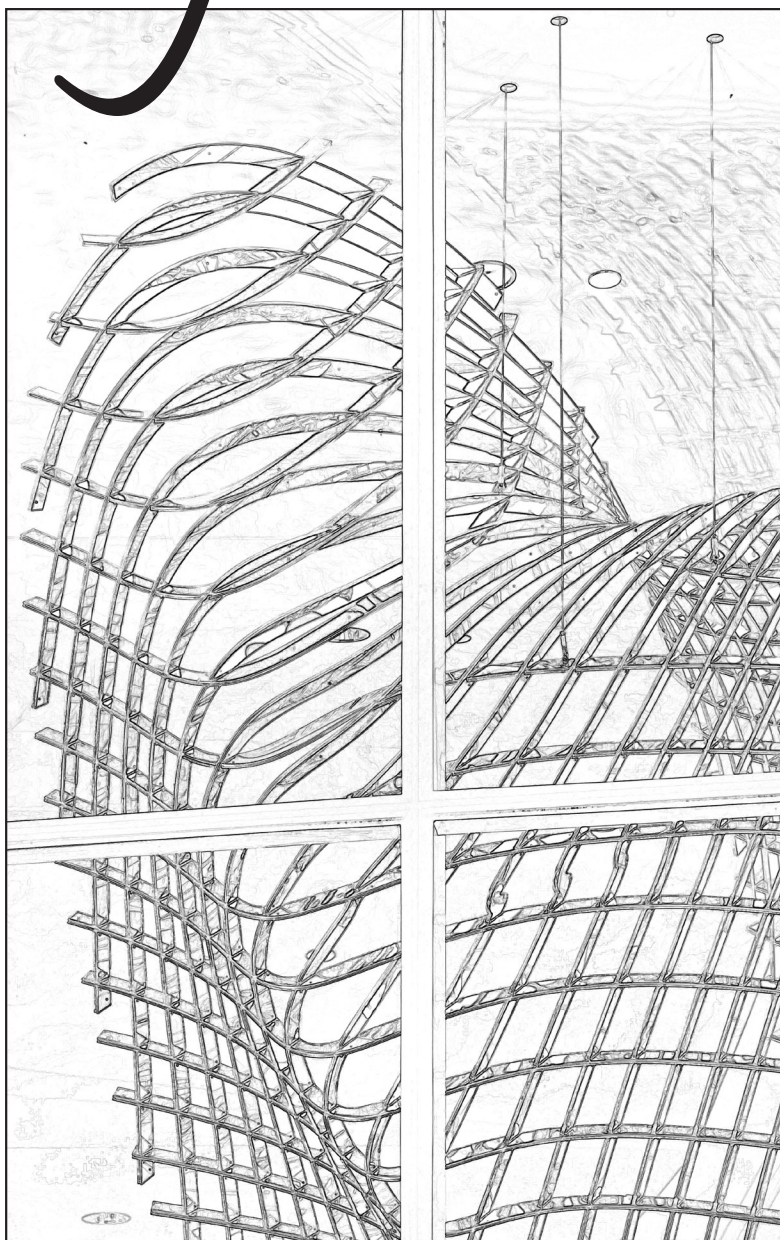




jazz at four



4:00 p.m. • December 29, 2019 • First Sunday after Christmas

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.

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!

***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.

Community Life

We Proclaim the Story

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"

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

. . . God among us,

remind us of your presence.

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

**... O Lord our God,
now the work of Christmas begins.**

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

***Benediction**

Sending Music

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer Associate Pastor

Michael Mirza Director of Worship

Jean Marie Koon Liturgist

The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

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

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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

Joseph L. Morrow, Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane, Parish Associate for Older Adults

Maggie Shreve, Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus