

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Prelude in B-flat Major Pierre Camonin
Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness. Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit

Sung by the Vocal Arts Ensemble from After School Matters

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Call to Worship

Minister: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: *With what shall we come before the Holy One?*

People: **What does the Holy One require of us?**

Minister: *To do justice and to love kindness*

People: **and to walk humbly with our God.**

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 456 “Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun”

Prayer of Confession

God of forgiveness, we pray for new life as we confess our old ways.
We hear your promise that the old passes away
and that you make all things new; but we hear it amid our self-doubt.
We confess our desire for guarantees
when what you offer us is even greater hope.
When you call us to obedience, we set conditions.
When you call us to follow, we ask “Where?”
Forgive our reluctance to leave our false comforts
in order to walk in your newness of life.
Help us to trust. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Stand as you are able.*

Concerns of the Church

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 17:1-7, 15 Old Testament, page 469

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

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 14:13-21 New Testament, page 15

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Judith L. Watt

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 516 “Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) Apostles’ Creed

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 Anthem

“Pie Jesu” from *Requiem* Andrew Lloyd Webber

Blessed Jesus, have mercy on us, and grant us rest.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us, and grant us rest.

*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.

Sealing the Word

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might,
 hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is the
 One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 Anthems

“Ave Verum” Karl Jenkins

Jesus, word of God incarnate, born of the blessed virgin Mary, on the cross thy sacred body for us all with nails was torn. Cleanse us by the blood and water streaming forth from thy pierced side; feed us with thy body broken now and in death's final moment.

“O Sacrum Convivium” Raymond Weidner

O sacred banquet in which Christ is received; the memory of his passion is recalled; the spirit is filled with grace and the promise of future glory is given to us. Alleluia.

Psalm 23 (*recited in unison after all have received the cup*)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in
the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence
of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

O God, you have so greatly loved us,
long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us.
Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves,
our wills and our works,
a continual thank-offering to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 351 “Give to Me, Lord, a Thankful Heart”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Improvisation on a Gregorian Chant

“Do this in remembrance of me.”

Luke 22:19 (NRSV)



The Lord’s Supper at Fourth Presbyterian Church

The Lord’s Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is not just for Presbyterians or “members of the church.” All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ.

This morning the congregation is served in the pews by elders and deacons in an act symbolizing their role as servant leaders in the church. The congregation also takes on the role of serving: worshipers take the bread (which is gluten-free) and grape juice from the plate held by their neighbor, and then they take the plate and serve the neighbor on their other side. Empty glasses are placed in the ringed holes in the pew racks.

Fourth Presbyterian Church celebrates the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper each Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. worship and at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services on the first Sunday of even-numbered months.

Portions of the text above adapted from *The Book of Order*.

Worship Leaders

John W. Vest, Chris Gentry, Victoria G. Curtiss, Judith L. Watt

The Music Today

The Vocal Arts Ensemble from After School Matters
Women of the Chancel and Morning Choirs
Kimberly Gunderson and Laura Perkett, soloists
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

FOURTH CHURCH WELCOMES TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING the Henry Hendricks Weddington Vocal Arts Ensemble of the After School Matters organization and Chicago Public Schools. It is directed by Daniel Henry, a member of the Fourth Church Morning Choir.

AS THE BULLETIN HEADINGS remind us, the center of our worship is the Word—by which we mean both Scripture and also the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. When Scripture is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. It is this Living Word that is the center of everything we do in worship. That worship follows the pattern we see in Isaiah 6: adoration, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, and service. We listen for the Word of God. We respond in song, affirmation of our faith, prayer, and the giving of our gifts and dedication of our lives, and then God sends us back into the world to live out our faith, looking for God's work all around us.

SHANNON KERSHNER is in Scotland, participating in a seminar that had been planned prior to her call to Fourth Church. There she is joining with Presbyterian pastors from North Carolina and from Scotland to talk about the church today. She returns on August 19.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to “For the Life that You Have Given” are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission.

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