



4:00 p.m. • November 27, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# We Approach God

### **Gathering Music**

## Call to Worship

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth, and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me; thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

## We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

## **Prayer of Confession**

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.

We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.

We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Grant us wisdom to welcome your way and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.

## God Forgives and Blesses Us

Friends, believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

# We Proclaim the Story

#### The Jesse Tree

Leader: Jesse told Samuel,

People: "There is still the youngest one, but he's out keeping the sheep."

Leader: Humans see only what is visible to the eyes,

People: but the Lord sees into the heart.

Leader: King Saul told David,

People: "You can't go out and fight Goliath. You are still a boy."

All: Humans see only what is visible to the eyes,

People: but the Lord sees into the heart.

Leader: Nathan said to David,

People: You are a murderer, and the sword will haunt your descendants.

All: Humans see only what is visible to the eyes,

People: but the Lord sees into the heart.

Leader: God promised David,

People: I will never take my faithful love away from your descendants.

All: Humans see only what is visible to the eyes,

People: but the Lord sees into the heart.

Song."Prepare the Way, O Zion"Scripture Lesson.Psalm 122SermonNancy Benson-Nicol

#### **Musical Reflection**

#### Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

# We Feast Together

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

## 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

**Prayer after Communion** 

# We Offer Ourselves

#### Offering

**Musical Offering** 

#### **Prayer of Dedication**

Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations.

Use these gifts to renew hope, that all may be awake and alert

to watch for the coming of your glory,

the light who shines in the shadows. Amen.

# We Go Out with Gratitude

- O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily: to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

  Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- O come, thou Root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

\*Benediction

**Sending Music** 

# News and Opportunities

We are glad to have you with us today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Presbyterian Church! \* Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. \* We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice. \* Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be a mask-welcoming campus, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. As a mask-welcoming campus, we also remain committed to ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church.



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather on Sundays for a **10:00 a.m. service in the Sanctuary** and the **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel.** \* Worship can be heard through **hearing aids' "T" or "T-coil" setting.** \* **Please** silence electronic devices when in the Chapel. \* The **doors open for worship** on Sundays a half hour before each service. For the 4:00 service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. \* **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (and \$18 for up to 12 hours). Validation tickets for the garage must be picked up from an usher. \* **For those who prefer to worship online** or are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos).



On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. and for **in-person Morning Prayer** at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel. Email Nancy Benson-Nicol (*nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org*) for Zoom information. \* To **submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org \* The chapel is also open for opportunity to **walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For details, email Rocky Supinger (*rsupinger@fourthchurch.org*). \* An opportunity to explore the Bible is offered by Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger, as they discuss the **"Bible Top Ten"** in their **podcast** by that title (*fourthchurch.org/podcast*), with new episodes released every other Tuesday.



Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to **connect with one another.** Online and in-person events are posted on **our church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar \* For **resources** as well as additional ways to connect with the church and one another, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org) and Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch). \* To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

The season of Advent begins today! **Daily Advent devotions** written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer.** You can receive them in your inbox (*sign up online at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions*) or read them online (*www.fourthchurch.org/devotions*), via Facebook (*facebook.com/fourthchurch*), or Twitter (*twitter.com/fourthchicago*). \* Also available as a resource for your Advent prayer and reflection is a weekly "**Rhythm and Word" Advent video series**. These brief worship experiences, which weave together scripture, prayer, and music by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet, will be released on our YouTube channel (*www.bit.ly/fpcvideos*) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. beginning this week on November 30 (*where they will also be avilable for viewing afterwards*). To receive them by email, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail



Women at Fourth is again coordinating our **annual Christmas Wishes project** to provide gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students. To support this project we are collecting gift cards to Best Buy, Starbuck's, McDonald's, Uber, Target, and Amazon (and giving a total of \$25 worth of cards to each student). Gift cards can be dropped off at the church reception desk to the attention of Simon Crow by Monday, December 5. (*Please designate the amount on the cards.*) Monetary contributions can also be made to support the purchase of a book for each student. Gifts can be made online at www.fourthchurch org/give-online or by writing a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church with "Christmas Wishes" designated in the memo line.



We invite you to remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward the Christmas flowers, wreaths, and garlands that will decorate Fourth Church this Advent and Christmas. A list of those individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made online at www.bit.ly/fpcgift and must be received by Sunday, December 11 for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, contact Gloria Vicente (312.252.3571; gvicente@fourthchurch.org).



**Fourth Church Meals Ministry is in need of volunteers** to assist in helping our neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. To explore these volunteer needs, see our Volunteer Ministry platform, VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers) or email Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. To arrange conversation with a Stephen Minister, leave a message in the confidential voicemailbox at 312.573.3365. \* To explore options with a counselor, call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260.

## **Worship Leaders**

Nancy Benson-Nicol Associate Pastor

Rocky Supinger Associate Pastor

#### The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet

Leslie Beukelman, vocals Bryan Doherty, bass Marcus Evans, percussion Amr Fahmy, piano

**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.

Our annual "Light Up a Life" offering is being received throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. Gifts to "Light Up a Life" support the mission and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights as they extend mercy, kindness, and love to those who are most vulnerable. You can make a gift to this offering by noting "Light Up a Life" in the comments section (when giving online via Venmo or the Fourth Church website: www.fourthchurch org/give-online) or on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Those worshiping in the Sanctuary can also use the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks.

**The bulletin cover** image depicts the hanging sculpture in Buchanan Chapel, photographed at night from Chestnut Street, with the window mullions forming a cross.

#### **Acknowledgments**

"O Come O Come Emmanuel" music arr. © 1990 John Weaver. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.

#### PASTORAL STAFF

Shannon J. Kershner, Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor
Nancy Benson-Nicol, Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation
Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry
Joseph L. Morrow, Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Community Engagement
Nanette Sawyer, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry and Worship
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus