



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**We Approach God**

**Gathering Music**

**Greeting**

**\*Call to Worship**

\* Please rise in body or spirit

*Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth 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.*

**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.

**We Tell the Truth about Ourselves**

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**Holy One, even as we await your new creation, you promise us your faithful presence.  
But we hold fast to imperfect persons and cling to fleeting resources.  
You assure us of your peace. But we seek lives of endless striving. You send us your signs.  
But we rebuff them when they are inconvenient or come in distressing disguises.  
You offer us abundance. But we use it to protect ourselves  
rather than serve the vulnerable and love our neighbor.  
Forgive our confused priorities, distrust, and greed.  
Help us hear the angels’ message to quiet our doubt, to accept that we are beloved,  
and to trust that your redemption is near. Keep loving us into your future.**

## Silent Confession and Response

### God Forgives and Blesses Us

Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

The image shows a single line of musical notation on a five-line staff. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. There are two slurs over the melody, one under the first two phrases and another under the final phrase. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes.

### \*Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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

### Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

#### Welcome

**Canticle** . . . . . Revelation 21:1–4, 22–26 (*the congregation sings the antiphon*)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a lover adorned for their beloved. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.  
The holy One will dwell with them; they will be God’s peoples,  
and God’s very self will be with them;  
our Great Redeemer will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.”

**ANTIPHON** (*unison*) **While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.**  
**Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.

**ANTIPHON** (*unison*) **While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.**  
**Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 2:8–20

**Sermon** . . . . . *Joseph L. Morrow*

## **We Offer Ourselves**

### **Musical Reflection**

#### **\*Sharing of Gifts**

*In gratitude for the love and grace extended to us by God, we share our resources to support ministries of justice, mercy, and beauty. Please place your gifts and pledges in the plate as it passes.*

### **Offertory Music**

**\*Doxology** ..... "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

## **We Feast Together**

### **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**Sanctus** ..... “Angels We Have Heard on High” (*Refrain*)

## 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

*We celebrate an open table. All, including children, are invited to the Lord’s Table to receive Communion. You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.*

## **We Go Out with Gratitude**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

**We give you thanks, God of the broken bread.  
Let your selfless love be the love that dwells between us.  
We praise you, God of the shared cup.  
Let your covenant of peace be the peace that binds us.  
We give you thanks, God of the cleansing font and the open table.  
Let the generosity of your graces be the joy that fills us.  
As we leave this place, renew us with Christmas hope,  
so that we may share your goodness near and far. Amen.**

**\*Sending Song** ..... "Soon and Very Soon"

**\*Benediction**  
**Sending Music**

## Worship Leaders

<b>Joseph L. Morrow</b>	Minister for Evangelism
<b>Nanette Sawyer</b>	Associate Pastor
<b>Hope Daniels</b>	Lighting the Advent Wreath
<b>Allison Orobia</b>	Vocals
<b>Bryan Doherty</b>	Bass
<b>Marcus Evans</b>	Drums
<b>Amr Fahmy</b>	Piano

### Baptized during worship today

Ari Isabella Andrews, child of Gion Pfützner and Elizabeth Andrews; Judith Watt, Celebrant

### 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 Prayer of Thanksgiving is adapted from [www.faithandworship.com](http://www.faithandworship.com).

*Words and Music*—Canticle antiphon “While We Are Waiting Come” words and music copyright © 1986 Word Music, LLC. “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” words and music harmony copyright © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. “Soon and Very Soon” words and music copyright © 1976 Crouch Music and Bud John Songs (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com). All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.

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## PASTORAL STAFF

**Shannon J. Kershner**, Pastor  
**Lucy Forster-Smith**, Senior Associate Pastor  
**Victoria G. Curtiss**, Associate Pastor for Mission  
**Matt Helms**, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry  
**Nanette Sawyer**, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry  
**Rocky Supinger**, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry  
**Judith L. Watt**, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care  
**Joseph L. Morrow**, Minister for Evangelism  
**Jeffrey Doane**, Parish Associate for Older Adults  
**Abbi Heimach-Snipes**, Pastoral Resident  
**Shawn Fiedler**, Ministerial Associate for Worship  
**John Buchanan**, Pastor Emeritus

# News and Opportunities

## Advent and Christmas

**Daily Advent/Christmas devotions** are available via email (subscribe online at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)); in the literature racks; and on [facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch), Twitter (@FourthChicago), and [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)

**We will gather for four candlelight Christmas Eve services** this Monday, December 24:

- 4:00 p.m. Children's Pageant
- 6:00 p.m. Family Service
- 8:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols
- 10:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

For those worshipping at 6:00, 8:00, or 10:00, all entry to the Sanctuary will be from Michigan Avenue entrances. Worshipers arriving before the Sanctuary has been emptied following the previous service will be invited to join the queue in the Loggia (accessible through the glass doors on Michigan Avenue). After that queue has entered the emptied Sanctuary, access will be allowed via the Michigan Avenue Sanctuary doors.

**Discounted parking on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day** is available only at the 900 N. Michigan garage.

Those who enter the garage on Christmas Eve *prior* to 3:00 p.m. will need to purchase a parking validation ticket at the church for \$17. Those who enter *after* 3:00 p.m. will be able to park for \$8 with a different validation ticket that can be picked up for free that day at the church. Those parking on Christmas Day will need to purchase a validation ticket at the church for \$17 discounted parking.

**Nursery care on Christmas Eve** will be available from 3:00 to 7:15 p.m. It will not be available during the last two services of the evening or on Christmas Day.

**We will be live streaming the 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service** for those who are unable to be with us or who want to share the service with those who are out of town. The live stream at [www.bit.ly/FPCworship](http://www.bit.ly/FPCworship) will also be available after Christmas Eve.

**We will worship on Christmas Day** at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 25.

**A traditional Christmas dinner** will be held on Christmas Day at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall as a time to share Christmas with friends new and old. Dinner reservations (*required*) can be made at the reception desk today.

**A New Year's Eve Taizé service** will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel on Monday, December 31. This candlelit service offers space for prayer as well as meditative pause for reflecting on the year past and looking ahead to the year to come. A labyrinth will be available to walk beforehand, between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m.

**Expectations for the holidays can be different from the realities**, and feelings of grief over losses can be heightened. Fourth Church's Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being offers a supportive environment for reflecting on and coping with such experiences. For information, call the Center at 312.787.8425.

## Volunteers Needed

**Volunteers to unload food trucks** on second and fourth Monday mornings

**Sunday Night Supper greeters and servers** on Sundays from 3:45 to 6:15 p.m.

To sign up or to learn about other volunteer opportunities or donation needs, stop by Coffee Hour today or contact Robert Crouch (312.981.3382).

## News and Resources

**In order to conclude 2018 with a balanced budget**, we are counting on gifts pledged for 2018 to be fully fulfilled by year end and welcome additional generosity where it is possible! If you anticipate being unable to fulfill your pledge, please let Andrea Miller know at [amiller@fourthchurch.org](mailto:amiller@fourthchurch.org) so we might plan accordingly. *(For information about making gifts through stock transfers or required distributions from one's IRA or prepaying one's 2019 pledge, contact Katy Frey Bever at [kbever@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kbever@fourthchurch.org))*

**A weekday daytime training course for Stephen Ministers** will begin in the spring. Information about this fifty-hour class is posted online at [www.bit.ly/fpcstephen](http://www.bit.ly/fpcstephen)

## Enrichment

**"Fifteen Days of Free Liberal Arts Education"** describes the January Series of one-hour lectures offered by Calvin College and shown via live Internet video feed at Fourth Church on weekdays January 3–23 (*except Monday, January 21*) at 11:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room. Nicholas Kristof, Jenna Bush Hager, and Craig Detweiler are among the lecturers. For a full list of speakers, see [www.calvin.edu/january-series](http://www.calvin.edu/january-series)

**Books by Women** will discuss *A Walk Lillian Boxfish Takes* by Kathleen Rooney on Tuesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

**The Presbyterian Historical Society** will present a program on Sunday, January 13 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 4G.

**A "Connecting to the Heart" workshop** will be offered by the Replogle Center on Saturday, February 9 at 10:00 a.m. Learn more and register at [www.bit.ly/2Cdff9D](http://www.bit.ly/2Cdff9D)

**An Enneagram workshop** will be offered by the Replogle Center on Saturday, February 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Learn more and register at [www.bit.ly/2S18OWh](http://www.bit.ly/2S18OWh)

## Children, Youth, and Family

**There will be no Sunday School** on December 30; parents are encouraged to have their children worship with them next Sunday. Nursery care will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. for those three and younger.

**Our Day School** will hold an open house on Saturday, January 12 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. as a time for parents and children to learn about our weekday preschool program.

**Today is the last day to sign up for the youth ski retreat**, which will be the weekend of January 18–20; register at [www.bit.ly/fpcski2019](http://www.bit.ly/fpcski2019)

**Details about summer 2019 youth trips** to New Jersey, Detroit, and the Presbyterian Youth Triennium are posted at [www.bit.ly/summertrips19](http://www.bit.ly/summertrips19); register by January 15.

## Mission

**January 15 is the application deadline for mission trips to Cuba** (May 6–15) and to **Guatemala** (August 4–11). Learn more or apply at [www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips](http://www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips)

**A trip to Alabama and Mississippi** that focuses on the civil rights movement is being planned by the Racial Equity Council for October 26–November 2, 2019. See [www.bit.ly/crtrip2019](http://www.bit.ly/crtrip2019) for details and an application.

**The Gala of Hope**—benefiting Chicago Lights, the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church, and the Replogle Center—will be held Friday, March 1 at the Radisson Blu Aqua. Tickets will be available in January.

**Take part in our chili cook-off** on Sunday, January 13! Enter your chili into the contest by signing up online (at [www.bit.ly/chili2019](http://www.bit.ly/chili2019)). Or come enjoy chili for lunch that day. Proceeds support our youth mission trips.

## Calendar for December 23–30, 2018

### Sunday, December 23 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

- 4:00 p.m. **Jazz at Four • Joseph L. Morrow preaching** . . . . . Buchanan Chapel
- 5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper . . . . . Anderson Hall

### Monday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

- 3:00 to 7:15 p.m. Nursery . . . . . Nursery / Day School
- 4:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Monday Night Supper . . . . . Catholic Charities
- 4:00 p.m. **Christmas Pageant • Matt Helms preaching** . . . . . Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. **Family Service • Shannon J. Kershner preaching** . . . . . Sanctuary
- 8:00 p.m. **Lessons and Carols • Shannon J. Kershner preaching** . . . . . Sanctuary
- 10:00 p.m. **Lessons and Carols • Shannon J. Kershner preaching** . . . . . Sanctuary

### Tuesday, December 25 *Christmas Day*

- 11:00 a.m. **Worship • Lucy Forster-Smith preaching** . . . . . Sanctuary
- 12:15 p.m. Christmas Dinner. . . . . Anderson Hall

### Wednesday, December 26 *Church Office Closed*

### Thursday, December 27

- 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunches . . . . . Anderson Hall

### Friday, December 28

- 12:10 p.m. Noonday Concert: Beena David, mezzo-soprano. . . . . Buchanan Chapel

### Saturday, December 29 *Church Office Closed*

### Sunday, December 30 *First Sunday after Christmas*

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship • Lucy Forster-Smith preaching** . . . . . Sanctuary
- 9:00, 10:30 a.m.; 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour . . . . . Anderson Hall / Commons
- 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Nursery . . . . . Nursery / Day School
- 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. **Worship • Christmas Lessons and Carols** . . . . . Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Time of Prayer with Deacons . . . . . Stone Chapel
- 12:00 p.m. Sanctuary Tour . . . . . Sanctuary
- 12:15 p.m. Organ Tour . . . . . Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. **Jazz at Four • Christmas Lessons and Carols** . . . . . Buchanan Chapel
- 5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper . . . . . Anderson Hall

## During Today's Worship

**All are encouraged to visit a prayer station** to offer joys and concerns by writing them on a prayer card. The cards will be collected at the end of worship, read by the pastoral staff during the week, and then displayed in an ongoing art project.

**We celebrate an open table at Communion. All, including children, are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion.** You are invited to come forward, receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available—just ask), dip the bread into the nonalcoholic grape juice, and return to your seat by stopping at one of our prayer stations to offer your prayers of gratitude or sorrow.

**Worship can be heard** through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids.

**Please** silence all electronic devices when in the Chapel.

**Printed copies of sermons** recently preached at Fourth Church are available in the literature racks. They are also available at [www.fourthchurch.org/sermons](http://www.fourthchurch.org/sermons) and by email: subscribe at [www.bit.ly/fpcsermons](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons)

## If You Are New to Fourth Church

**Inquirers' Class** explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Sunday, January 13 or February 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Page Smith Room (register online for the class at [www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers](http://www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers)). We invite you to worship with us at 8:00 a.m. or 4:00 p.m. the day you attend the class. For details or membership information, contact Joe Morrow ([member@fourthchurch.org](mailto:member@fourthchurch.org); 312.981.3399) or go to [www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers](http://www.bit.ly/fpcinquirers)

**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 (subscribe online at [www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)).

**If you are interested in considering baptism or becoming a member** of Fourth Church during the 4:00 p.m. service, please contact Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@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 December 23.

**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)).

**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)