

December 3, 2023



The Gathering

Communion at 2:00

We Gather.

Call to Worship "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Hymnal 88)

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.

**Please rise in body or spirit.*



FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
A Light in the City

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.

***Song** "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Father, brothers all are we.

Let me walk with my brother In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow;

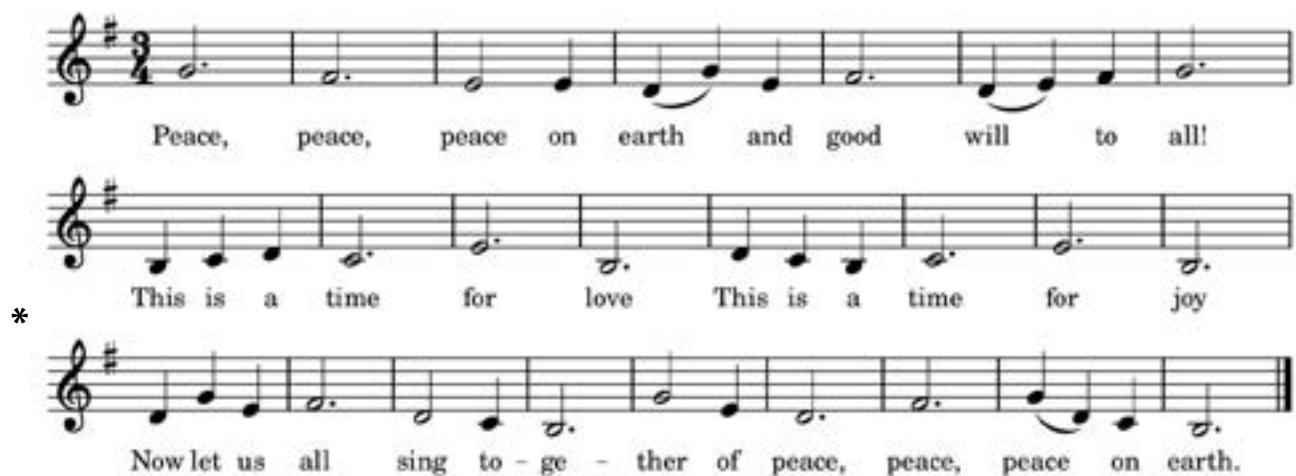
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

***Confession and Assurance** "Christ Be Our Light"



***Response** "Peace on Earth"



We Hear.

Scripture Isaiah 64:1–9

Sermon Rocky Supinger

We Respond.

Offering

The gifts we share to support the ministry and mission of Fourth Church can be placed in the offering plate or, upon leaving today, in the offering boxes at the Sanctuary exits. Gifts also can be given via Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give

Communion

*Communion will be served by intinction (dipping the bread into the juice).
Gluten-free bread is available.*

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion Anthem "I Wonder as I Wander" (John Jacob Niles)

***Song** “He Came Down”

1. He came down that we may have love.

He came down that we may have love.

He came down that we may have love.

Hallelujah forevermore!

(Leader: Why did he come?)

2. He came down that we may have light . . .

3. He came down that we may have peace . . .

4. He came down that we may have joy . . .

***Blessing**

Worship Leaders

Nancy Benson-Nicol, Rocky Supinger

The Music Today

Voices of Light

Ensemble: Beena David, vocals; Bryan Doherty, bass; Amr Fahmy, piano; Neal Wehman, drums

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: “He Came Down” music arr. © 1986 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). OneLicense.net. License A-712340. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

You are invited!

December 3–9, 2023



The following pages are our invitation to you—an invitation to explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church as well as an invitation to connect with one another, our staff, and the varied resources available to you here. We hope you will spend a few minutes looking over the opportunities and identifying those that interest you!

Welcome!

We are glad to be worshipping with you today and invite you to continue 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. ✨ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation!

Joining us online

Each Sunday our worshipping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews. For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we **livestream our 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. services** on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where they can be viewed any time after the services begin. (For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning) ✨ Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

Joining us in person

If you like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. ✨ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to each service. There are three fully accessible entrances, without steps, that lead to the Sanctuary: on Michigan Avenue (through the glass Loggia doors between the courtyard and the main Sanctuary doors); at 126 E. Chestnut; and at 115 E. Delaware. ✨ **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours (and \$18 for up to 12 hours) and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher. ✨ **Worship can be heard** through "T" or "T-coil" settings of hearing aids. ✨ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.

Ensure you receive the latest updates from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Let us know you're worshipping with us!

Please let us know you are here by filling out an information form. Those worshipping with us via livestream will find a **link to the online form**—which takes only 20 seconds to complete!—included in the descriptive text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the “Welcome and Announcements” that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form. Those worshipping with us in person are asked to use the **information pads in the pews**, passing them down the pew so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following the service. ✨ For **additional ways to connect** with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources and opportunities**, watch our website: **fourthchurch.org**

Worship podcasts and sermon text

During the week we make the Sunday morning **service and sermon available via podcast** on multiple podcast platforms and at **fourthchurch.org/podcasts** ✨ You can also receive the previous Sunday morning's **sermon text** (*fourthchurch.org/sermons*) **by email** by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons.

Prayer and meditation

On Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** and at 10:00 a.m. we come together for **in-person Morning Prayer** in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ✨ Buchanan Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is offered virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).

Advent reflections

The season of Advent begins today! **Daily Advent devotions, based on Advent hymn texts**, are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. We invite you to receive them in your inbox (*subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions*), read them online (*www.fourthchurch.org/devotions*), or share them via Facebook (*www.facebook.com/fourthchurch*). ✨ Our **Advent “Rhythm and Word” video series** offers **ten minutes of midweek music, scripture, and prayer** for viewing at home. A new video is released each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on YouTube. To receive the videos by email, sign up at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail; you can also subscribe to our YouTube channel (*www.bit.ly/fpcvideos*)

Our shared commitment. Our shared work.

If you have not yet made your **2024 Stewardship pledge** (www.bit.ly/fpcpledging), please take a moment to do so to **help us reach our congregational goals!** As of this week, 562 of our households have made a pledge to Fourth Church for next year, with those totaling \$2,222,841, or **74 percent of our 2024 goal** of \$3,000,000. We are 93 percent of the way toward the 2024 Chicago Lights goal of \$750,000, with 324 of our households having pledged, in total, \$693,993.

Sharing Christmas joy

A list of items needed by this **Monday, December 4** for our **Meals Ministry Christmas Gift Bag Drive** can be found on the church website (www.fourthchurch.org). The drive is in need of McDonald's gift cards of \$10 each as well; cards can be delivered to the church to the attention of Meals Ministry. ✱ Also on the church website is a list of books and gift cards needed by this **Wednesday, December 6** for our **Christmas Wishes project to provide gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students**. Monetary contributions (*designated "Christmas Wishes"*) towards purchase of the books and cards are also appreciated. Items dropped off at the church for Christmas Wishes should be marked to the attention of Simon Crow.

✱ Our annual **"Light Up a Life"** offering provides funds for Fourth Church programs that support our neighbors and congregation; for Chicago Lights, as it extends kindness and love to those who are most vulnerable;; and for the Presbyterian Church (USA) Joy Offering. You can make a gift to "Light Up a Life" by indicating that designation (*when giving online via Venmo or the church website: www.fourthchurch.org/give*) or on the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Those worshipping in the Sanctuary can also use the offering envelopes found in the pew racks.

Christmas flowers

We invite you to **remember or honor a loved one with a contribution toward the Christmas flowers**, wreaths, and garlands that will decorate the Sanctuary and Gratz Center. 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 next Sunday, December 10 for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, contact Gloria Vicente (312.252.3571; gvicente@fourthchurch.org).

Advent and Christmas worship

In addition to our worship services on Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., we have some special services on the calendar that we hope you will put on yours. Our **Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** service takes place next Sunday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. ✱ On Sunday, December 17 the **Cookies-and-Cocoa reception** will take place during the morning Coffee Hour, and the **Christmas Cantata**, by Daniel Pinkham, will be part of the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services. ✱ For those for whom Christmas celebrations are made difficult by loss, grief, or loneliness, a **"Longest Night" Service**, will be held on Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, preceded by a **labyrinth walk** in Anderson Hall. ✱ On the **morning of Sunday, December 24 we will have just one worship service: at 10:00 a.m. (which will also be livestreamed)**. Then that afternoon and evening we will gather for the **Christmas Eve Children's Pageant** at 4:00 p.m.; **Family Service** at 6:00 p.m., and **Lessons and Carols** at 8:00 p.m. (*also livestreamed*) and 10:00 p.m. ✱ On **Christmas morning** we will gather at 10:00 a.m. (*in person only*). ✱ On **December 31**, we will again have just one morning worship service: at 10:00 a.m. (*also livestreamed*). In the evening we will gather for a **New Year's Eve Taizé Service** at 6:30 p.m. (*in person only*). ✱ On January 7 we **return to our regular schedule** of worship at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m!

Get connected

Knitting and Crocheting meets this Tuesday, December 5 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. ✱ A **Chanticleer Christmas** takes place Tuesday and Wednesday, December 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary (*for tickets, see www.cso.org*). ✱ **Benevolent Guild** meets Wednesday, December 6 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B. ✱ An opening reception for the **art exhibition “Light in the Darkness,”** featuring the work of Jan Brandt and Amy Hanks, will be held this Friday, December 8 at 5:00 p.m. in the Loggia. ✱ On Friday, December 8, **Chicago a cappella** will perform **Holidays a cappella** at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel (*for tickets, see chicagoacappella.org*). ✱ **LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome** meets for brunch and games following the 9:30 a.m. service next Sunday, December 10. ✱ **“Conserving Historic Murals by Frederic Clay Bartlett: A Primer in Art Conservation”** will be the topic of a presentation Sunday, December 10 at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom (*for the Zoom link, register at www.bit.ly/aebartlett*). ✱ For **additional ways to connect** with one another and this congregation, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources and opportunities**, watch **our website: fourthchurch.org**

Pastoral care and a listening presence

To **talk to a pastor** or **notify pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation requires immediate attention, call the church at 312.787.4570. ✱ To **submit a prayer request** to Prayer Ministries, email caringministries@fourthchurch.org. ✱ Our **Reprogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** facilitates **grief groups**. Email Sharon Crawford-Tucker (stucker@fourthchurch.org) to learn more. ✱ To **explore options for teletherapy or in-person conversations with a counselor**, visit www.reproglecenter.org or call the Repogle Center at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ✱ **For those facing life’s challenges**, Stephen Ministers provide a listening presence. To talk with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.



Tom Are Jr. Interim Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor
Associate Pastors
Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation
Matt Helms Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries
Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement
Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship
Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries
John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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