March 16, 2008 Palm Sunday

Despite our earnest efforts, we couldn't climb all the way up to God. So what does God do? In an amazing act of condescension, on Good Friday, God climbs down to us, becomes one with us. The story of divine condescension begins on Christmas and ends on Good Friday. We thought, if there is to be business between us and God, we must somehow get up to God. Then God came down to the level of the cross, all the way down to the depths of hell. God still stoops, in your life and mine. Condescends.

William H. Willimon Thank God It's Friday

## 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.

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

A church tour begins at 12:45 p.m., starting at the back of the sanctuary.

- 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 Sunday, March 30 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Monday, April 7 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. 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).

## MORNING WORSHIP

8:00, 9:30, and 11:30

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

**PRELUDE** All Glory, Laud, and Honor Alexandre Guilmant (8:00) Lift Up Your Heads George Frideric Handel/A. Guilmant

PRELUDEAll Glory, Laud, and HonorAlexandre Guilmant(9:30 and 11:30)Voluntary on Psalm 37Thomas Stöltzer<br/>arr. Doug Ordunio

Lift Up Your Heads George Frideric Handel/A. Guilmant Solemn Entry Richard Strauss

arr. Erich Peterson

Introit "Benedictus Qui Venit" Leo Sowerby

(8:00) Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

INTROIT "Hosanna to the Son" Jody W. Lindh

(9:30 and 11:30) Hosanna to the Son of David; blest is the one who comes

in the name of the Lord! Glory be to God on high! The people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem; riding on a donkey's colt he came, palm branches spread before him. The disciples didn't understand what was happening at first, but when Jesus, the King, was glorified, then they remembered: it had all been written.

\*Doxology (The Hymnal, 592)

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

Minister: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
People: **Shout aloud, O daughter of Jeruselem!** 

Minister: Lo, your king comes to you;
People: **triumphant and victorious is he,**Minister: humble and riding on a donkey,
People: **on a colt, the foal of a donkey.** 

\*Hymn 88 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Tune: Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

Anthem "He Comes!" Michael Bedford

(9:30 and 11:30) He comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna, blessed is he who comes!

\*Stand as you are able.

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#### PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

(unison)

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory, and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Merciful God, as we enter this Holy Week, we confess all the ways we have failed to be faithful and strong. We confess all the ways we have failed to love you and our neighbors. We confess all the times we have been silent when we should have spoken, passive when we should have acted. Forgive us and renew our faith. Heal us and make us whole, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

## DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news. People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

#### CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 24 (responsively) (page 475. O.T.)

Anthem "Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates" William Mathias

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts; he is the King of glory.

First Lesson Matthew 21:1–11 (page 21, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.** 

\*GLORIA PARTI (The Hymnal, 579)

Second Lesson Matthew 27:32–37 (page 31, N.T.)

**SERMON** by John M. Buchanan

**CRUCIFIED** 

\*Hymn 101 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Tune: Hamburg

\*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" Philip James

**O**FFERING

Offertory Solo "Ich folge dir gleichfalls"

(8:00) from The Passion According to John J. S. Bach

I follow you with joyful steps and leave you not, my life, my light. Hasten to me and never cease to draw me to yourself, to lead me, to call me.

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

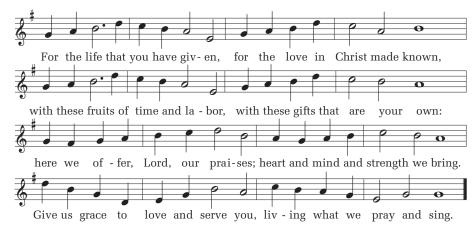
"Hosanna to the Son of David"

Malcolm Archer

(9:30 and 11:30)

Hosanna to the Son of David. Hosanna to the King of Israel. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

## \*Presentation of the Offering and Response



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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 us all, you gave your Son to take the form of

a servant and to suffer death on the cross. How can we thank you for this amazing gift? Strengthen us to follow him, to take up our cross, to love the world, and to serve you in word and deed. Receive these gifts and use them for the work of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*Hymn 89

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

Tune: Ellacombe

#### BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Intermezzo in C Major

Hermann Schroeder

(8:00)

**POSTLUDE** (9:30 and 11:30)

Canzon septimi toni No. 1 from Sacrae Symphoniae

Giovanni Gabreli arr. Robert King

# Join the Journey to Easter

## **Holy Week Noonday Services**

Monday–Friday, March 17–21 at 12:10 p.m. Lunch will be served immediately following the service each day. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

#### Midweek Lenten Service

Wednesday, March 19 | 6:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel

## Maundy Thursday, March 20

12:10 p.m. Communion Service 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Communion Service

## Good Friday, March 21

12:10 p.m. Good Friday Service 4:00 p.m. Children's Service in Blair Chapel 5:15 p.m. Silent Retreat (through Saturday) 7:30 p.m. Choral Service

## Saturday, March 22

Easter Vigil 10:30 p.m. to midnight in the sanctuary

## Easter Sunday, March 23

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Oak Street Beach Joyce Shin preaching

8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. Easter Service John M. Buchanan preaching Easter Brunch will follow the 11:30 a.m. service. Tickets are available in Coffee Hour and at the reception desk.

9:30 a.m. Children's Service in Westminster House

6:30 p.m. Jazz Vespers Service Jonh H. Boyle preaching

Please note that the last morning service on Easter begins at 11:30 a.m.

Also please keep in mind that sanctuary seating for all services on Easter morning fills quickly and early and be prepared for possible delays in entering and exiting parking garages as a result of increased traffic volume.

## **Worship Leaders**

8:00 a.m. Joyce Shin, Adam Fronczek, John M. Buchanan
9:30 a.m. Alice M. Trowbridge, John W. Vest, John M. Buchanan
11:30 a.m. Joyce Shin, Adam Fronczek, John M. Buchanan

#### The Music Today

8:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir; Alexia Kruger, soprano soloist9:30 a.m. The Cherub Choir; The Children's Choir; The Morning Choir;

Tower Brass

11:30 a.m. The Cherub Choir; The Children's Choir; The Morning Choir;

**Tower Brass** 

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

Thomas Gouwens, Associate Organist

Beverly Escuder, Children and Youth Music Director Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

#### **Worship Notes**

**Tower Brass**, Fourth Church's brass octet, assists in worship leadership this morning. Tower Brass participates in the second and third worship services each third Sunday of the month during the academic year.

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is being received throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support the work of the programs of Chicago Lights—specifically the Scholarship Program and the Elam Davies Social Service Center—as well as the Presbyterian Self-Development of People Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Interfaith Homes Initiative. Gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering can be made by using the envelopes in the pew racks or writing "Lenten Offering" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Fourth Church offers a variety of worship opportunities in addition to Sunday morning services. A Vespers Communion service is held each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. Each weekday morning, Morning Prayer is held in Stone Chapel as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need (9:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday). The monthly Taizé service is held in Anderson Hall on the fourth Friday of each month and offers an opportunity to gather for a time of prayer, meditative singing, and silent reflection.

**On the cover:** The season of Lent points us toward the cross of Christ. This Latin cross, one of many integrated into the architecture of Fourth Church, is carved in the center of the minister's chair in the upper chancel.

#### **Pastoral Staff**

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor

Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship

Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Young Adults

Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Elizabeth B. Andrews, Parish Associate

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Hardy Kim, Pastoral Resident

Martha Langford, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus