MORNING WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE

Carillon
Variations on “America”  Leo Sowerby
Charles Ives

INTROIT

“The Lord Is in His Holy Temple”  Eric DeLamarter
The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before God. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION

*HYMN 262

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”  Tune: NATIONAL HYMN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  (unison)

God of all nations: you led men and women to this land, and out of our conflicts you have created in us a love for peace and liberty. When we neglect rights and restrict freedoms, we fail you. When we turn away neighbors in need and refuse to extend the opportunities of this land to all, we offend your justice and your love. Forgive us. Forgive pride that will not acknowledge national wrong and that justifies injustice. Forgive our divisions of race and class. Make us compassionate, fair, and helpful to each other and to all people. Raise up in us a right patriotism that seeks our nation’s good and the world’s peace and hope. Through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER

Psalm 30 (responsively)  (page 478, O.T.)

*Stand as you are able.
**Anthem**  
“A Gaelic Prayer”  
*David M. Lowry*  
Deep peace of the rolling wave to you; deep peace of the flowing air to you; deep peace of the quiet earth to you; deep peace of the shining stars to you; deep peace of the gentle night to you; moon and stars pour their healing light on you; deep peace of Christ, the light of the world, to you; deep peace of Christ to you.

**First Lesson**  
Jeremiah 7:1–7  
(page 664, O.T.)  
Minister: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gloria Patri**  
(The Hymnal, 579)

**Second Lesson**  
Acts 4:13–21, 5:27–29  
(page 113, N.T.)

**Sermon**  
John Buchanan

The Fourth of July

“We must obey God rather than any human authority.”  
Acts 5:29 (NRSV)

**Hymn 561**  
“My Country, 'Tis of Thee”  
*Tune: America*

**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 “O Thou That Hearest Prayer” E. DeLamarter

O thou that hearest prayer, attend our humble cry, and let thy
servants share thy blessing from on high. We plead the promise
of thy word; grant us thy Holy Spirit, Lord. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “The Road Home” Stephen Paulus

Tell me, where is the road I can call my own, that I left, that I lost so
long ago? All these years I have wandered; O, when will I know there’s
a way, there’s a road that will lead me home? After wind, after rain,
when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream in the gold of day,
through the air there’s a calling from far away; there’s a voice I can
hear that will lead me home. Rise up; follow me; come away is the call,
with the love in your heart as the only song; there is no such beauty as
where you belong. Rise up; follow me; I will lead you home.

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE

**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: **Great and mighty God,**
we thank you for this land so fair and free,
for its worthy aims and high hopes.
We are grateful for people who have come
with customs and accents and dreams
to enrich our lives.
Lead us into the future
as you have led us in the past.
Renew within us our commitment
to liberty and justice for all.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Hymn 564**

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

**Tune: Materna**

**Benediction and Response**

**Postlude**
American Hymn

**Richard Keys Biggs**
In perhaps the largest single worship service ever held at Fourth Presbyterian Church, more than 1,800 people attended the opening communion service for the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. annual General Assembly in 1914. (Seating capacity in the sanctuary, including the balconies, is approximately 1,300.)

Of the 865 commissioners in attendance at that General Assembly, 778 gathered for a panoramic photograph on Delaware Place. In recognition of this week’s General Assembly in Minneapolis, an eleven-foot-long enlargement of this photograph has been hung on the wall outside the south transept doors.

The detail above shows the outgoing Moderator of the 125th General Assembly, Fourth Church Pastor John Timothy Stone (at center, wearing a light-colored suit, with his hat on his lap). Dr. Stone—after whom Stone Chapel is named—had been the visionary behind Fourth Church’s decision 100 years ago to build its new campus on what is now Michigan Avenue, and the present church was completed and dedicated only two weeks before the commissioners arrived in Chicago for the 1914 General Assembly.

Yesterday the 219th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) began in Minneapolis. John Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry, is a commissioner at the gathering. John Buchanan, who was Moderator of the 208th General Assembly (1996), and others from Fourth Church will also be attending the week-long meeting.

Please keep all those attending the General Assembly in your thoughts and prayers as they do the important work of the church in the days ahead.
Worship Leaders
9:30 a.m.  Adam Fronczek, Victoria G. Curtiss, John Buchanan
11:00 a.m. Adam Fronczek, Victoria G. Curtiss, John Buchanan

The Music Today
9:30 a.m.  Women of the Morning Choir
11:00 a.m. Women of the Morning Choir

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

Worship Notes
This morning’s Prelude includes a piece by Charles Ives, who wrote Variations on “America” when he was seventeen. At age fourteen he had already become the organist of the Danbury Baptist Church in Danbury, Connecticut. Ives would go on to become one of the first internationally recognized American composers.

The women of the Morning Choir will be singing during morning worship services in July. The men of the Morning Choir will sing in August, and the full choir will return in September.

The textile banners and pulpit parament, “Unweavings” created by Laurie Wohl, were commissioned by Fourth Church for use during the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, the longest season of the church year (the season between Epiphany and Lent and between Pentecost and Advent). Through their combination of scripture texts and image, these banners celebrate and elevate the perception of the sacred in the “ordinary” as we make our faith journey day to day.

Pastoral Staff
John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Calum I. MacLeod, 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
Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
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

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