**MORNING WORSHIP**

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

**PRELUDE**

Sonata I in E-flat Major  
*Johann Sebastian Bach*

Allegro Moderato—Adagio—Allegro

When We Are in the Greatest Need  
*J. S. Bach*

**INTROIT**

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God  
*Healey Willan*

arr. Henry V. Gerike

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free spirit.

**DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION**

**HYMN 487**

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”  
*Tune: LAUDES DOMINI*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(responsively)*

Gracious, God, we come before you and confess our sin and the sin of this world. We know that you are a forgiving God, seeking us out as we run from you, loving us in the midst of our weakness, and helping us to accept forgiveness and start over again.

We admit that we have lived carelessly, ignoring our responsibilities to you and not loving each other well enough. We admit that we have worked ourselves senseless in pursuits that do not matter, and that we have been lazy in parts of life that matter most. We admit that we have too often been selfish and cruel and that we have not extended to others the acceptance and forgiveness that we so crave for ourselves. Forgive us, Lord.

Help us to know that we are forgiven; help us to be reconciled with others we have hurt; help us to hear your Word to us today with renewed and open hearts. Amen.

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

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

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

*Stand as you are able.*
MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

ANTHEM
“O, Sing Jubilee to the Lord” Brad Holmes
O, sing jubilee to the Lord, every land: glory be to God!
O, serve him with gladness, as in his halls we stand; sing praises
to God out of Zion! He made us his own; he has given us breath;
glory be to God! The sheep of his pasture, we need not fear
our death; sing praises to God out of Zion! His mercy is ours;
he is Lord over all; glory be to God! May all generations find
power in his call; sing praises to God out of Zion! O, come,
one and all, with thanksgiving and praise; glory be to God!
Give glory to him, and your brightest banners raise;
sing praises to God out of Zion!

PSALTER
Psalter 46 (responsively) (page 489, O.T.)

*GLORIA PATRI
(The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON
Romans 12:9–21 (page 151, N.T.)
Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
Hold Fast to What Is Good
“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”
Romans 12:21 (NRSV)

*HYMN 275
“God of Our Life” Tune: SANDON

*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 “Amen” Anonymous

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “If I Got My Ticket” African American spiritual arr. Roy L. Belfield Jr.
If I got my ticket, Lord, can I ride away to heaven in the morning?
That gospel train is coming for me, and the promised land I’ll gain.
O, I hear them wheels-a-humming, my Lord; I’m ready to board
that train. Let me ride. If I got my ticket, Lord, can I ride away to
heaven in the morning? I know I’ve been converted, and I ain’t
going to make no alarm. For my soul is bound to Jesus; my Lord,
and the devil can’t do me no harm. Lord, let me ride in the morning.
O, my mother said, “Ride, Lord, ride away to heaven in the morning,
Lord.” Let me ride away to heaven in the morning. Ride!

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE

For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we of - fer, Lord, our prai-ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

**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 extravagant mercy,**

with hands outstretched

you have poured out

wonder and pleasure and delight,

goodness and beauty and bounty.

So take these offerings, we pray,
as our protest against all that is

evil and ugly and impoverished,

trivial and wretched and tyrannical,
in our world and in ourselves—

and thus may we and others

know ourselves to be blessed.

Amen.

**Hymn 263**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

*Tune: St. Denio*

**Benediction and Response**

**Postlude**

*Te Deum*  

*Jean Langlais*
A close-up look at the seven-foot-tall carved wooden angels atop the aisle piers reveals their distinctive expressions, patterns, and instruments. Shown above are the pair of angels closest to the rear of the church. The south angel (left) holds a panpipe, while the north angel (right) holds a musical score.
WORSHIP LEADERS
9:30 a.m.  Hardy Kim, Judith Watt, Adam H. Fronczek
11:00 a.m. Hardy Kim, Judith Watt, Adam H. Fronczek

THE MUSIC TODAY
9:30 a.m.  Men of the Morning Choir; Cole Seaton, tenor soloist
11:00 a.m. Men of the Morning Choir; Cole Seaton, tenor soloist

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 Niala Boodhoo on behalf of the Adult Education Committee.

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

The men of the Morning Choir have been singing during morning worship services in August. The full choir will return next Sunday.

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.

The bulletin cover photograph depicts the carved arch over the door inside Stone Chapel.

PASTORAL STAFF

John Buchanan, Pastor
Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families
Hardy Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith Watt, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care
John H. Boyle, Parish Associate
Linda C. Loving, Parish Associate
Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
Kerri N. Allen, Pastoral Resident
Matthew J. Helms, Pastoral Resident
David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus

This worship bulletin is printed on recyclable paper that contains recycled post-consumer waste and is acid free. The printing is done with inks having low volatile organic compounds and formulated with soy and vegetable oils. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.