

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Savior of the Nations, Come Johann Sebastian Bach
“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us J. S. Bach

Introit

“Our King and Savior Now Draws Near” Iain Quinn
*Our King and Savior now 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 (*sung*). The Hymnal, 606

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: *Awake! Rejoice! Prepare to meet your God!*
People: Christ is coming. Open the door.
Sweep the path. Prepare the way!
Minister: *Christ came at Christmas to live as one of us.*
People: Christ comes today to love us and to lead us.
Minister: *Christ will come tomorrow, wherever we may be.*
People: Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 82 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

**Stand as you are able.*

Liturgy of the Advent Wreath

Leader 1: *Please join me in the liturgy of the Advent Wreath.*

Leader 2: *One candle to remind us of the prophets,
who believed in God during dark days
and looked forward to the coming of Christ.
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

Leader 1: *They lived in a land of shadows,
but now light is shining on them. (Isaiah 9:2)*

People: *Living God, we thank you
for faithful people of every age.
We pray that we, too, may have faith,
in spite of the darkness of our times,
and may look for the coming
of Jesus into our world. Amen.*

Sung Response (*unison*) “Cradle Song” (The Hymnal, page 114)

*Come surely, Lord Jesus,
as dawn follows night.
Our hearts long to greet you,
as roses, the light.
Salvation, draw near us;
our vision engage.
One candle is lit
for the hope of the age.*

Litany of Confession

Minister: *Our indifference toward your coming,*

People: *we confess to you, Lord.*

Minister: *Our desire to control time and seasons,*

People: *we confess to you, Lord.*

Minister: *Our failure to be alert*

to signs of your presence in our midst,

People: *we confess to you, Lord.*

Minister: *Our lack of concern for those who come after us,*

People: *we confess to you, Lord.*

Minister: *Our injustices toward people you came to save,*

People: *we confess to you, Lord.*

Minister: *In your mercy, forgive us.*

People: *Grant us the wisdom to welcome your way
and to seek the things that will endure
when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.*

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 80 Old Testament, page 511

Anthem

“Rorate Coeli” Christopher Tye

*Drop dew, ye heavens, from above,
and let the clouds break forth
in showers upon the righteous ones;
in rain upon the just.
Let the earth be opened
and blossom forth a savior.*

First Lesson

Isaiah 64:1–9 Old Testament, page 652

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Gloria Patri (*sung*). The Hymnal, 581

**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.**

Second Lesson

Mark 13:24–37 New Testament, page 47

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 357 “The Days Are Surely Coming”

*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.

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” William Munday

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee” Jean Berger
*The eyes of all wait upon thee;
and thou givest them their meat in due season.
Thou openest thine hand and satisfiest
the desire of every living thing.*

*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.

*Litany of Dedication for Our New Hymnals

Minister: *To you, O God, we offer our thanks and praise.*

People: **We know that your creative power
is the source of every good gift.**

Minister: *Today we take delight in the special gift of these hymnals.*

People: **Thank you for members of this congregation
whose vision, energy, and resources
have helped to make this new hymnal available for our use.**

Minister: *Thank you for the gift of music that stirs our hearts,*

People: **instructs our minds,**

Minister: *strengthens our spirits,*

People: **and sets our bodies in motion.**

Minister: *May this new hymnal inspire our own songs
in times of joy and sorrow.*

People: **Enable us to sing in one voice as your gathered people
and to join in harmony with all who worship you. Amen.**

*Hymn 367 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Savior of the Nations, Come Paul Manz

Worship Leaders

Hardy H. Kim, Lisa Stracks, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

Lighting the Advent Wreath

9:30 a.m. Leslie Conzelman and Ellen Schaller

11:00 a.m. The Maclachlan Family

The Music Today

The Morning Choir

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented on behalf of the "Light Up a Life" Christmas gift-giving program. Light Up a Life gifts are being received throughout November and December. This year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs, mission, and community outreach—including Chicago Lights programs—and denominational efforts. "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.

THE ADVENT BANNERS, in the form of wings, convey the idea of Advent stillness and of waiting in the presence of angels. They were designed and painted by Eliza Linley of Berkeley, California.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Pieces of our liturgy are from *Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship*, copyright © 2007 by Brian Wren, and are reproduced by permission. 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.

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Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission

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