

December 14, 2003

Third Sunday in Advent

The whole world waits in December darkness
for a glimpse of the Light of God. . . .
The one who declared he never would forgive
has forgiven,
and those who left home
have returned,
and even wars are halted,
if briefly
as the whole world looks starward.
In the December darkness
we peer from our windows
watching for an angel with rainbow wings
to announce the Hope of the World.

Ann Weems, Kneeling in Bethlehem

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate
in the worship, program, and service life of Fourth Church.*

During Today's Worship

- Large-print bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals and individual listening devices for improved sound are available in the back of the sanctuary.
- Child care for infants and toddlers is provided in Westminster 14, through the south transept doors and to the right. See an usher for directions. Activity bags for children in worship are available outside the south transept doors.
- During the Concerns of the Church, please pass the pew information pads, so that all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service.
- Please turn off all cell phones when in the sanctuary.

If You Are New to Fourth Church

- Please wear a lapel pin, found in the pew racks, so we might 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.
- A church tour begins at 12:15 p.m., starting at the back of the sanctuary.
- Parking is available Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$5.50 to 4:00 p.m. and \$6.25 after 5:00 p.m. and at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$5.00 until 2:00 p.m.
- Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Saturday, December 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; Monday, January 5 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, January 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor for Young Adults and New Members, at 981.4025.

Fourth Church Cares

- For pastoral care; to notify the church of illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request to be remembered in Morning Prayer; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Carol Allen, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 640.5398 (callen@fourthchurch.org).
- The Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, a ministry of Fourth Church, offers support groups as well as individual, couples', and premarital counseling. Information about the Center is available in the literature racks or by calling 312.787.8425.
- Births, adoptions, and baptisms: To notify the church of births and adoptions or for information about baptisms, contact Jill Stephens in the Children and Family Ministry office at 640.2578 (jstephens@fourthchurch.org).

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
Joanna M. Adams and John M. Buchanan, Pastors
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2094; www.fourthchurch.org
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

MORNING WORSHIP

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00

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

PRELUDE
(8:00)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Daniel Pinkham

PRELUDE
(9:30 and 11:00)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Daniel Pinkham

Savior of the Nations, Come

Max Reger

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us *Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

INTROIT

“Our King and Savior Draweth Nigh”

Leo Sowerby

Our King and Savior draweth nigh. O come, let us adore him.

*DOXOLOGY

(The Hymnal, 592)

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

People: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

*HYMN 2

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Tune: HYFRYDOL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us?
Yet you have visited your people and redeemed us
in your Son. As we prepare to celebrate his birth,
forgive us our sins, and deliver us from proud thoughts
and vain desires. Make our hearts leap for joy
at the sound of your word, and move us by your Spirit
to bless your wonderful works. We humbly ask this
through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws
near; your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

(11:00)

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER	Psalm 24 (<i>responsively</i>)	(page 502, O.T.)
ANTHEM	<p>“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree” <i>Elizabeth Poston</i></p> <p>The tree of life my soul hath seen laden with fruit and always green. The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree. His beauty doth all things excel—by faith I know, but never can tell the glory, which I now can see, in Jesus Christ the apple tree. For happiness I long have sought and pleasure dearly I have bought. I missed of all, but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree. I'm weary with my former toil; here I will sit and rest awhile. Under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ the apple tree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive; it keeps my dying faith alive, which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.</p>	
FIRST LESSON	Zephaniah 3:14–20	(page 877, O.T.)
	Minister: The Word of the Lord.	
	People: Thanks be to God.	
*GLORIA PATRI	(The Hymnal, 579)	
	(9:30 and 11:00) Children are dismissed to Sunday School classes.	
SECOND LESSON	Luke 2:1–5	(page 58, N.T.)
SERMON	<p>by Joanna M. Adams</p> <p>HOME FOR CHRISTMAS</p> <p>“All went to their own towns to be registered.”</p> <p>Luke 2:3 (NRSV)</p>	
*HYMN 25	“Away in a Manger”	<i>Tune:</i> MUELLER
*APOSTLES' CREED	<p>(<i>unison</i>)</p> <p>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;</p>	

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.

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.

CHORAL RESPONSE "Amen"

Richard Warner

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO
 (8:00)

"Jerusalem, convertte"
 from *Leçons de Tenebres*
 Jerusalem, turn back to the Lord thy God.

François Couperin

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
 (9:30 and 11:00)

"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"
 Peace be to you and grace from him, who freed us from our sins,
 who loved us all and shed his blood, that we might saved be.
 Sing holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is
 and is to come; sing holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that
 dwell therein; rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is
 coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall
 be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will
 be their all!

Paul Manz

***PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND 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.

Words: Carl P. Daw Jr. ©1987; Music: Morgan Simmons ©1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co.
 Used by permission.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All: We thank you, gracious God, that you have provided
 for all the worlds that ever were or will be by giving
 yourself to them in love. If we go to the heights
 of the mountains, or if we make the grave our bed,
 you are with us. If we go to the depths of the sea,
 your right hand holds us fast. We thank you for Jesus,
 your Word, who lived among us, uncovering your
 presence. Accomplish your purposes, we pray,
 through these gifts and in our lives; for the sake
 of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 44**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Tune: ST. LOUIS

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE
 (8:00)

Savior of the Nations, Come

Paul Manz

POSTLUDE
 (9:30 and 11:00)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

George Schafer

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, December 24 in the sanctuary

4:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service with Children's Pageant

6:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service with Meditation by Calum MacLeod

8:30 p.m.

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Joanna Adams preaching

Will be filmed by WBBM Channel 2 for local rebroadcast

11:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Joanna Adams preaching

*Please note that the middle two Christmas Eve services
begin a half hour later than last year, at 6:00 and 8:30 p.m.*

Christmas Day Worship

Thursday, December 25 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

John Cairns preaching

A traditional Christmas Dinner in Anderson Hall will follow the service.

Tickets are available during Coffee Hour and at the reception desk.

The Christmas Joy Offering, being received throughout December, supports various ministries, including Fourth Church's Elam Davies Social Service Center and other agencies that serve people who are homeless and hungry. The offering also supports racial ethnic education as well as retired pastors of the PCUSA. To make a gift to this offering, use an envelope from the pew rack or write "Joy Offering" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Worship Leaders

- 8:00 a.m. Tamara Leonard Lara, Pastoral Resident
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
Joanna M. Adams, Pastor
- 9:30 a.m. Wendy Mathewson, Pastoral Resident
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
Joanna M. Adams, Pastor
- 11:00 a.m. Keith C. Harris, Associate Pastor for Youth and Campus Ministry
Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor
Joanna M. Adams, Pastor

The Music Today

- 8:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir; Ann Marie Boyle, soprano soloist
- 9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir; The Children's Choir
- 11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas Gouwens, Associate Organist
Mary Theresa Reed, Director of Children's Music

Worship Notes

The art installation of stars and doves reflects the Stewardship and Capital Campaign theme, "A Light in the City: Sharing God's Grace." The hundreds of different stars represent the individuality and diversity in our faith community. Together with the doves, symbols of God's presence and grace, they mirror light, reminding us of the abundance of God's grace to us and our gifts to others.

The Advent banners, in the form of wings, convey the idea of Advent stillness and of waiting in the presence of angels. They were designed and painted by Eliza Linley of Berkeley, California.

Other Worship and Prayer Opportunities at Fourth Church

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can leave their prayer requests written on paper in the box outside the chapel or they can pray together with the Deacon who is in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship.

Advent morning prayer is held each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m. in Blair Chapel.

A Vespers Communion service is held each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Midweek Advent worship, in the style of Iona, is held Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel.

A prayer service in the style of Taizé is held the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel. The next service is Friday, December 26.

Advent devotions, written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available in the literature racks and by e-mail from devotions@fourthchurch.org.

Today's sermon will be available online at www.fourthchurch.org by this Friday.

Recent sermons are also available in the literature racks.

For a preview of next Sunday's worship, subscribe to the weekly e-mail newsletter News@FourthChurch by sending e-mail addresses to news@fourthchurch.org.