**MORNING WORSHIP**

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

**PRELUDE**  “Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

**INTROIT**  “Our King and Savior Draws Near”  *Iain Quinn*

Our King and Savior draws near; come let us adore him. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

**DOXOLOGY**  *(The Hymnal, 592)*

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH*

Leader: In a quiet time of hope,
the prophet Isaiah called out to the Lord:
“O that you would tear open the heavens
and come down, so that the mountains
would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil.”

People: **We light candles on the Advent wreath**
to remind us of a time of waiting and watching;
a time of hope; a time to bring the light
of Christ into the world.

Leader: The light is for us all—
to heal and to challenge;
to break down injustice and to build up love.

People: **In the face of the uncertainties of our world,**
**God is coming to make all things new.**

Leader: A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.”

People: **Soon the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,**
**and all flesh shall see it together,**
**for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.**

*Stand as you are able*
**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

Everlasting God,
fountain of all life and the true home of every heart:
our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Yet we confess that our hearts have been enslaved
by selfish passion and base desire.
We have sought after many things
and have neglected the one thing needful.
We have not loved you with our whole hearts;
help us to turn to you and find forgiveness.
Lead us home, that we may again find in you
our life and joy and peace. Amen.

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

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

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**Psalter**

Psalm 96:7–13 (responsively)  
(page 521, O.T.)

**Anthem**

“The Lord Will Come and Not Be Slow”  
(*Christopher Tye*)

The Lord will come and not be slow, his footsteps
cannot err; before him righteousness shall go, his
royal harbinger. Truth from the earth, like to a
flower, shall bud and blossom then; and justice from
her heavenly bower look down on mortal man. Rise
God, judge thou the earth in might, this wicked
earth redress, for thou art he who shalt by right the
nations all possess. The nations all whom thou hast
made shall come, and all shall frame to bow them
low before thee Lord and glorify thy name.

**First Lesson**

Hebrews 1:1–4  
(page 204, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

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

**Second Lesson**

Mark 13:24–37  
(page 47, N.T.)
Attention Must Be Paid

*Hymn 356
“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”
Tune: Nettleton

*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.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary “Come Thou Now, Jesus, Down from Heaven”  
J. S. Bach

*Offertory Response

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
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.

PRAYER

Minister: It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .
   . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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**

**COMMUNION ANTHEM**  “Who at My Door Is Standing?”

*English folk melody*

*arr. K. Lee Scott*

Who at my door is standing, there patiently drawing near? Who, entrance is demanding? Whose is the voice I hear? Sweetly the tones are falling, “Now open the door for me! If thou wilt heed my calling, I will abide with thee.” Within, the rooms are darkened, all filled with dust and sin; how shameful, how unworthy for Christ to enter in. Yet the tones are falling: “Now open the door for me! If thou wilt heed my calling, I will abide with thee.” Door of my heart, I hasten! Thee will I open wide. Though he rebuke and chasten, he shall with me abide. Sweetly the tones are falling, “Now open the door for me!” Lord, God, I hear thee calling, come now, abide with me.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(unison)*

With these simple gifts from your table, O Lord, you have reminded and reassured us that we are not ultimately alone in the world, that life can have meaning and purpose even when hopes deceive and fears annoy, and that in alliance with one another and with affection toward one another, life is redeemable and endurable. For this blessing we give you thanks, and with this blessing we will seek to bless others, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**HYMN 132**  “Come, Great God of All the Ages”

*Tune: Abbots’ Leigh*

**Benediction and Response**

**POSTLUDE**  Savior of the Nations, Come

*Paul Manz*
**Worship Leaders**

Thomas C. Rook, Matthew J. Helms, John H. Boyle

**Lighting the Advent Wreath**

The Sinclair Family

**The Music Today**

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

**Worship Notes**

The “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout November and December. This year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs, mission, and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs, and denominational programs. “Light Up a Life” gifts can be made using the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks or by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

This morning, Communion is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they will then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles. All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper.

**Pastoral Staff**

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Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families
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Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate
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Matthew J. Helms, Pastoral Resident
David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus

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