him where the virgin mother knelt in prayer. Under the stars this
happy night, we wait for him once more and seem to see the wondrous sight the
shepherds saw of yore. O baby born in Bethlehem, come to us as you came to
them and crown us with love’s diadem.*

*Prayer after Communion (unison)

God of grace and peace,
as you have shared your life with us
through the child in the manger
through these gifts from your table,
let us share your life with others
as the body of Christ in the world.
Through Jesus, born for all. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Carol 134. “Joy to the World”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella K. Chapman

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Chancel Choir
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED by intinction. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is not just for Presbyterians or “members of the church.” All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper.

THE “LIGHT UP A LIFE” OFFERING is being received throughout the Christmas season. “Light Up a Life” provides opportunity to support congregational programs, mission, and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs, as well as denominational efforts. “Light Up a Life” gifts can be made using the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks; by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church; or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Litany for Christmastide is from *Book of Common Worship* (Westminster John Knox Press, 1993). Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to “For the Life that You Have Given” are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor
Associate Pastors
Victoria G. Curtiss Mission
Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry
Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt 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

This worship bulletin is printed on recyclable paper that contains recycled post-consumer waste and is acid free. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.

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HYMN 163

“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”

1. Wild and lone the prophet’s voice
echoes through the desert still,
calling us to make a choice,
bidding us to do God’s will:
“Turn from sin and be baptized;
cleanse your heart and mind and soul.
Quitting all the sins you prized,
yield your life to God’s control.
2. “Bear the fruit repentance sows:
lives of justice, truth and love.
Trust no other claim than those;
set your heart on things above.
Soon the Lord will come in power,
burning clean the threshing floor:
then will flames the chaff devour;
wheat alone shall fill God’s store.”
3. With such preaching, stark and bold,
John proclaimed salvation near,
and his timeless warnings hold
words of hope to all who hear.
So we dare to journey on,
led by faith through ways untrod,
till we come at last like John
to behold the Lamb of God.