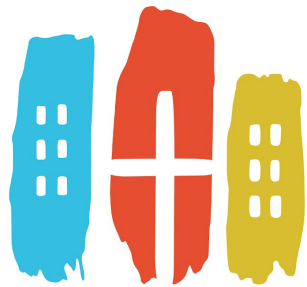


Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018



LOOP CHURCH
C H I C A G O

Welcome to our worship service at Loop Church!

Our Purpose - As followers of Jesus Christ we bless our neighbors in Chicago and beyond by welcoming the presence and love of God into our lives such that it overflows to those around us. This happens as we engage in spiritual practices, live out our community values, and engage in acts of love and service.

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP *(from Luke 1)*

Leader: Our souls magnify the Lord! Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

People: **The Mighty One has done great things for us.**

Leader: Holy is God's name!

People: **Let us worship God.**

Leader: For the Lord is our Maker and our Redeemer,

People: **from generation to generation the Lord gives his mercy.**

WE LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH - BAPTIZED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Leader 1: As the second Adam, Jesus chose the path we had rejected.

Leader 2: In baptism and temptations, teaching and miracles, battles with demons and friendships with sinners, Jesus lived a full and righteous human life before us—inspired and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

People: **As God's true Son, Jesus lovingly obeyed the Father and made present in deed and word the coming rule of God.**

Leader 1: Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. Having equal status With God, Jesus didn't think so much of himself that he clung to the advantages of That status no matter what. Not at all!

Leader 2: When the time came, Jesus set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, Jesus stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges.

People: **but instead, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death.**

Leader 1: Because of that obedience, God lifted Jesus high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that Jesus is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father.

People: **Christ alone paid the debt of our sin; there is no other Savior.**
We are to become like Jesus in every way,
through the ever-present and powerful help of the Holy Spirit.

All: ***Jesus Christ rules over all! To follow Jesus is to serve wherever we are, without fitting in -- light in darkness, salt in a spoiling world. Come upon us, Holy Spirit, like you did on Jesus, and make us ready and willing to serve God and bring God's kingdom upon the earth!***

Gathering Song Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes LUYH 60

GOD GREETUS US - WE RESPOND BY GREETING ONE ANOTHER

GOD CALLS US TO RECONCILIATION

Prayer of Confession

Song of Confession My Soul in Stillness Waits LUYH 63 v.1-2

Assurance *(from Isaiah 40:1-2)*

Song of Assurance Comfort, Comfort Now My People LUYH 59

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

After each petition

Leader: Come Lord Jesus,

People: and hear our prayer.

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

Song of Illumination Speak, O Lord LUYH 755

Reading: Luke 2:1-20 (*Pew Bible 832*)

Leader: This is the Word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Three Things Christmas Reveals About God

WE RESPOND IN THANKSGIVING

Mission Moment – Environmental Stewardship

Offering for the General Fund

(Our morning offering is an act of worship whereby we as members of this congregation express our gratitude to and reliance on God. Guests and visitors should not feel that participation in this part of the service is obligatory. Anyone may participate electronically at <http://www.loopchurch.org/giving/>.

Alternatively, anyone using the ZELLE payment app can donate by sending funds to lcm@loopchurch.org)

HALLELUJAH! LET US CELEBRATE THE FEAST

Invitation & Institution

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion

(The Lord's Supper is an open invitation to all. If you are - or desire to be - a follower of Jesus Christ, come and celebrate with us. Today we will celebrate the sacrament by forming a circle around the communion table and passing the bread and wine to one another with the words, "The Body of Christ, broken for you," and, "The Blood of Christ, shed for you.")

GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

Benediction

Sending Song

All Earth is Waiting

LUYH 57

This week's lectionary readings:

Old Testament: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

Contact Us

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Ministry Coordinator Jim Bosman - jim@loopchurch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Interested in Volunteering or Submitting an Announcement? Talk to Jim Bosman after the service or send him an email at jim@loopchurch.org

Plan on it! Loop Christmas party at home of Mona and Kevin VanKanegan, 727 W Liberty. Bring something (food or drink) to share and be prepared to sing carols. December 22, 7:00 PM.

Calendar:

Date	Event	Time	Location
Fri, Dec 28	<i>Environmental Issues MC</i>		
Thu, Jan 3	<i>Anti-Racism MC</i>		
Sun, Jan 6	<i>Brunch Sunday</i>	10:00 - 11:30	11 E Adams
Tue, Jan 15	<i>Welcoming the Stranger MC</i>		
Thu, Jan 17	Steering Council Meeting	6:30 - 8:30 PM	11 E Adams

Sunday Schedule:

Date	Dec 23	Dec 30	Jan 6	Jan 13	Jan 20
Set Up	Kevin & Mona	Tim & Lexi	Kevin & Mona	Jim & Mary	Tim & Lexi
Take Down	Tim & Lexi	Kevin & Mona	Ginny & Debbie	Jim & Mary	Kevin & Mona
Greeter 1	Lexi	Silvia	Jim	Joseph	Jim
Greeter 2	Janna	Peter	Mary	Kelley	Mary
Refreshments	Mary	Kelley	Brunch	Laura & Karim	Adam & Becca
Nursery	--- /Rae	--- /Naomi	-----	--- /Briana	--- /Kayla
Lead Elder	Debbie	JB	Kevin	Claire	Debbie

Offering Update: Dec 9: Gen Fund \$3361.82 FYTD: \$58,150.82