

at Fourth at Fourth at Fourth at Fourth

4:00 Order of Worship 11.29.09

Gathering

Gathering Music "Sleepers Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us
Savior of the Nations, Come

*Johann Sebastian Bach
J. S. Bach*

We invite you to complete the prayer card found in this worship bulletin and to place it in the plate during the sharing of gifts. Information about the prayer cards is printed on the outside back cover of the bulletin.

Welcome

Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Presbyterian Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical limitation, educational background, or economic situation.

Lighting the Advent Candle

One: . . . We light the first candle, the candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for peace, for healing, and the well-being of all creation.

***Song** "Candle of Hope"

All: **Loving God, as we enter this Advent season,
we open all the dark places in our lives and memories
to the healing light of Christ.
Show us the creative power of hope.
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
that we may walk in the light of Christ.**

Silence

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Leader: 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. Lord, have mercy.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: We have lived casual lives and ignored your promised judgment.
Christ, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader: We have been slow to serve you and our neighbors. Lord, have mercy.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Forgive us for the sake of Christ, our Savior, whose coming we await.

People: **Guard our hearts from despair so that we, in the company of the faithful
and by the power of your Spirit, may be found to raise our heads in hope
at the coming near of our redemption. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: As God's forgiven people, let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

All are invited to stand and share the peace of Christ with one another.

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Lesson Jeremiah 33:14–16 (page 694, O.T.)

Song “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Scripture Lesson Luke 21:25–36 (page 80, N.T.)

Sermon by Victoria G. Curtiss
Beginning with the End

***Song** “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

Please place gifts and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.

Offertory Music “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” *Gustav Holst*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded for with blessing in his hand, Christ our Lord to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture in the body and the blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away. At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, “Alleluia, Lord most high.” Amen.

***Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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!**

Sanctus

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.**

The Communion

Communion Music “I Heard the Voice of Jesus”

Thomas Tallis

I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light; look unto me, thy morn shall rise and all thy day be bright.” I looked to Jesus and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that light of life, I’ll walk ’til traveling days are done.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Creator God, we praise you for your love in coming to us. We praise and thank you, for you have not left us alone. Each year you come to us, Emmanuel, God with us in a manger. Each time you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Give us grace to accept the Christ who comes in your name, and courage to be Christ for others. Amen.



Sending

***Sending Song** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

***Benediction and Commissioning**

Minister: Take time, in the busyness of this season, for quiet reflection—for the light of God’s love is discernible everywhere.

People: **We will let ourselves be surprised by wonder and set aside time to offer quiet thanks.**

Minister: The good news of Advent is this: Christ is coming. Christ is always coming

People: **We will welcome Christ into our hearts. We will let ourselves be guided by his ministry. We will go forth from this place in hope.**

Sending Music

Savior of the Nations, Come

Paul Manz

A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God will be 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.

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor

Adam Fronczek Associate Pastor

The Chamber Choir

Thomas E. Gouwens Associate Organist

Acknowledgments:

Words and Music—“Candle of Hope” by John W. Goff. Reprinted by permission of John W. Goff.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584



Fourth Church Cares

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion with a Deacon, contact Ali Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 312.573.3360 (atrowbridge@fourthchurch.org).

News and Opportunities

News and Resources

A sixth-month evaluation of the 4:00 p.m. worship service will be the focus of a community meeting on Monday, November 30 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For location information and to RSVP, contact Patty Donmoyer at 312.573.3364.

Extra hand sanitizer is available throughout the church during this flu season.

We are deeply grateful to all who have returned giving response cards for the 2010 Annual Appeal for Fourth Church and Chicago Lights, "Called to Be a Church Alive." Giving Response cards are available in the pew and literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org/churchalive.html. For details, contact Lisa Radetski, Director of Individual and Planned Giving, at 312.981.3380.

Fourth Presbyterian Church, a member congregation of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, is committed to being a fully inclusive community. To learn more about Covenant Network, visit www.covenantnetwork.org.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday school classes for children meet Sunday mornings at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Fourth Church youth meet each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.: Elevation (grades 6–7) meets in the Manse basement, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8) meets in the Page Smith Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets in the Crow's Nest.

The annual La Posada Family Night will be Friday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Contact Melissa Scanlan at 312.640.2578 for more details.

Choir practice for children and youth is held Sunday mornings in the Dining Room; for details, contact Beverly Escuder at 312.981.3595.

Fellowship

An eight-week yoga class, hosted by the Young Adults, will be held Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Crow's Nest starting December 1. For information or to register, email yoga@fourthchurch.org.

The ThirtiesForties fellowship group will host their Christmas dinner party on Sunday, December 6. To register (required), call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 by Monday, November 30.

Cornerstones, a fellowship group for couples over fifty, is holding their annual Christmas party on Friday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse. To register, call the Cornerstones Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 454.

Fourth Dimension, a fellowship opportunity for individuals forty-seven and older, will meet for a Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 12 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the Manse. To register (required), contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 by Wednesday, December 9.

Fellowship

Weekly Bible Study opportunities:

Women, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.

CLL, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Men's Bible Study meets this Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details, contact Patty Donmoyer at 312.573.3364 (pdonmoyer@fourthchurch.org).

The Community Book Group will meet Tuesday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room to discuss *Whatever It Takes: Geoffrey Canada's Quest to Change Harlem and America* by Paul Tough.

Books by Women will meet Tuesday, December 1 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse to discuss *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. All are welcome.

News and Opportunities

Christmas

Daily Advent devotions, written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available in printed booklets that can be found in the church literature racks, by email (send email addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org), and at www.fourthchurch.org.

A Fair Trade Gift Bazaar will be held Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall to benefit impoverished families around the world.

An Advent book study of G.K. Chesterton's *Advent and Christmas Wisdom*, hosted by ThirtiesForties, meets on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. For details, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369

Chicago a cappella will perform their annual holiday concert at Fourth Church on Friday, December 11 at 8:00 p.m. For ticket information, call 773.755.1628 or visit www.chicagoacappella.org.

The annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Music will be Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. A cookies-and-hot-chocolate reception hosted in Anderson Hall by Women@Fourth Connect will follow. Contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 for more details.

The "Christmas Wishes" gift project collects gifts for more than 700 children who might not otherwise receive them. Wish lists are available during Coffee Hour or by contacting Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

Memorialize or honor loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Christmas flowers and garlands for the sanctuary. A list of those remembered will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made by completing the forms available in the literature racks. Completed cards must be returned by Friday, December 11 for names to appear in the bulletin.

The annual Christmas Cantata will be sung on Sunday, December 20 during 9:30 and 11:00 worship, with the Morning Choir singing Arnold Schönberg's *Freide auf Erden*.

"Light Up a Life" this holiday season! Gifts to this year-end giving campaign will make a difference in the lives of those touched by Fourth Church and Chicago Lights while also serving as a meaningful gift and way to honor the special people in your life.

Chicago Lights Holiday Cards, designed by Tutoring students, are available online at www.chicagolights.org, during Coffee Hour, and at the reception desk; all proceeds benefit the Tutoring program.

Worship

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can pray there with a Deacon at 10:30 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. or place their prayer requests, written on paper, in one of the prayer boxes, which are located outside Stone Chapel, in the Narthex, and in Anderson Hall.

Morning Prayer is held each weekday at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesdays, when it is held at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for daily Morning Prayer, which takes place in Stone Chapel.

A World AIDS Day service remembering those who have died and those who are suffering from AIDS will be held Tuesday, December 1 at 9:00 a.m. in Stone Chapel as part of Morning Prayer.

A midweek Advent service will be held at 6:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel each Wednesday of Advent, beginning Wednesday, December 2.

Sunday morning worship services are held at 8:00 (Communion) and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

During Today's Worship

All are encouraged to use the prayer card, found in this worship bulletin, to offer joys and/or concerns. The cards will be collected during the Sharing of Gifts (simply place the card in the offering plate as it is passed). The prayers will then be incorporated into this afternoon's Prayers of the People.

If you have a prayer you would rather not share during worship, you are invited to complete a prayer card found by one of the prayer boxes in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary, and it will be passed on to Ali Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care.

All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion, which is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available in the paper "cup" within the basket of bread), which they will then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles.

Pastoral Staff for 4:00 Worship

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for
Adult Education and Worship
Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Jocelyn C. Cadwallader, Pastoral Resident
Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident
Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

Please turn off all cell phones when in the sanctuary.

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 join us for a community supper following this time of worship. A meal will be served in Anderson Hall, which is through the doors to your left as you face the front of the sanctuary. We welcome this opportunity to break bread together and share in fellowship with friends and neighbors.

The large banners hanging in the middle of the Sanctuary were created by liturgical artist Shawna Bowman during the 4:00 worship service and are artistic representations of our worship experience.

Large-print Bibles and individual listening devices for improved sound are available in the back of the sanctuary. Worship also can be heard through the "T" setting of hearing aids.

If your infant or small child needs care during the worship service, you may leave the sanctuary and return as you wish. The worship service audio can be heard in Stone Chapel, where you and your child are also welcome.

Worship bags, containing quiet activities and a bulletin designed for children, are available outside the south transept doors, between the sanctuary and Anderson Hall. Children who are attending worship in the sanctuary are invited to borrow one of these bags.

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 the community meal or the Loggia (through the doors to your left as you face the front of the sanctuary) after worship for fellowship, conversation, and information about church programs and volunteer opportunities.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Streets) at the rate of \$7.75. Validation tickets must be picked up from

the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, December 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.; or Monday, January 4 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. For membership information, contact Linda Loving, Minister for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (lloving@fourthchurch.org).