

First Sunday after Christmas

Gathering

Gathering Music O Little Town of Bethlehem
Nature Boy

Lewis Henry Redner
Eden Ahbez

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.

Call to Worship

Leader: Whatever is foreseen in joy must be lived out from day to day,
vision held open in the dark by our ten thousand days of work.
Harvest will fill the barn; for that the hand must ache, the face must sweat.

People: **And yet no leaf or grain is filled
by work of ours; the field is tilled
and left to grace. That we may reap,
great work is done while we're asleep.**

All: **When we work well, a Sabbath mood
rests on our day and finds it good.
Let us worship God.**

***Opening Song** "Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow"

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**O, Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide,
and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to mention,
what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a
consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image,
through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

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

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: As forgiven children of God, let us not be strangers to one another,
but sisters and brothers in Christ. Please stand and 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.

***Song** "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Psalter Psalm 148 (*responsively*)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

People: **Praise God, all angels; praise God all hosts!**

Leader: Praise the One, sun and moon; praise the One, all you shining stars!

People: **Praise the One, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for God commanded and they were created.

People: **The Lord established them for ever and ever;
fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

Leader: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

People: **fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!**

Leader: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

People: **Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

Leader: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

People: **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for this name alone is exalted;
God's glory is above earth and heaven.

People: **The Lord has raised up a horn for the people,
praise for the faithful, for the people of Israel who are near.**

All: **Praise the Lord!**

First Lesson Luke 2:41–52 *(page 55, N.T.)*

Second Lesson Colossians 3:12–17 *(page 190, N.T.)*

Sermon What, So What, and Now What? Edwin Estevez

Song for Reflection "Happy Christmas (The War Is Over)" *John Lennon and Yoko Ono*

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

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

Offertory Music “Love’s in Need of Love Today”

Stevie Wonder

*Doxology

Lucy Smith

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

Lucy Smith

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 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Henry T. Smart

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**In our emptiness and thirst, you fill our cup to overflowing,
that we might share the fruit of the vine with others,
the fruit of your labor of love.**

**At our weakest moments and in our hunger,
you welcome us to an extravagant feast,
that we might share the extravagance of your love with others.
Keep our eyes to serve and our hands to learn. In your name. Amen.**



Sending

***Closing Song** "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

***Benediction**

Sending Music

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

Edwin Estevez Pastoral Resident
Hardy H. Kim Associate Pastor
Lucy Smith Quartet

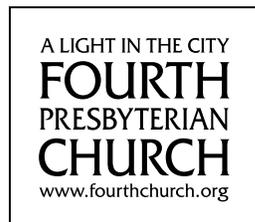
Acknowledgments

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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PASTORAL STAFF

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor and Head of Staff
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families
Matt Helms, Minister for Children and Families
Hardy H. Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
John H. Boyle, Parish Associate
Edwin Estevez, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

Enrichment

Inquirers' Class offers opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class meets next on Monday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m. in Morse Conference Room. For information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (hkim@fourthchurch.org).

Books by Women will discuss *Yellow Dirt: An American Story of a Poisoned Land and a People Betrayed* by Judy Pasternak next Tuesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

A Career Transitions Center introductory information session will be held next Wednesday, January 9 at 9:30 a.m. at 703 W. Monroe. To register, visit www.ctcchicago.org.

A study trip to Greece and Turkey will be led by Adam Fronczek April 30–May 13. Applications are due Friday, January 18. Details are available in the literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org/academy.

“The Labyrinth as a Source of Strength for One’s Life Journey” will be the topic of this year’s Midwinter Retreat, led by labyrinth expert Lauren Artress, on Saturday, February 16. Details will be available in January.

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Energetic individuals to share hobbies and activities with Chicago Lights Tutoring students, one evening a week, January 7–March 7

Members to transcribe recorded oral histories, flexible hours, can be done at home or at Fourth Church

Tutors for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday nights

Dishwashers for Sunday Night Supper, 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Members to lead seminars on legal assistance, medical information, nutrition, job searches, housing rights, public benefits, life skills, and art appreciation

Current Donation Needs

Gently used clothes for a chronically ill ten-year-old girl

Men’s winter clothes in larger sizes (coats, pants, sweaters, socks, etc.)

Double paper/plastic bags with handles from Treasure Island for the Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center

Furniture and supplies for a new baby

For details or to volunteer, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org) or visit www.fourthchurch.org/mission/volunteer.html.

Did you see the Tribune’s feature on the Gratz Center?

Or hear Calum MacLeod’s radio clip about the Connecticut tragedy? You’ll find links to both on our page on Facebook. Be sure to “like” the page (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) to ensure you see the latest news from Fourth Church. If you “like” us already, make sure that when you hover over the “Like” button, the “Show in News Feed” is checked!



News and Opportunities

News and Resources

Invite friends, neighbors, and colleagues to the Gratz Center Grand Opening on Saturday, January 12 at 11:00 a.m. The open house that will follow will include refreshments from Ditka's.

Year-end giving notes: For those wanting to make a year-end gift or fulfill their 2012 Annual Appeal pledge by credit card, charges must be made to the card by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, December 31 in order for those gifts to be listed on 2012 giving statements. For those wanting to make a gift or pledge fulfillment by check and have the gift listed on 2012 giving statements, please be sure the envelope is postmarked December 31.

Be sure to bookmark the Fourth Church website—www.fourthchurch.org—for easy access to the Fourth Church calendar, information about upcoming events, an archive of sermons and prayers, and much more.

Interested in computers and AV? Able to make a regular commitment to helping record worship services at Fourth Church? A rotation of volunteers is needed to help with this important ministry on Sunday mornings and for special services. For more information or to volunteer, contact Adam Fronczek at 312.640.5398 (afronczek@fourthchurch.org).

The Pastor Nominating Committee is currently in a several-month quiet phase as they review Pastor Information Forms of about 200 possible candidates. For details about the PNC process, see www.fourthchurch.org/pnc.

The Gratz Center donor wall in the Gignilliat Commons includes the names, randomly placed, of all who contributed to the building project. While every effort was made to ensure complete accuracy, if there is an error in your listing, please call Wydetta Carter at 312.274.3833.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School classes meet at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Gratz Center.

Fourth Church Youth (grades 6–12) meet on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room of the Gratz Center.

Cherub, Children's, and Youth Choir rehearsals take place on Sundays, with Youth Choir (grades 6–12) at 9:30 a.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, Cherub Choir (age 4–grade 1) at 10:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel, and Children's Choir (grades 2–5) at 11:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room.

Mission and Outreach

Chicago Shares voucher booklets, which offer a way to give to those in need on the streets while knowing that the \$1 gift will be redeemed at a participating grocery store or restaurant, are available by contacting Nancy Davis at 312.274.3815 (ndavis@fourthchurch.org).

The Sensible Gun Laws petition, which has already collected 25,000 signatures, is available for signing online at www.change.org/petitions.

Applications for the 2013 mission trip to Guatemala (July 6–14) are due next Sunday, January 6. Details are available in the literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html.

News and Opportunities

Worship

A New Year's Eve service in the style of Taizé will be held this Monday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Morning Prayer will be held this week on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. All are invited to join staff for the opportunity to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need.

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 outside Stone Chapel or in the Narthex.

Music and the Arts

Cellist Mira Luxion will perform this Friday's free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Light, the latest CD featuring the Fourth Church choirs, is available online through iTunes or CDBaby or by contacting Ryan Loeckel at 312.640.2570 (rloeckel@fourthchurch.org).

Choir rehearsals for the Chancel Choir are held on Thursdays and Sundays. For more details, visit www.fourthchurch.org/music/choirs.

Fellowship

Young Adults, the Fourth Church fellowship group for adults in their twenties and thirties, will meet next Sunday, January 6 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A of the Gratz Center for the Gathering series "Epiphanies and New Beginnings." For information, contact Hardy Kim at 312.981.3399 (hkim@fourthchurch.org).

Fourth for Bridge will meet this Saturday, January 5 at 7:30 p.m. at a member's home. Participants do not need to bring a partner, but they do need to know how to play bridge. For details and to RSVP, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Cornerstones and Fourth Dimension will meet for a joint gathering of "Voices from Our Past," a Fourth Acts dramatization, next Friday, January 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Gratz Center. To register (required), contact Carol Allerton at 312.640.5448 (callerton@fourthchurch.org) by Wednesday, January 9.

Men's Group will gather for a breakfast meeting with David Scheffer, Professor of Law and Director of the Center for International Human Rights at Northwestern University, next Saturday, January 12 at 8:00 a.m. in Parish House Dining Room. To register (required), call 312.787.4570 by Wednesday, January 9. All are welcome to attend.

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 Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral 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.

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.

Please turn off all cell phones when in the Sanctuary.

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. There is also an area in the side aisle where your child can play quietly.

Worship folders, containing quiet activities and a bulletin for children, are available from a greeter.

Printed copies of sermons recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks outside the South Transept doors (leading to Anderson Hall) and in the Narthex, at the back of the Sanctuary. They are also available at www.fourthchurch.org/sermons/index.html.

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 Judy Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, at 312.573.3360 (jwatt@fourthchurch.org).

If You Are New to Fourth Church

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership and includes a light meal. Attend Monday, January 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, February 11 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. For membership information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 (hkim@fourthchurch.org).

Information about opportunities and resources available to you here at Fourth Church is available in the literature racks as you're leaving the church. You can also find information on our website (www.fourthchurch.org), our page on Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to news@fourthchurch.org).

If you are interested in considering baptism or membership at the 4:00 p.m. service at Fourth Presbyterian Church, please see Adam Fronczek or any pastor involved in the service. Information is available about the Baptism Seminar and Inquirers' Class, which are necessary for preparation. A monthly opportunity to be baptized or join the church at the 4:00 service is available on January 27, February 24, March 24, and April 28.

Sunday parking is available at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8. Validation tickets must be picked up from the 126 E. Chestnut St. reception desk. There is no discounted afternoon parking at the Hancock garage.