



# Gathering

## Second Sunday of Advent

**Gathering Music** “Togetherness” . . . . . Jimmy Heath  
 “Water from an Ancient Well” . . . . . Abdullah Ibrahim

### 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 sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, mental health, educational background, economic situation, religious background, or documentation status.*

*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 back cover.*

**\*Call to Worship** . . . . . Tom Waits

### Please note

Copyrighted musical pieces that we do not have permission to distribute online (but only to include in the printed order of worship) are not shown in this version of the bulletin. For details on the licenses, permission to reprint, and copyright information for the musical pieces not included here, please see the “Acknowledgments” page later in this bulletin.

2. I’m not gonna do nothing  
 but wait here.  
 I don’t have to shout.  
 I got me no reason,  
 and I got no doubt.  
 I’m gonna get myself unfurled  
 from this mortal coiled-up world.  
 Jesus gonna be here,  
 gonna be here soon.

\* Stand as you are able

## **\*Advent Wreath Lighting and Responses**

Leader 1: We light the second candle of Advent:  
the candle of prophets calling for justice,  
struggling for right to replace wrong,  
for dignity to replace oppression;  
calling for wasted places to be renewed,  
pointing to healing emerging from the darkness.

Leader 2: God calls us through the prophets  
toward justice, balance, and beauty.  
God will bring out into the light of day  
things now hidden in shadow  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

*(Two candles are lit)*

Leader 1: God, the Creator, who called forth light;  
Christ, the Redeemer, who is the light of the world;  
Spirit, the Sustainer, who radiates healing to the world;  
come to us now, in our time of need.

Leader 2: Tend to your sick ones.

**All: Come to them, O Christ.**

Leader: Rest your weary ones.

**All: Come to them, O Christ.**

Leader: Bless your dying ones.

**All: Come to them, O Christ.**

Leader: Soothe your suffering ones.

**All: Come to them, O Christ.**

Leader: Pity your afflicted ones.

**All: Come to them, O Christ.**

Leader: Shield your joyous ones.

**All: Come to them, O Christ.**

**All for love's sake. Amen.**

**\*Opening Song** . . . . . "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

## Litany of Confession

Leader: O Holy God, we have waited expectantly for you  
to come to us in the form of Jesus Christ.

**All: Yet we confess that we have not believed  
in your incarnation enough to let it change us.**

Leader: In seeking to be right we have sometimes become self-righteous,  
trusting in our own power to save us and not depending on you.

**All: Set us free from our fears and release us from our sins.**

Leader: God, we seek the courage to change our hearts and our lives and to be healed by you.

**All: God, you are our strength and our redeemer. Let us rest in you.**

*(Please hold silence)*

Leader: Truly, God can do what we cannot. Friends, hear this good news.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free.**

## \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

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

**\*Song** . . . . . "While We Are Waiting, Come"

# Hearing and Proclaiming the Word

## Scripture Reading

Matthew 3:1–12 . . . . . (New Testament, page 2)

**Sermon** . . . . . *Nanette Sawyer*

# Responding to the Word

## \*Musical Reflection

**Sharing of Gifts** *(Please place gifts and prayer cards in the plate as it is passed.)*

**Offertory Music** “You’ve Got a Friend” . . . . . *Carole King*

**\*Doxology** . . . . . *Lucy Smith*

## The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

### The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

### 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'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table" . . . . . *African American spiritual*

### Closing Responses

Leader: A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse; a branch will sprout from his roots.

**All: The Lord's spirit will rest upon him, a spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
a spirit of planning and strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord.**

Leader: He will delight in fearing the Lord. He won't judge by appearances, nor decide by hearsay.

**All: He will judge the needy with righteousness  
and decide with equity for those who suffer in the land.  
He will strike the violent with the rod of his mouth;  
by the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked.**

Leader: Righteousness will be the belt around his hips, and faithfulness the belt around his waist.

**All: The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;  
the calf and the young lion will feed together, and a little child will lead them.**

# Sending

\*Closing Song. . . . . "People, Look East"

\*Benediction  
Sending Music

## Worship Leaders

<b>Nanette Sawyer</b>	Minister for Congregational Life
<b>Abbi Heimach-Snipes</b>	Pastoral Resident
<b>Lucy Smith Quartet</b>	Lucy Smith, vocals Bryan Doherty, bass Marcus Evans, drums Amr Marcin Fahmy, piano

## A note on inclusive language

Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service, God is 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.

## Acknowledgments

*Words*—The Advent Wreath Lighting and Responses are adapted from the *Celtic Prayer Book, Vol. 1*. The Closing Responses are from Isaiah 11:1–6, Common English Bible. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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*Music*—“Reach Out Your Hand in Peace” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2013. All rights reserved. “Doxology” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2016. All rights reserved. “Gospel Sanctus” by Lucy Smith, copyright © 2011. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

**FOURTH**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
**CHURCH**  
*A Light in the City*

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Shannon J. Kershner**, Pastor  
**Victoria G. Curtiss**, Associate Pastor for Mission  
**Matt Helms**, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry  
**Hardy H. Kim**, Associate Pastor for Evangelism  
**Rocky Supinger**, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry  
**Judith L. Watt**, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care  
**Nanette Sawyer**, Minister for Congregational Life  
**Jeffrey Doane**, Parish Associate for Older Adults  
**Abbi Heimach-Snipes**, Pastoral Resident  
**John Buchanan**, Pastor Emeritus

### Advent

**Holiday Bags** are being collected by Fourth Church Meals Ministry for guests of Sunday Night and Monday Night Suppers. A list of needed items and bags to decorate are available at the Meals Ministry cart during Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. Items are to be returned to the Meals Ministry cart by next Sunday, December 11.

**The Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** will take place on Sunday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A cookies-and-cocoa reception will follow in Anderson Hall. Volunteers and bakers are needed to help bake cookies and set up the reception; to help, contact Anne Ellis at [aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)

**Next Sunday is the deadline** for Christmas flower contributions to memorialize or honor loved ones. Names of those being remembered must be received by December 11 in order to be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made using forms in the literature racks and at [www.bit.ly/FPCgifts](http://www.bit.ly/FPCgifts) or by calling Allie Williams at 312.981.3383.

**Join the Advent Photo-a-Day Challenge.** Details are at [www.fourthchurch.org/advent-photo](http://www.fourthchurch.org/advent-photo). Search social media for #adventfpc to see what others have posted!

**The “Christmas Wishes” gift project** collects gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students who might not otherwise receive them. Wish lists are available by calling Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369. Volunteers are needed to help collect and wrap gifts. To help, call Anne Ellis.

**The Jazz at Four Christmas celebration** will be Sunday, December 18 at 4:00 p.m.; music will begin at 3:50 p.m. The worship service that afternoon will feature selections from Singing Christmas, the latest CD by the Lucy Smith Quartet. A post-service gathering will be held in Borwell Dining Room. (*The 4:00 jazz service will not be held on December 25 or January 1 but will resume on January 8.*)

**The “Longest Night” service**, which will be held Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, recognizes the feelings of loneliness, grief, and alienation that are often present during the holiday season.

**The annual Christmas Dinner** will take place on Sunday, December 25 at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Reservations, which are required for this event, can be made online at [www.bit.ly/cdin1216](http://www.bit.ly/cdin1216). For more information, contact Anne Ellis at [aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org) (312.573.3369).

**As you tend to your Christmas shopping list,** let Fourth Church and Chicago Lights help you spread double the joy with your giving: “Light Up a Life” gifts—which are easy to place online at [www.bit.ly/FPCgifts](http://www.bit.ly/FPCgifts) and perfect for all on your list—provide a meaningful gift for recipients and make a lasting difference in the lives of those served by Chicago Lights and Fourth Church.



# News and Opportunities

## Enrichment

**Weekly Seeds**, a weekly women's Bible study, meets Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5H.

**Inquirers' Class** offers opportunity to learn more about Fourth Church as well as Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class, which is a prerequisite for membership, meets this Monday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 4F.

**Carl Grapentine** will discuss Advent music on Sunday, December 11 at 12:15 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

**Books by Women** will meet next Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room to discuss *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* by Muriel Sparks.

**Women at Fourth's Horizons Bible Study** will meet Wednesday, December 14 at 12:00 p.m. in Room 4J.

**The January Series of lectures** offered by Calvin College will be shown via live Internet video feed—cohosted by the Center for Life and Learning and the Academy for Faith and Life—on weekdays January 4–24 at 11:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room. For more information, visit [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january)

## Fellowship

**Young Adults** and the Chicago Lights Associate Board will gather for an Advent dinner and gingerbread-house-decorating contest this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Young Adults also gather on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

**Christian Century Study Groups** will meet this Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room. To RSVP, call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

## Music and the Arts

**Pianist Christopher O'Hara** will perform this Friday's free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**"A Chanticleer Christmas" concert** will be held this Tuesday, December 6 and Wednesday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available online at [www.cso.org](http://www.cso.org)

**"Holidays a cappella,"** with Chicago a cappella, will be held this Saturday, December 10 at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available at [www.chicagoacappella.org](http://www.chicagoacappella.org)

## Worship

**Advent devotions**, written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available in the church literature racks, by email (send email addresses to [devotions@fourthchurch.org](mailto:devotions@fourthchurch.org)), at [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch), and via Twitter (@FourthChicago).

**"Sacred Pause"** is offered each Tuesday at 7:45 a.m. in Stone Chapel. (Enter at 123 E. Delaware.) Hosted by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being and Tom Schemper, Vicky Curtiss, and Nanette Sawyer, this meditative time offers space for twenty minutes of silence.

**Opportunity to walk the labyrinth** in Buchanan Chapel is available this week on Monday and Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Morning Prayer** is held on Wednesdays in Buchanan Chapel at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to join staff for this weekly opportunity to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation, all those who are in need, and mission partners around the world.

## Mission and Outreach

**“Dancing in the Dark: Nurturing Healing and Resilience”** is the subject of a seminar sponsored by the Presbytery of Chicago this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Vicky Curtiss will preach.

**A vigil** remembering all those affected by gun violence will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at 5:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. There will also be opportunity to walk the labyrinth at that time.

**The Chicago Lights Gala of Hope**, cochaired by Elaine Scales and Martha Sabol, will be Friday, February 24 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. For details, contact Andrea Miller at 312.640.2576 (amiller@fourthchurch.org).

## Volunteers and Donations

### **Current Volunteer Needs**

**Servers** for the Fourth Church Christmas Dinner, 9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

**Sunday School teacher**

**Cooks and servers** for Monday Night Supper on January 2

**Shower Ministry Greeters** to check in and provide supplies to guests of the Meals Ministry program; Tuesdays, 1:15–4:00 p.m.

**Tutors** for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program; especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays

### **Current Donation Needs**

**Study winter clothes**

**Travel-size toiletry items**

*For details or to volunteer, email [volunteerministry@fourthchurch.org](mailto:volunteerministry@fourthchurch.org), call 312.981.3382, or go online to [www.fourthchurch.org/volunteer](http://www.fourthchurch.org/volunteer)*

## News and Resources

**Do you know someone who might benefit** from conversation with a Stephen Minister? Stephen Ministry provides one-to-one caring relationships to support those who are experiencing challenging times. Information is available in the literature racks, on the website, and by leaving a confidential message with the Stephen Ministry: 312.573.3365.

**“Like” Fourth Church on Facebook** to see photos of church life, keep up-to-date on Fourth Church news, and access resources.

**Taking Communion to homebound members** will be part of the Deacon ministry this Advent. If you know of Fourth Church members who would like to receive Communion, please call Carol Allerton at 312.640.5448.

**We are counting on gifts pledged** for 2016 to be fully fulfilled by year end to ensure the budgets of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights can be met. If you anticipate being unable to fulfill your pledge, please let Andrea Miller know (312.640.2576; amiller@fourthchurch.org) so we can plan accordingly. Thank you!

## Children, Youth, and Family

**Sunday School classes** are held on Sundays at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

**Adult leaders are needed** for the Cuba trip that senior high youth will be taking in the summer of 2017. Details are available online at [www.bit.ly/CubaLeader2017](http://www.bit.ly/CubaLeader2017) or by contacting Rocky Supinger at [rsupinger@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rsupinger@fourthchurch.org)

## 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 read aloud during 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 Judith 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** silence all electronic devices when in 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 left-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. They are also available at [www.fourthchurch.org/sermons/index.html](http://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](mailto: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, December 5 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Saturday, January 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For membership information, contact Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism, at 312.981.3399 ([hkim@fourthchurch.org](mailto:hkim@fourthchurch.org)) or go to [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.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](http://www.fourthchurch.org)), our page on Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)), and in our weekly email newsletter (send addresses to [news@fourthchurch.org](mailto:news@fourthchurch.org)).

**If you are interested in considering baptism or membership** at the 4:00 p.m. service at Fourth Church, please contact Hardy Kim ([hkim@fourthchurch.org](mailto:hkim@fourthchurch.org)) 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 22 or February 26.

**Sunday parking is available** at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8 between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up from the Chestnut Street reception desk.

### The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)  
312.787.4570; Fax: 312.787.4584; [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)