



First Sunday after Christmas

Gathering

Gathering Music "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
"A Child Is Born"

Lewis Henry Redner
Thad Jones

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,

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Scripture reminds us, "Be still and know that I am God."

People: **God of grace, still our minds, and still our hearts.** *(hold silence)*

Leader: Again, "I am doing a new thing."

People: **God of grace, still our minds, and still our hearts.** *(hold silence)*

Leader: And again, "My mercies are new each and every morning."

People: **God of grace, still our minds, and still our hearts.** *(hold silence)*

Leader: Let us worship the God of grace. Amen.

* Stand as you are able

***Opening Song** “The First Nowell”

Prayer of Confession

After each petition:

Leader: . . . God of love, in your mercy:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

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** “Reach Out Your Hand in Peace”

Lucy Smith

Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

Scripture Isaiah 63:7–9

(page 652, O.T.)

Sermon “Learn to Count”

Edwin Estevez

Musical Reflection

Sealing the Word

Sharing of Gifts

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

Offertory Music "O Holy Night"

Adolphe Adam, Marie Copeau, and Placide Cappeau

*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 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

French carol

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**God of grace, love came down to us at Christmas, surrounded us,
and filled us that we might go into the new year as forgiven children,
reconciled to God. We go into the new year as risk takers,
for you have nourished us with bread and cup.**

We go as new creatures, for you are saving us from our sin.

We go as children of God, for you will be with us all. 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
Lucy Smith Quartet Lucy Smith, vocals
Bryan Doherty, bass
Marcus Evans, drums
Marcin Fahmy, piano

Acknowledgments

Music—"Reach Out Your Hand in Peace" by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2013. All rights reserved. "Praise God (Dox)" by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2013. All rights reserved. "Gospel Sanctus" by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2011. All rights reserved.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org
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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
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
Edwin Estevez, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

News and Opportunities

Enrichment

Books by Women will discuss *The Beautiful Mystery* by Louise Penny on Tuesday, January 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Transcribers for Oral History Committee interviews
Librarian for the Tutoring program

Current Donation Needs

Men's and women's sturdy seasonal clothes
Nonperishable food items for the food pantry

For details or to volunteer, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (lnicholson@fourthchurch.org).

Children, Youth, and Family

A Martin Luther King Jr. Day Family Service Project will be on Saturday, January 18 at 10:00 a.m. at Casa Central Casa Infantil (2222 N. Kedzie).

Music and the Arts

The Cecilia Guitar Duo will perform this Friday's Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

News and Resources

Follow Fourth Church on Twitter: (@FourthChicago).

Be sure to "like" Fourth Church on Facebook to see the latest photos of church life, keep up-to-date on news, and access resources, including excerpts from sermons and prayers.

The Pastor Nominating Committee continues to be in conversation with candidates. The role of "call" as part of the search process is the topic of a recent PNC reflection, and you can read that online at www.fourthchurch.org/pnc.

Mission and Outreach

Applications for the mission trip to Mexico (March 8–15) are due January 8. Application details are available in the literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html.

Worship

A service in the style of Taizé will next be held on New Year's Eve, this Tuesday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. It will be preceded by opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Anderson Hall between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

It's easy to fulfill your 2013 pledge online:

Just go to www.fourthchurch.org (or scan this QR code) and click on "To Make a Gift." There you will find an option to make a gift toward your Annual Appeal pledge for 2013.

On the same page you can also make Light Up a Life gifts to thank friends, family, and colleagues, gifts that offer important year-end support to programs that serve others.



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 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 13 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Monday, February 3 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), 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 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, and May 25.

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.