
December 21, 2008

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

SHE STRUCK THE ANGEL as hardly old enough to have a child at all, let alone this child. He told her what the child was to be named and who he was to be and something about the mystery that was to come upon her. “You mustn’t be afraid, Mary,” he said. As he said it, he only hoped she wouldn’t notice that beneath the great, golden wings he himself was trembling with fear to think that the whole future of creation hung now on the answer of a girl.

Frederick Buechner
Peculiar Treasures

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 12:15 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 for three hours 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 for 900 parking must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk. Hancock tickets must be validated in the Narthex, at the back of the sanctuary.

Inquirers' Class explores Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, January 5, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, January 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.; or Sunday, January 25 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at 312.981.4025.

Fourth Church Cares

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns and anxieties, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request; 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

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

PRELUDE	Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine	<i>Hieronymus Praetorius arr. Erich Peterson</i>
	Savior of the Nations, Come	<i>Johann Sebastian Bach</i>
	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	<i>Johannes Brahms arr. Robert King</i>
	O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?	<i>Paul Manz</i>
	Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	<i>Michael Praetorius arr. Aaron David Miller</i>

INTROIT	"Our King and Savior Draws Nigh" Our King and Savior draws nigh; O come, let us adore him.	<i>Stephen Sturk</i>
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*DOXOLOGY

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: In the coming of Christ, we hear God's message to us: "I have exalted one chosen from the people. I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him; my hand shall always remain with him." (Psalm 89:19–20, 26)

People: **We shall cry out to Christ, "You are my God, the Rock of my salvation!"**

Leader: The fourth candle on the Advent wreath reminds us that our Savior has almost come. He will bring light to the darkness and hope to the world.

People: **We are called into God's house to bear witness to the light. We are sent from God's house to take light into the world.**

Leader: A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

People: **Soon the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.**

*HYMN 22	"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"	<i>Tune: REGENT SQUARE</i>
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**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"

Vincent Persichetti

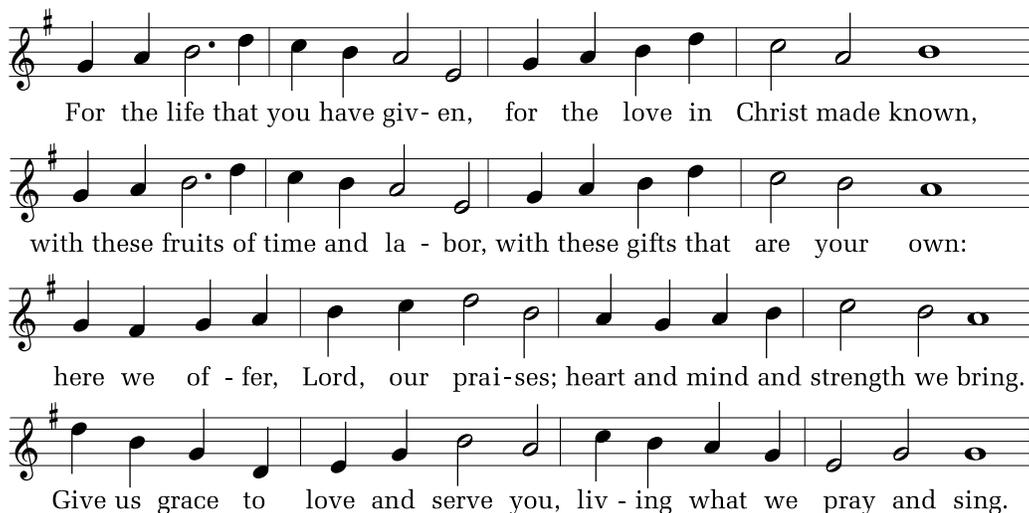
OFFERING

OFFERTORY CANTATA "Christmas Cantata"

Daniel Pinkham

- I. Shepherds, tell us your story. Tell us again about the vision of glory which appeared on earth. "Jesus Christ was born for us. We heard the angel chorus singing praises of the Lord." Alleluia.
- II. O wondrous mystery, that even lowly beasts might behold him, who, though the son of God, was born on earth a son of man and within a manger did lie. O blessed virgin most holy, worthy was thy womb that did carry our Savior Jesus Christ.
- III. Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us and we are his. Alleluia.

*OFFERTORY 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.

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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 mercy and might, we praise you and worship you, for you came in silence, while all lay sleeping, to enter our world as a child of humble birth. We thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, born of your handmaid Mary. 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 burn with thanksgiving, 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, by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN 40

“Joy to the World!”

Tune: ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Finale from *Variations on a Noël*

Marcel Dupré

Christmas Worship

at Fourth Presbyterian Church

4 Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Wednesday, December 24

4:00 p.m.

Children's Pageant

6:00 p.m.

Family Service

Adam Fronczek preaching

8:30 p.m.

Lessons and Carols

John M. Buchanan preaching

11:00 p.m.

Lessons and Carols

John M. Buchanan preaching

Christmas Day Service

Thursday, December 25

11:00 a.m.

Joyce Shin preaching

A traditional Christmas dinner in Anderson Hall will be served at 12:30 p.m. Dinner tickets are available during Coffee Hour and at the reception desk during the week.

Light Up a Life through Joyous Giving!

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 the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks or by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

WORSHIP LEADERS

9:30 a.m. Adam Fronczek, Victoria G. Curtiss, John M. Buchanan

11:00 a.m. Adam Fronczek, Victoria G. Curtiss, John M. Buchanan

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

9:30 a.m. Sam and Terry Evans

11:00 a.m. Kerry and Kimberly Grady

THE MUSIC TODAY

9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir; Tower Brass

11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir; Tower Brass

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

WORSHIP NOTES

Christmas Cantata, one of Daniel Pinkham's earliest works, was written in 1957.

Pinkham began teaching at the New England Conservatory of Music in 1946, remaining there until his death in 2006. He became the Music Director of King's Chapel in Boston one year after writing the Cantata.

Tower Brass, Fourth Church's brass octet, assists in worship leadership this morning.

The group's new Christmas CD, *Horns for the Holiday*, is available during Coffee Hour.

The Advent banners, in the form of wings, convey the idea of Advent stillness and of waiting in the presence of angels. They were designed and painted by Eliza Linley of Berkeley, California.

The musical angels on the bulletin cover adorn a stained-glass window, by

Charles J. Connick, located in the reception area west of Anderson Hall.

Psalm 150 encourages us to join in praising God with trumpet, harp, and string.

PASTORAL STAFF

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod, Acting Executive Associate Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission

Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship

Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader, Pastoral Resident

Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident

Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus