

*The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Festival of Advent Lessons and Music

Prelude

Noel French carol; arr. Kevin McChesney
“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us Johann Sebastian Bach
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning. . . . African American spiritual
arr. Benjamin A. Tucker

Introit

“Matin Responsory” Thomas Foster
I look from afar, and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering
the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say, “Tell us, art thou he that
should come?” Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy
people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Call to Worship

*Hymn 83 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
First Lesson: ISAIAH 40:1–11 Old Testament, page 627

Anthem

“Come, Messiah, Come” Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo
O Promised One, O Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Messiah, come.
Lord, reveal your mercy. Guide us, Lord, we pray.
May we see your light and walk your way. Alleluia.

Second Lesson: “THE SLIP” Wendell Berry

Anthem

“Veni, Veni, Emmanuel” Plainsong; arr. Richard Robert Rossi
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! O Israel, to thee shall come Emmanuel.
O come, thou Rod of Jesse’s stem, from every foe deliver them
that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory over the grave.
O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadow put to flight.
O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, that we no more have cause to sigh.

**Stand as you are able.*

Third Lesson: ISAIAH 11:1-9 Old Testament, page 602

Anthem

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” Michael Praetorius

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior, when half spent was the night. This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens every load.

*Hymn 378 “We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom”

Fourth Lesson: “ADVENT CALENDAR” Rowan Williams

Anthem

“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree” Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit, and always green: the trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree. His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know but ne'er can tell the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree. For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all, but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree. I'm weary with my former toil; here I will sit and rest awhile: under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive; it keeps my dying faith alive: which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Fifth Lesson: MICAH 5:2-4 Old Testament, page 815

*Carol 121 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Sixth Lesson: “MAKING THE HOUSE READY FOR THE LORD” . . Mary Oliver

Anthem

“Lift Up Your Heads” M. Praetorius; arr. Larry Shackley

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here, alleluia. Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy. Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to you we open wide; let us your inner presence feel; your grace and love in us reveal. All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won, whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit, evermore, alleluia.

Seventh Lesson: LUKE 1:26-38 New Testament, page 53

Anthem

“Corde Natus Ex Parentis” Plainsong; arr. R. R. Rossi

Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and the future years shall see.
This is he whom seers and sages sang of old with one accord,
whom the writings of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
now he shines the long expected; let creation praise its Lord.
O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world’s redeemer, first reveled his sacred face.
O ye heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts his praises sing.
Powers, dominions bow before him and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent; every voice in concert sing.
Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
consubstantial, coeternal, while unending ages run,
evermore and evermore. Amen.

*Hymn 99 “My Soul Gives Glory to My God”

Eighth Lesson: “INTO THE DARKEST HOUR” Madeleine L’Engle

Anthem

“Dance and Sing, for the Lord Will be with Us” Hebrew folk melody
arr. Hal H. Hopson

Dance and sing for the Lord will be with us, glory, hallelujah. Peace and
justice soon will be with us, glory, hallelujah. Clap your hands and sing,
glory, hallelujah. Joyful voices ring, glory, hallelujah. Soon a Son shall
come through Jesse; his delight shall be the Lord. He shall reign with
truth and justice; come, O Savior, come. Wolf and lamb shall rest together;
calf and lion shall join as friends. Peace shall come to all the nations;
come, O Savior, come.

Ninth Lesson: JOHN 1:1-18. New Testament, page 86

Anthem

“The Word Was God” Rosephanye Powell

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God;
and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.
By him all things were made that have been made.
Nothing was made he has not made.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“His Light in Us”. Kim André Arnesen
God's distant call flares in the night, so long expected, so longed for; and
all my life, Christ called my name, and now at last I'll answer him. Renewed,
his hope, his light in us, incarnate, fragile, our Lord appears, alleluia! Eternal,
so perfect, his cry of changeless love. Alive, awake, his call is here; it is the
crying of the child. I know Christ's call, its hidden flame; it makes my spirit
flare with hope. This root, this stem, this flowering love, this mustard seed,
it grows to the greatest tree; the birds of souls have nested there. The light
of the night now blazes at dawn. You've led me here, O little child, your
being singing with God's life. The kingdom sings, it choirs with earth;
all creation lives Christ's peace.

Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ
your steadfast love and faithfulness have met
and your righteousness and peace have kissed.
May the gifts we offer this night lift up those in need
and prepare the way of your salvation. Amen.

*Carol 123 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Improvisation on *Veni Emmanuel*



Advent Worship

In addition to our regular Sunday morning worship opportunities, we hope you will join us for our special services during this season of anticipation!

Advent Jazz Worship

Sundays, December 16 and 23
4:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel

“Longest Night” Service

Tuesday, December 18
6:30–7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel
For those experiencing pain, loss, grief, or loneliness this season

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 23
A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten
During 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship

Learn more about Fourth Church
Advent opportunities at
www.fourthchurch.org/advent-christmas

We also invite you to receive daily Advent devotions, which are available by signing up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions

Worship Leaders

Readers (in order of reading) Cornell Wilson, Susan Quaintance, Sara Thomas, Ed Miller, Harrison Stracks, Serena Thomas, Colleen Joy Mraz

Liturgists Jeff Doane, Shawn Fiedler, Lucy Forster-Smith

Music Children's Choir; Youth Choir
Chancel Choir; Morning Choir; Handbell Choir
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist
Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth
Hsing-Huei Huang, Children and Youth Choir Accompanist
Briana Belding-Peck, Director of the Handbell Choir

THE "LIGHT UP A LIFE" OFFERING is being received throughout Advent. "Light Up a Life" provides opportunity to support congregational programs, mission, and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs. "Light Up a Life" gifts can be made using the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks; by writing "Light Up a Life" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church; or online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt Pastoral Care

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

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Shawn Fiedler Ministerial Associate for Worship

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

This worship bulletin is printed on recyclable paper that contains recycled post-consumer waste and is acid free. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.

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