



Fourth Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022 • 10:00 a.m.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Variations on “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” Michael Burkhardt

Introit

“Our King and Savior Now Draws Near” Iain Quinn
Our King and Savior now draws near; come let us adore him. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. † Amen.

*Lighting the Advent Wreath

Leader: *People of God, what are you afraid of?*

All: *Not being enough.*

Leader: *Not making enough of a difference.*

All: *Forgetting we belong to one another.*

Leader: *Climate change.*

All: *Children having to learn gun violence drills at school.*

Leader: *Not having someone who knows my stories.*

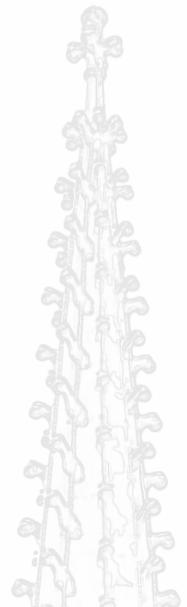
All: *My mental health slipping.*

Leader: *Ending up alone.*

All: *Stopping short of following God all the way.*

— *The candle is lit* —

Leader: *Today we light the candle of peace to remember God’s peace
in the midst of all we fear. From generation to generation,
God is bringing good news of peace.*



*Please rise in body or spirit. †Or “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.”

***Hymn 347** “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the shadows clear away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high!”

Prayer of Confession

Patient God, you know how often we make decisions from a place of fear rather than love.
You know how often we allow fear to take the place of logic,
fanning unhealthy fires in our lives.
So often we tuck your words “Do not be afraid” on dusty shelves
and in the back of closets, stubbornly holding onto our own point of view.
Silence inner voices of scarcity, shame, and rejection,
which spark and feed so much of our fear.
Recenter us in love. With hope we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Welcome and Announcements

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 11:1–10

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:[†]
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Second Lesson. Luke 1:26–38

Sermon

“From Generation to Generation” Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 83**. “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel’s strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

[†]Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*) (adapted from The Confession of 1967)

The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death.

The teaching of apostles and prophets guides us in living this life,
and the Christian community nurtures and equips us for our ministries.

We are emissaries of peace and seek the good of humanity
in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics.

But we have to fight against pretensions and injustices
when these same powers endanger human welfare.

Our strength is in our confidence that God's purpose
rather than human schemes will finally prevail.

Life in Christ is life eternal.

The resurrection of Jesus is God's sign that God will consummate God's work
of creation and reconciliation beyond death
and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem :: "Duo Seraphim" Jacob Handl

Two bright seraphim, proclaiming, cried out to highest heaven, "Holy, holy, holy, God is the Lord of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of God's glory."

***Offertory Response** The Hymnal, 144 (*verse 4*)

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: We will lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: *Let us give thanks to God.*

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer

Leader: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .*

. . . forever singing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus *(sung)* The Hymnal, 552

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Leader: . . . Great is the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation *(sung)* The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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

Communion Anthems

“O Radiant Dawn” James MacMillan

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice, come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone!”

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice, come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Amen.

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” Michael Praetorius / Jan Sandström

Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse’s lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Psalm 23 (unison)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want;
he maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
 he leadeth me beside the still waters; he restoreth my soul.
He leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;
 thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
 thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
 and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Prayer after Communion (unison)

Holy God, you are our home and the table to which we return.
 Here, everything you have is ours.
Now take this offering and turn it into ministry.
Through it, transform the earth in the image of heaven,
 so that your will of love and peace and justice would be done.
Gratefully we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

***Hymn 96** “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand; our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

***Charge and Benediction**

Worshippers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir during the Benediction responses.

Postlude

The King of Glory Comes Israeli folk song / arr. Aaron David Miller

*We invite you to enjoy the postlude. If you need to leave prior to the end of the postlude,
please do so quietly out of respect for those who choose to stay.*



We are glad to be worshipping with you today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church!

✳️ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. ✳️ We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God’s grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be **a mask-welcoming campus**, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. As a mask-welcoming campus, we remain committed to **ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church.**

✳️ In the Sanctuary, the **front section on the pulpit side is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, and everyone sitting in that section is required to wear a mask.** The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating.



For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. ✳️ **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the service.



During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday **service and sermon available via podcast** on iTunes and Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast). ✳️ You can also receive the previous Sunday’s **sermon text by email** by subscribing online at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons ✳️ Available by podcast as well is an invitation to join Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger in biblical exploration as they discuss the **“Bible Top Ten”** in their **podcast** by that title (fourthchurch.org/podcast), with new episodes released every other Tuesday. The most recent is **“Top 10 Misconceptions about the Christmas Story (aka Christmyths).”**

Ensure you receive the latest updates from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for our Jazz at Four service (*with Communion*) in Buchanan Chapel. ✨ On Sundays the **doors open for worship** a half hour prior to the service. For the morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. ✨ **Sunday parking** is available at 900 N. Michigan (*access from Rush or Walton*) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (*and \$18 for up to 12 hours*) and at the Hancock garage (*875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut*) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher. ✨ During the morning service **nursery care** is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. ✨ **Worship can be heard** in the Sanctuary and Chapel through the “T” or “T-coil” setting of hearing aids. ✨ Please silence **electronic devices** during worship.



Following worship, a **pipe organ tour** begins at 11:15 a.m. at the front of the Sanctuary ✨ Also following worship, Deacons are available in Stone Chapel (*through the door to the right of the pulpit*) to pray with **individuals who would like to offer prayers** of praise or concern. ✨ We also gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** and at 10:00 a.m. for **in-person Morning Prayer** in Buchanan Chapel. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (*nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org*). ✨ The Chapel is open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For information about the labyrinth, email Rocky Supinger (*rsupinger@fourthchurch.org*). ✨ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.).



We ask that those of you worshipping with us in person **please take a moment to sign the pew information pads** so that we might know you are here. Then please pass the pad down your pew so that all worshipers have an opportunity to provide updated information and to greet one another by name following the service. ✨ Those worshipping in person this morning are also invited to **greet one another during Coffee Hour** in Anderson Hall and the Commons following the service. ✨ **For additional ways to connect** with one another and Fourth Church, whether in person or online, as well as for various **resources**, watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org) and **Facebook** (facebook.com/fourthchurch) ✨ Events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from our website’s home page and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar

Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. Sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions to receive them in your inbox, or read them online at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions ✨ Also available as a resource for your Advent prayer and reflection is our weekly **Advent “Rhythm and Word” video series**, which weaves together **scripture, prayer, and music** by the Fourth Church Jazz Quartet. A new video is released each Wednesday evening on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos); to receive them by email, subscribe at www.bit.ly/rhythmandwordemail



Women at Fourth is coordinating our annual **Christmas Wishes project** to provide **gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students**. To support this project we are **collecting gift cards** to Best Buy, Starbuck’s, McDonald’s, Uber, Target, and Amazon (*giving a total of \$25 worth of cards to each student*). Gift cards can be dropped off at the church reception desk to the attention of Simon Crow **by this Thursday, December 8**. (*Please designate the amount on the cards.*) **Monetary contributions** can also be made to support the purchase of a book for each student. Gifts can be made online at www.fourthchurch.org/give-online or by writing a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church with “Christmas Wishes” designated in the memo line.



We invite you to **remember or honor a loved one** with a contribution toward the **Christmas flowers, wreaths, and garlands** that will decorate the Sanctuary and Buchanan Chapel this Advent and Christmas. A list of those individuals remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. **Contributions can be made online** at www.bit.ly/fpcgift and must be **received by next Sunday, December 11** for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, contact Gloria Vicente (*312.252.3571; gvicente@fourthchurch.org*).



A new Sunday morning adult education class, **“Welcoming the Stranger,”** begins today at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and via Zoom. For Zoom details, register at www.bit.ly/ae stranger1222 ✨ **Men’s Bible Study** meets via Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. **Women’s Bible Study**—which offers two Zoom gathering times (12:00 and 6:30 p.m.) on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month—next meets on Wednesday, December 14. For Zoom details for Bible studies, email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org). ✨ **Books by Women** will discuss **Miss Benson’s Beetle** by Rachel Joyce in person and via Zoom next Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room. For Zoom details, contact Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).

The Fourth Church **Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** evening service will be held next Sunday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary with “Cookies and Cocoa to Go” bags distributed afterwards. ✨ Several holiday concerts will also be taking place at Fourth Church this month. **Bach Marathon: Brandenburg Concertos 1–6** will be presented by the **Chicago Civic Orchestra** on Monday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are required but free from www.cso.org ✨ CSO Presents “**A Chanticleer Christmas**” on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available from www.cso.org ✨ **Chicago a cappella will sing “Holidays a cappella”** on Friday, December 9 at 8:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. Tickets are available from www.chicagoacappella.org ✨ This year’s **Christmas with Tower Brass** concert will take place on Saturday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. There are no tickets; donations will be received at the door. ✨ **The Christmas Cantata: Gloria by John Rutter** will be performed by the Morning Choir and Tower Brass on Sunday, December 18 during 10:00 a.m. worship.



LGBTQIA+ Widen Our Welcome Brunch will be held today following morning worship. Those who would like to join in this time of fellowship are invited to meet at the reception desk to walk together to the restaurant. ✨ **Knitting and Crocheting** meets this Tuesday, December 6 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. ✨ The **Benevolent Guild**—which has counted among its projects making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital—meets this Wednesday, December 7 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. ✨ On Thursday, December 15 **Women at Fourth** will meet for a time of holiday fellowship in the Michigan Avenue Manse at 5:30 p.m. Register at www.bit.ly/waf1222



Fourth Church Meals Ministry is in need of volunteers to assist in helping our neighbors who are hungry and experiencing food insecurity. To explore these volunteer needs, see our Volunteer Ministry platform, VOMO (www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers) or contact Robert Crouch, Director of Volunteer Ministry (rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).



For those facing life’s challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence and regular spiritual support. To talk with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. ✨ ✨ **To talk to a pastor or notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation is an emergency or requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call. ✨ **To submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer, Gavin Daniels, Allison Youngblood, Rocky Supinger, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir

The Morning Choir

Michael Rees, Organ Scholar

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

Worship Notes

TODAY THE CHANCEL AND MORNING CHOIR are seated in the two transept balconies to sing double choir anthems. Slovenian composer Jacob Handl (1550–1591) intended his anthem “Duo Seraphim” to be sung by two choirs in different locations. Swedish composer Jan Sandström (b. 1954) also employs two choirs for his arrangement of “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming.” One choir sings the hymn tune originally composed by Michael Praetorius while the other choir provides a gentle background.

OUR ANNUAL “LIGHT UP A LIFE” OFFERING is being received throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. Gifts to “Light Up a Life” support the mission and outreach efforts of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights as they extend mercy, kindness, and love to those who are most vulnerable. You can make a gift to this offering by noting “Light Up a Life” in the comments section (*when giving online via Venmo or the Fourth Church website: www.fourthchurch.org/give-online*) or on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Those worshipping in the Sanctuary can also use the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

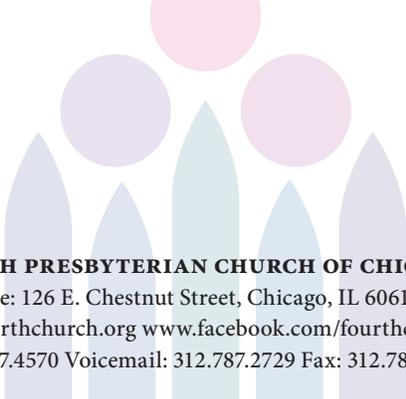
Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Today’s liturgy is adapted from
A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org



THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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