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Christmas Day 2005

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God really does slip into this world when nobody much is looking. On one night of all nights God did it, coming down the stairs of heaven carrying a child.

Whenever freedom is born, back of it now is a manger at Bethlehem. And Calvary, with its shadow, which is our light! So does the religion that begins in rescue end in a requirement set in the context of God's grace. God became human in order that we, in our effort to be God, may not become monsters.

Paul Scherer  
*Love Is a Spendthrift*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, program, and service life of Fourth Church.*

### During Today's Worship

Large-print bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals and individual listening devices for improved sound are available in the back of the sanctuary.

If your infant or small child needs care during the worship service, you may leave the sanctuary and return as you wish. The worship service audio can be heard in Stone Chapel, where you and your child are also welcome. Child care for infants and toddlers is provided in Westminster 14, through the south transept doors and to the right. See an usher for directions.

Worship bags, containing quiet activities and a bulletin designed for children, are available outside the south transept doors, between the sanctuary and Anderson Hall. Children who are attending worship in the sanctuary are invited to borrow one of these bags.

During the Concerns of the Church, please pass the pew information pads, so that all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service.

Please turn off all cell phones when in the sanctuary.

### If You Are New to Fourth Church

Please wear a lapel pin, found in the pew racks, so we might greet you after worship.

Parking is available Sundays at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$7.00 until 2:00 p.m. and at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.75 to 4:00 p.m. and \$6.00 after 5:00 p.m. Validation tickets must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, January 9 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 14, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, January 22, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at the church at 312.981.4025 (cmacleod@fourthchurch.org).

### Fourth Church Cares

For pastoral care; to notify the church of illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request to be remembered in Morning Prayer; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Elizabeth Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care, at 312.274.3818 (eandrews@fourthchurch.org).

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago  
John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org  
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584



DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

UNISON PRAYER      Holy God, remind us of the promises given in our own baptism and renew our trust in you. Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM                      “A Child Is Born in Bethlehem”                      *Samuel Scheidt*  
A child is born in Bethlehem, alleluia, and joy is in Jerusalem, alleluia. Rejoice, sing high, sing low, alleluia, *benedicamus Domino, alleluia*. To thee, O Lord, be glory paid, alleluia, thou son of Mary mother maid, alleluia. To Holy Trinity give praise, alleluia, with *Deo gracias*, always, alleluia.

PSALTER                      Psalm 148 (*responsively*)                      (page 582, O.T.)

\*GLORIA PATRI                      (The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Luke 2:8–20                      (page 58, N.T.)  
Minister: The Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON                      by John H. Boyle  
IS IT OVER?  
“The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God”      Mark 1:1 (NRSV)

\*HYMN 51                      “See Amid the Winter’s Snow”                      *Tune: HUMILITY*

\*APOSTLES’ CREED      (*unison*)  
I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
 the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
 the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
 Amen.

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE "Amen"

*John Stainer*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Ding-Dong Merrily on High"

*French carol  
 arr. Charles Wood*

\*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE

For the life that you have giv- en, for the love in Christ made known,  
 with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:  
 here we of - fer, Lord, our prai-ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.  
 Give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

Words: Carl P. Daw Jr. ©1987; Music: Morgan Simmons ©1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co.  
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\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

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.

All: God of mystery and mercy, you came to us  
in the ordinary of life, as ordinary as a manger  
and as ordinary as flesh and blood. In the ordinary  
we behold your glory, experience your love,  
and are grateful for your grace.  
May our lives be gifts of praise to you,  
and may we give even as we have received,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*HYMN 38

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

*Tune: CAROL*

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Noël

*Malcolm Archer*

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*Gifts supporting Christmastime sanctuary adornments have been made  
in memory and in honor of family, friends, and loved ones.*

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In Memory of

Mary Shawn  
Addington  
William T.  
Armstrong III  
Genevieve Baird  
Sandberg and Richard  
Baird  
Marian Pierpoint Baker  
Jill Bates  
Richard Beilfuss  
Rudolph E. Beranek  
Mary E. Bolton  
Mr. and Mrs. James  
Clinton Bowman  
Emily Roberts Brown  
James and Ella Burbatt  
James W. Burbatt  
Bob Cagle  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Lloyd  
Carnahan  
Chester and Lillie  
Stean Carter  
Eugene and Evelyn  
Cason  
Georgia Chakos  
Katherine Chakos  
John Chandon  
Dr. and Mrs. Harold E.  
Clark  
William T. Clark  
Meeks and Emogene  
Cockerill  
William and Lenora  
Coke  
Mary Alice Conlon  
Michael and Sally  
Conlon  
Anna Dabaghian  
Kazar and Lucy  
Dabaghian  
Ruth Dashney  
Elam Davies  
Christopher David  
Davis  
Lynn and Stan Day  
Ardath Rayburn  
Dotson  
W. Angus Douglass  
Grace A. Dreesbach  
Helen and Allen  
Dryhurst  
Sue Friedley Duffy  
Charles M. Dykema  
W. Edward Ellis  
David Erickson  
William Fedoryk  
Ronald E. Felty  
Robert D. Ferguson  
Maya Drew Feurer  
Michael A. Finnegan  
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene

Karl Fulmer  
Robert Gates  
Sydney and Ruth  
Gerrans  
Cecile Maxwell Griffith  
Paul and Dorothy  
Grueninger  
Gertrude and George  
Habicht  
Jean Hands  
Anne S. Haralson  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert H.  
Haralson Jr.  
Phil and Jackie  
Haselden  
Edna W. Heird  
Robert W. Heird  
Mary Patric Herbst  
Bambi Holloway  
David Hooker  
The Hughes Family  
Sam, Marcia, and Betty  
Hunt  
Harry and Gladys  
Hutchison  
Peyton S. Hutchison Jr.  
Lee Jennings  
Wallace and Dorothy  
Judkins  
Aurora C. Keller  
Donald H. Keller  
Donnie Keller  
Dorothy L. Kerch  
Newton Khoobyarian  
Jay and Virginia King  
John and Helen Kriebel  
Edward A. Kuhn  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen  
Kurtyak  
Marcella Shirley Lacy  
Robert M. Lacy  
Clifford Brandon  
Latherow  
Benell Lewis  
Roberta and Ulyes  
Lewis  
Molly Christine Littell  
John and Evelyn  
Livingston  
Rudolph and Mary  
Lopatka  
The Mackie Family  
Frederick Michael  
Malooof  
John B. McCabe  
Warren and Delia  
McClurg  
Mildred and Harold  
McElwain  
Donald C. McFerren  
Marcus J. and Betty  
Cole Miller  
Orrin and Ruby Millie

Eva Jane Milligan  
J. Orville Moe  
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick  
E. Moffat  
Mary C. Moore  
Patricia H. Morgan  
Marion Mundy  
Lou Nemeth  
Idaruth Norem  
Marie Norem  
Marion B. Norton  
Charlotte Nuss  
George Oakley Sr.  
Mary Lou  
O'4444444444444444  
Brien  
Our Grandparents  
Mrs. Hae Jung Park  
Lucy Parlier  
Lillian and Clarence  
Patrick  
Rev. and Mrs. William  
C. S. Pellowe  
Robert R. Pentel  
Anastazija Petrauskas  
Jonas Petrauskas  
Anna Pfeifer  
Gene Pipin  
Byron O. Pond III  
Abigail Fisher Pouncey  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles  
E. Powell  
Marion E. Radtke  
Fannie Remmer  
Herman and Celia  
Retzler  
Rodney Revis  
Alice H. Reynolds  
Joy E. Rice  
William B. Riggs  
William G. Rodi  
Ronald "Buck" Rogers  
George Rosko  
Elizabeth Rossley  
Richard P. Rudnicki  
Judith Parks Sanderson  
Bob and Betty Schiewe  
Charles and Katherine  
Schmidt  
Walter and Lois  
Schuessler  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur  
M. Seal  
Mercedes F. Smith  
Frances Regina Smolek  
Mr. and Mrs. Lowell D.  
Snorf Jr.  
Joseph M. Spang  
Mae E. Spang  
Richard and Barbara  
Edwards Sterkel  
Mrs. Hazel Storer  
Frank and Myrtle

Stratton  
Shirley Stribling  
Sidney E. Stribling  
Carolynn Suplee  
Ernest and Ella  
Sweeney  
Beth and Harold Taft  
Jen, Alex, and Gordon  
Telford  
Avys Terrill  
Mr. and Mrs. William  
D. Thomas  
James W. Thornton  
Florence Hayden  
Towne  
Thomas, Mildred, and  
Diane Tramba  
Georgia Trinka  
Donald E. Trost  
Juanita Truhett  
Alan W. Tuckey  
Robert Vitt  
Erich Weissenberger  
Mary Jane  
Weissenberger  
Susanne Willson  
Tommy Winton  
Frances M. Youngwirth  
Eugene Zeltmann  
Harold V. Zimmerman  
Irene Zimmerman

In Honor of

The Benevolent Guild  
Margaret W. Armstrong  
Oscar and Helen Ban  
Grace Davies  
H. James Douglass  
Grandchildren Devon,  
Helen, and Luke  
Elinor Hite  
Henry L. Homan  
Richard W. Kerch  
Linda King  
Clifford Dannen  
Latherow  
George and Lucille  
Maier  
The McKinley Family  
Rowena C. Montgomery  
The Peverly and  
Rutgers Families  
Les and Corky  
Reaksecker  
Janice Rolls  
Bill and Sue Smilie  
Barbara D. Thomsen  
Ariana C. Tuckey  
Betty Vitt  
The Weigle Family  
William Welch

## Worship Leaders

John M. Buchanan, Elizabeth Andrews, John H. Boyle

## The Music Today

The Morning Choir

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

## Worship Notes

The children being baptized this morning are Alexander Stewart Istock, son of David Istock and Susan Stewart Istock, and James Steven Istock, son of Steven Istock and Birgitta Koch Istock.

Offering envelopes for "Light Up a Life" can be found in the pew racks. This year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs; mission and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs; and denominational programs. "Light Up a Life" gifts can be made using these envelopes or by writing "Light Up a Life" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Details about this giving opportunity are also available in the literature racks and at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

The stained glass window shown on the bulletin cover depicts angels praising God with harp and strings, as Psalm 150 calls us to do. The window, located in the reception area west of Anderson Hall, was designed by Charles J. Connick.

## Pastoral Staff

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor

Elizabeth Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

Patrick Daymond, Pastoral Resident

Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Keith C. Harris, Associate Pastor for Community Ministry

Catherine Knott, Pastoral Resident

Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor for New Members and Young Adult Ministry

Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Erica Schemper, Pastoral Resident

Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

Richard Williams, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus