

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, to heal the broken,
To feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman
The Mood of Christmas and Other Celebrations

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. 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. 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.

A church tour begins at 12:15 p.m., starting at the back of the sanctuary.

We invite you to stop by Coffee Hour after worship for fellowship, conversation, and information about church programs and volunteer opportunities.

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 8 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, January 28 from 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 Ali Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 312.573.3360 (atrowbridge@fourthchurch.org).

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

MORNING WORSHIP

9:30 and 11:00

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

PRELUDE

Joy to the World	<i>Wilber Held</i>
What Is This Lovely Fragrance	<i>Paul Manz</i>
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	<i>P. Manz</i>
What Child Is This	<i>P. Manz</i>
Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella	<i>Christopher Uehlein</i>
Of the Father's Love Begotten	<i>David Lasky</i>
Good King Wenceslas	<i>Virgil Fox</i>
Away in a Manger	<i>Douglas Wagner</i>

INTROIT

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”
Johann Sebastian Bach
Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning.
You shepherds shudder, not with fright, but hear the angel's
warning; this child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy
shall be; the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

*DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION

(The Hymnal, 592)

*HYMN 23

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Tune: GLORIA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison)

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ
you came among us as light shining in darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light
or trusted good news to be good.
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst,
expecting little and hoping for less.
Forgive our doubt, renew our hope, and guide our way,
so that we may receive the fullness of your grace
and be your serving people, in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER

Psalm 148 *(responsively)*

(page 550, O.T.)

**Stand as you are able.*

ANTHEM

“Under the Stars”

George F. Reynolds

Under the stars one holy night, a little babe was born. Over his head a star shone bright and glistened 'til the morn. And wise men came from far away, and shepherds wandered where he lay upon the lowly bed of hay, under the stars one night. Under the stars one blessed night, the Christ child came to earth. And through the darkness broke the light of morning at his birth. And sweet hosannas filled the air, and guardian angels watched him where the virgin mother knelt in prayer, under the stars one night. Under the stars this happy night, we wait for him once more and seem to see the wondrous sight the shepherds saw of yore. O baby born in Bethlehem, come to us as you came to them, and crown us with love's diadem, under the stars one night.

FIRST LESSON

Luke 2:41–52

(page 55, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON

Colossians 3:12–17

(page 190, N.T.)

SERMON

by Alice M. Trowbridge

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS BEGINS

“And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Colossians 3:17 (NRSV)

***HYMN 29**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Tune: GO TELL IT

***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*

Ding-dong merrily on high, in heaven the bells are ringing.
Ding-dong verily the sky is riven with angel singing,
“Gloria, hosanna in excelsis.” E'en so here below, let steeple
bells be swungen and “io, io, io” by priest and people be sungen.
Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime ye ringers.
May you beautifully rhyme your evetime song ye singers.

***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. Used by permission.

***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 might,
we thank you for the hope of the prophets,
the song of the angels, and the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.
In his face we behold your glory, for in his life
as in his death is your gift of salvation.
By your Spirit, make our hearts alive with gratitude,
that we may give as we have received.
Let our whole lives be gifts of praise to you,
God of love and peace, in the gracious name of
Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen.**

***HYMN 56**

“The First Nowell”

Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Let All Together Praise Our God

Paul Manz

IN THE DETAILS



A close-up look at the seven-foot-tall carved wooden angels atop the aisle piers reveals their distinctive expressions, patterns, and instruments. Shown above are the pair of angels third from the rear of the church. The south angel (*left*) plays a drum, while the north angel (*right*) plays a pair of cymbals.

One in a series on the architectural details of Fourth Church

Worship Leaders

9:30 a.m. Dana Ferguson, John W. Vest, Alice M. Trowbridge
11:00 a.m. Dana Ferguson, John W. Vest, Alice M. Trowbridge

The Music Today

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

Worship Notes

John Buchanan is at the First United Church of Oak Park this morning baptizing his grandson, Alex Juliano Buchanan Brown, son of Steve Brown and Susan Buchanan.

Christmas 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.

The stained glass depiction of the birth of Christ, shown on the bulletin cover, can be seen in Blair Chapel. It is part of the memorial “children’s windows” that were donated in the 1930s, when the former Blair Chapel space was used, as the current chapel is now, for weekly Sunday worship services.

Pastoral Staff

John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor
Elizabeth B. Andrews, Parish Associate
John H. Boyle, Parish Associate
Patrick Daymond, Pastoral Resident
Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families
Keith C. Harris, Associate Pastor for Community Ministry
Hardy Kim, Pastoral Resident
Catherine Knott, Pastoral Resident
Martha Langford, Pastoral Resident
Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor for New Members and Young Adult Ministry
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
Joyce Shin, Minister for Congregational Activities
Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus