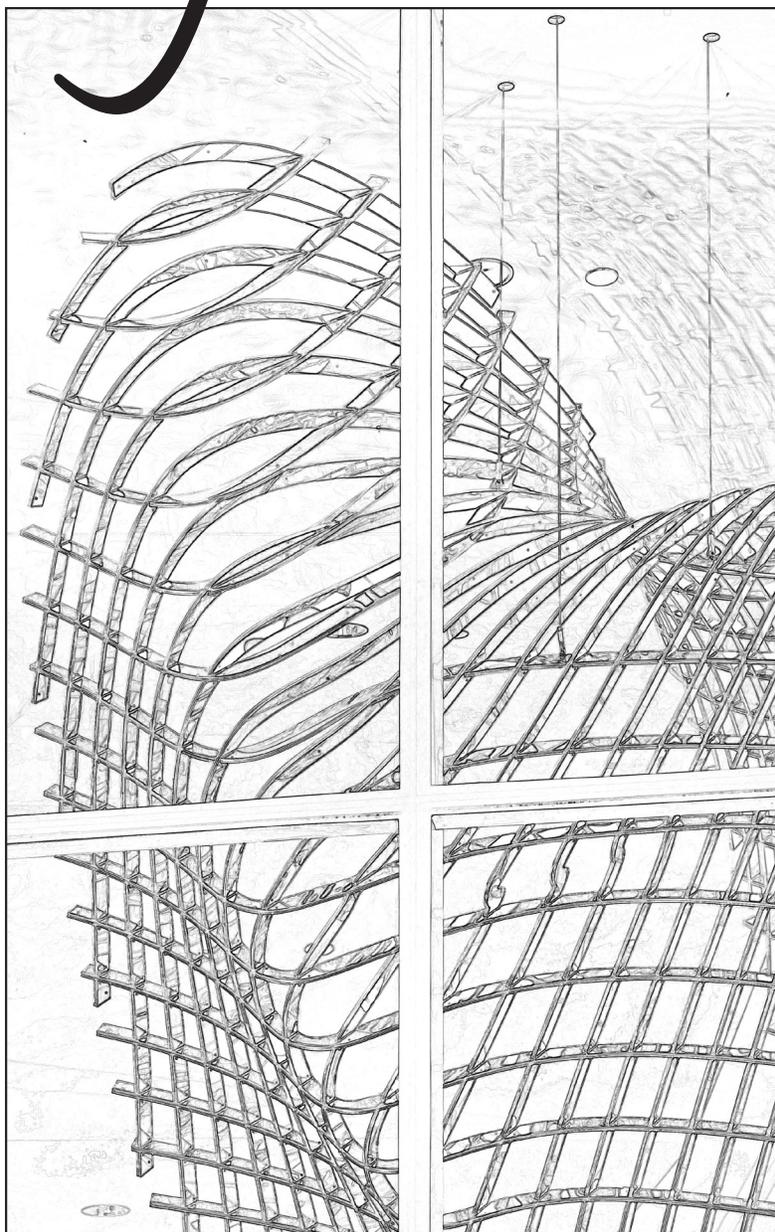




# jazz at four



4:00 p.m. • December 18, 2022

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, Fourth Church welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church regardless of sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, mental health, educational background, economic situation, religious background, or documentation status.*

## We Approach God

### Gathering Music

### Call to Worship

**\*Opening Song** . . . . . “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.

## We Tell the Truth about Ourselves

### Prayer of Confession

God of today and tomorrow,  
when Mary was pregnant and afraid, she ran to her cousin Elizabeth’s house.  
Elizabeth threw open the door with joy and showered blessings upon her.  
How often do we have that same opportunity?  
How often do we leave the door locked, the curtains drawn, and the lights off?  
How often do we shower critique or judgment instead of blessings and joy?  
Gracious God, forgive us for our wrongs.  
We want to see you when we see our neighbor. Amen.

### God Forgives and Blesses Us

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

# We Proclaim the Story

## The Jesse Tree

Leader: We give thanks for our patriarch, Joseph.

God welcomed Joseph, the dreamer; God welcomes all who dare to dream.

**People: Like Joseph, we wanderers and outcasts call on God by name.**

Leader: Like Joseph, we seek the bread of heaven to feed all who hunger.

**People: Like Joseph, we extend forgiveness and seek reconciliation.**

**All: From generation to generation, God blesses and restores us:  
thanks be to God!**

**Song** ..... "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

*(Refrain)* O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.

His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.

Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

*(Refrain)* O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace,  
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.

All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.

*(Refrain)* O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

**Scripture Lesson** ..... Matthew 1:18–25

**Sermon** ..... Rocky Supinger

## Musical Reflection

### Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

## **We Feast Together**

### **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

#### **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**

#### **Prayer after Communion**

## **We Offer Ourselves**

#### **Offering**

Musical Offering

#### **Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, we marvel at your many gifts—none greater than Emmanuel,  
your very presence here with us.

With these offerings we pledge to try our best to mirror and reflect  
the glory of your incarnate love and to continue in the pattern  
of humble, self-giving generosity that we see revealed in the Christ child,  
in whom we pray. Amen.

## We Go Out with Gratitude

### \*Closing Song ..... "Canticle of the Turning"

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

#### *Refrain:*

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.  
*(Refrain)*

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;  
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.  
*(Refrain)*

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,  
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.  
*(Refrain)*

### \*Benediction

#### Sending Music

# News and Opportunities

**We are glad to have you with us today** and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Presbyterian 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 also remain committed to **ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church.**



If you would like to join us for **in-person worship**, we gather on Sundays for a **10:00 a.m. service** in the Sanctuary and the **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service** in Buchanan Chapel. Please note, however, that we **will not be gathering for Jazz at Four on Christmas Day or New Year's Day**; our 4:00 p.m. Sunday jazz services will resume on Sunday, January 8. \* Worship can be heard through **hearing aids' "T" or "T-coil" setting**. \* **Please** silence electronic devices when in the Chapel. \* The **doors open for worship** on Sundays a half hour before each service. For the 4:00 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*). Validation tickets for the garage must be picked up from an usher. \* **For those who prefer to worship online** or are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service on our YouTube channel ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)).



On Wednesdays we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. and for **in-person Morning Prayer** at 10:00 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel (*although we will not gather in person on Wednesday, December 28*). Email Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)) for Zoom information. \* **To submit a prayer request** to our Morning Prayer or Deacon Prayer Ministries, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org). \* The chapel is also open for opportunity to **walk the labyrinth** between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays (*except Tuesday, December 27*). For labyrinth details, email Rocky Supinger ([rsupinger@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rsupinger@fourthchurch.org)).



Fourth Church offers a variety of ways to **connect with one another**. Online and in-person events are posted on **our church calendar**, accessible from our website's home page and at [www.fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fourthchurch.org/calendar). \* For **resources** as well as additional ways to connect with the church and one another, watch our website ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)) and Facebook ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)). \* **To talk to a pastor or notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, or deaths, please email [caringministries@fourthchurch.org](mailto:caringministries@fourthchurch.org); if the situation is an emergency, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

For those experiencing grief, sadness, and loneliness in this season, the **“Longest Night” service**, will be held this Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. There will also be opportunity that evening to **walk the labyrinth** in Anderson Hall between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. \* Our weekly **Advent “Rhythm and Word” video series** serves as a resource for prayer and reflection. A new video is released each Wednesday evening on YouTube ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)); subscribe at [www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail](http://www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail) to receive them by email. \* **Daily Advent and Christmas devotions** offer another resource for **personal meditation and prayer**. Sign up at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions) to receive them in your inbox.



On Saturday, December 24 we will gather for **four Candlelight Christmas Eve services**: Children’s Pageant (4:00 p.m.), Family Service (6:00 p.m.), and Service of Lessons and Carols (8:00 and 10:00 p.m.; the 8:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed at [www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)). \* On Christmas Eve, **all entry to the Sanctuary for worship will be through the glass Loggia doors** on Michigan Avenue. \* **Seating will begin at 3:15 p.m.** for the Pageant; seating for the other three services will begin a half hour prior to the start of the service. \* There **will not be any socially distanced seating** on Christmas Eve; the regular Sunday morning socially distanced section will be available on Christmas morning. \* **Nursery care will not be available** on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, or New Year’s Day. On those days, children are invited to worship with their parents, as they are on every Sunday. \* **Discounted parking** on Christmas Eve is available only at the 900 N. Michigan garage. Those who enter the garage on Christmas Eve *prior* to 5:00 p.m. will need to purchase a parking validation ticket at the church that day for \$20. Those who enter the garage *after* 5:00 p.m. will be able to park for \$8 with a validation ticket that can be picked up for free that day at the church.



On Sunday, December 25, **Christmas Day**, we will gather for one service only, at 10:00 a.m. (*in person and livestreamed*). There will be **no Jazz at Four service on Sundays, December 25 and January 1**. After that two-week break, Jazz at Four will resume on Sunday, January 8.



Our **New Year’s Eve Taizé service** will take place on Saturday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. This quiet candlelit service offers moving music, space for prayer, and meditative pause for reflecting on the year past and looking ahead to the year to come.



Are you interested in taking part in **Deep Listening Dinners** in early 2023? Groups of six to ten people each will dine together twice in home settings, gathering for a time of discovering and better understanding our differences while honoring our shared humanity and telling our life experiences to one another. To learn more about this opportunity to strengthen the fabric of our community as we get to know each other more deeply, contact Simon Crow ([scrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:scrow@fourthchurch.org)).

**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](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)**

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## Worship Leaders

**Rocky Supinger** Associate Pastor

**Nancy Benson-Nicol** Associate Pastor

**Tony Phan** Liturgist

### **The Fourth Church Jazz Quartet**

Leslie Beukelman, vocals

Bryan Doherty, bass

Marcus Evans, percussion

Amr Fahmy, piano

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**Incorporating ancient and contemporary traditions in this service**, God is named corporately in a variety of ways that are gender neutral. This allows for your personal expressions as you are led to name the Holy in ways meaningful to you.

**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](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give)*) or on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Special “Light Up a Life” offering envelopes are also available near the chapel entrance.

### **Acknowledgments**

“Canticle of the Turning” Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Music Arr. © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

“The Jesse Tree” liturgy is adapted from [www.doubtingbeliever.com/resources/liturgy-for-narrative-lectionary-ruth-series](http://www.doubtingbeliever.com/resources/liturgy-for-narrative-lectionary-ruth-series)

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## PASTORAL STAFF

**Shannon J. Kershner**, Pastor

**Lucy Forster-Smith**, Senior Associate Pastor

**Nancy Benson-Nicol**, Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation

**Matt Helms**, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry

**Joseph L. Morrow**, Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Community Engagement

**Nanette Sawyer**, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

**Rocky Supinger**, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry and Worship

**John Buchanan**, Pastor Emeritus

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**The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago**

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014 • [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)

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