

The bread and wine of Communion remind us of the pivotal point of Christianity: God poured out his life into the life of a human being, and thereby—since we are all connected to one another, whether we like it or not—into the lives of all human beings. The Logos of God, as the Gospel of John so bluntly puts it, “became Flesh.” But what is so frequently overlooked by all churches is that the flesh into which the heart of God was poured was not just any flesh, it was—as the great theologian Karl Barth reminds us—Jewish flesh. This means that if we Christians are in some way linked to Jesus Christ, we are thereby united to one who lived and died a Jew.

Harvey Cox
*Common Prayers: Faith, Family, and
a Christian’s Journey through the Jewish Year*

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 the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$6.00 until 2:00 p.m. and at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.50 to 4:00 p.m. (validation is for three hours or less) and \$6.25 after 5:00 p.m.

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Sunday, September 26 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Monday, October 4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, October 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at 312.981.4025 (cmacleod@fourthchurch.org).

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, at 312.640.5398 (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 Schiltz in the Children and Family Ministry office at 312.640.2578 (jschiltz@fourthchurch.org).

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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

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

COMMISSIONING OF MUSICIANS

(8:00 and 11:00)

HYMN 304

“Jesus Loves Me!”

Tune: JESUS LOVES ME

(9:30)

COMMISSIONING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH LEADERS

(9:30)

ANTHEM

“Sing to the Lord”

Alice Parker

(8:00)

Sing to the Lord, ye heavenly hosts, and thou, O earth, adore.
Let death and hell throughout their coasts stand trembling at
his power. His sounding chariot shakes the sky; he makes the
clouds his throne. There all the stores of lightning lie 'till
vengeance darts them down. His nostrils breathe out fiery
streams, and from his awful tongue a sovereign voice divides the
flames and thunder roars along. Think, O my soul, the dreadful
day when this incensed God shall rend the sky and burn the sea
and fling his wrath abroad. Let all that dwell above the sky and
air and earth and seas conspire to lift thy glories high and speak
thine endless praise. The whole creation join in one to bless
the sacred name of him upon the throne and to adore the Lamb!

ANTHEM

“Alleluia”

Alessandro Scarlatti

(9:30 and 11:00)

PSALTER

Psalms 33:1-12 (*responsively*)

(page 507, O.T.)

*GLORIA PATRI

(The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 9:1-5, 11:1-2, 17-18, 25-36

(page 159, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

by John M. Buchanan

CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

“The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.”

Romans 11:29 (NRSV)

*HYMN 269

“O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand”

Tune: DUNDEE

*APOSTLES' CREED

(unison)

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;
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”

Fred Bohnhorst

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO
(8:00)

“The Call”

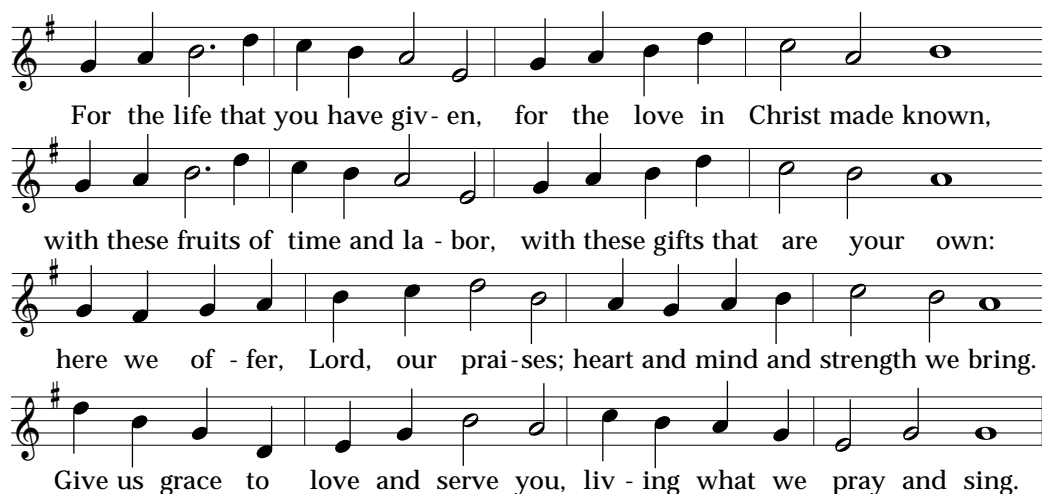
Ralph Vaughan Williams

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "O God, Thou Art My God"
(9:30 and 11:00)

Henry Purcell

O God, thou art my God. Early will I seek thee. My soul thirsteth for thee; my flesh also longeth after thee in a barren and dry land where no water is. Thus have I looked for thee in holiness that I might behold thy power and glory. For thy loving kindness is better than life itself. My lips shall praise thee. As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner and lift up my hands in thy name. Because thou hast been my helper, therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. Hallelujah.

*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.

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*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: Almighty and merciful God,
from whom comes all that is good,
we praise you for your mercies,
for your goodness that has created us,
your grace that has sustained us,
your discipline that has corrected us,
your patience that has borne with us,
and your love that has redeemed us.
Help us to love you,
and to be thankful for all your gifts
by serving you and delighting to do your will,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Sustain together in undiminished hope, O God of hope,
those who continue to labor with undiminished
determination to build peace in the land from which,
of old, out of brokenness, violence, and destruction,
nevertheless hope emerged for so many of faith. . . .

Bless all the spiritual seed of Abraham together
with the light of your Presence.

For in the light of your Presence
we have found a way of justice and mercy
and a vision of Peace.

We praise you, O God, Giver of Peace,
who commands us to Peace. Amen.

*Rabbi Herbert Bronstein
North Shore Congregation Israel, Glencoe, Illinois*

*HYMN 488

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Tune: LEONI

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE
(8:00)

Fanfare

Jean Joseph Mouret

POSTLUDE
(9:30 and 11:00)

Canzona per sonare No. 2

Giovanni Gabrieli

Worship Leaders

- 8:00 a.m. Tamara Leonard Lara, Pastoral Resident
John A. Cairns, Dean, Academy for Faith and Life
John M. Buchanan, Pastor
- 9:30 a.m. Dana Ferguson, Associate Pastor
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
John M. Buchanan, Pastor
- 11:00 a.m. Dana Ferguson, Associate Pastor
Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor
John M. Buchanan, Pastor

The Music Today

- 8:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir; Carol Carpenter, alto soloist
- 9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir; Tower Brass
- 11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir; Tower Brass

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas Gouwens, Associate Organist
Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

Worship Notes

Today's commissioning of the choirs, Tower Brass, Sunday School teachers and staff, and youth leaders is an affirmation of their dedicated service to our church, its members, and those who are among us as visitors.

Tower Brass, Fourth Church's brass octet, assists in worship leadership this morning. Directed by Matthew Comerford, Tower Brass participates in 9:30 and 11:00 worship each third Sunday of the month from September through May.

A Tutoring 40th Anniversary Offering is being received today and throughout September in celebration of the 40th anniversary of Partners in Education Tutoring, a program of Chicago Lights at Fourth Presbyterian Church. Gifts to this offering support the Tutoring Program, which each year serves more than 450 students from economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. These students come to Fourth Church each week to work one-to-one with a volunteer. To learn more about becoming a tutor, stop by the Volunteer table during Coffee Hour. Special envelopes for making gifts to this offering are available in the pew racks.

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.

Daily prayer is held each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

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

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 this Friday, September 23.

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

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.