Morning Worship

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

Prelude

Sonata in C Major  Gioacchino Rossini
Aria  Giovanni Battista Martini
Andantino  Michel Angelo Rossi
Adagio and Allegro  Giovanni Battista Pescetti

Introit

“How Did My Heart Rejoice”  Curt Oliver

How did my heart rejoice to hear my friends devoutly say, in Zion let us all appear to keep the solemn day. I love her gates; I love the road; the church adorned with grace stands like a palace built for God to show God’s milder face. Peace be within this sacred place and joy a constant guest; with holy gifts and heavenly grace be all believers blest. Amen.

*Doxology and Invocation (The Hymnal, 592)

*Hymn 478  “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”  Tune: Laud a anima

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Wondrous God, who sets suns and moons above us, mountains and valleys beneath us, and friends and strangers among us: how often have we tried to hide from your presence, how seldom have we looked for your creating face and your fashioning hand! Lord, have mercy upon us.

Wondrous God, who took upon yourself flesh of our flesh in Jesus our brother, and being found in human form made the ultimate disclosure of yourself in the face of Jesus Christ: how often we have forgotten you, how seldom have we really loved and followed you! Christ, have mercy upon us.

Wondrous God, who pours out freely the Holy Spirit: how often have we ignored your promptings, how seldom have we asked for your help or accepted your gifts! Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.

*Stand as you are able.
DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PSALTER

Psalm 131 (sung)

1. O Lord, my heart is not too high, nor do my
   eyes look far above the things which you for
   peace in your accord; I fix my confi-

2. A child again in my mother's arms, my soul at
   me appointed except to hope for your great love.
   dence and hope in tender mercies of the Lord.

ANTHEM

“God Is Seen”
American folk hymn
arr. Alice Parker

Through all the world below God is seen all around; search hills and
valleys through, there he's found. The growing of the corn, the lily
and the thorn, the pleasant and forlorn, all declare God is there;
in meadows dressed in green, God is seen. See springing waters rise,
fountains flow, rivers run, the mist that veils the sky hides the sun.
Then down the rain doth pour, the ocean it doth roar and beat upon
the shore, and all in their ways praise the God who never declines
his designs. The sun with all his rays speaks of God as he flies;
the comet in her blaze, “God,” she cries. The shining of the stars,
the moon when she appears, his awful name declares. See them fly
through the sky and join the solemn sound all around.
**First Lesson** Isaiah 49:8–16a (page 638, O.T.)
Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Gloria Patri* (The Hymnal, 579)

**Second Lesson** Matthew 6:24–34 (page 6, N.T.)

**Sermon**
John Buchanan

Unforgettable

“I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.”
Isaiah 49:16 (NRSV)

*Hymn 404* “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”
**Tune:** Precious Lord

*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  “Turn unto the Lord”  

“Turn unto the Lord, the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM  “The Best of Rooms”  

“Christ, he requires still, wheresoever he comes to feed or lodge,
to have the best of rooms. Give him the choice; grant him the nobler
part of all the house, the best of all’s the heart.

*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:** God of all mercies, we give you
humble thanks for all your goodness
and loving-kindness to us and to all people.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your boundless love
in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace,
and for the hope of glory.
Give us such an awareness of your mercies that,
with truly thankful hearts,
we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness
and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory now and forever.
Amen.

**Hymn 361**

“How Firm a Foundation”

*Tune: Foundation*

**Benediction and Response**

**Postlude**

Giga

*Enrico Bossi*
Worship Leaders

9:30 a.m.  Sarah A. Johnson, Calum I. MacLeod, John Buchanan
11:00 a.m. Sarah A. Johnson, Calum I. MacLeod, John Buchanan

The Music Today

9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir
11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist and Handbell Director

Worship Notes

This morning’s Minute for Discipleship is presented by John McDermott on behalf of the Fourth Church Sunday School program.

This morning’s Prayer of Confession is from The Worship Sourcebook (Calvin Institute of Christian Worship).

Today’s setting of Psalm 131 comes from Psalter for Christian Worship by Michael Morgan. This collection of metrical settings of the psalms are paraphrases of the original so they can be sung to familiar hymn tunes. Mr. Morgan writes, “Little else is closer to the heart of worship in the Reformed tradition than the Psalms of David paraphrased in metrical verse. Over four hundred years ago, our first service, the Forme of Prayers and Ministration of the Sacraments, was beloved by the people for the metrical psalter it contained.”

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).

The bulletin cover photo depicts a white rose and two red roses in the chancel vase.

The Mary Oliver quote is excerpted from “With Thanks to the Field Sparrow, Whose Voice Is So Delicate and Humble” (Evidence: Poems by Mary Oliver).

Pastoral Staff

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