

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

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Prelude in F Major . . . . .	Gustav Merkel
Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Major . . . . .	Clara Schumann
Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini . . . . .	Sergei Rachmaninoff
Variation 18	arr. William McVicker

### Introit

“Come, Let Us Gather” . . . . . Anonymous  
*Come, let us gather now to sing praises and thanks to God our King.  
God’s love surpasses everything.*

\*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.

### Invocation

\*Hymn 401 . . . . . “Here in This Place”

### Prayer of Confession

Gracious and compassionate God,  
your love for us is unflinching and unfailing,  
but we confess that our love for you is uneven.  
We ask for your help, but act as though we saved ourselves.  
We ask for your forgiveness, but repeat the same mistakes.  
We ask for your grace, but live as though it wasn’t present.  
So renew us once again, O Lord.  
Set us free from a past we cannot change;  
open us to a future in which we can be changed;  
and guide us through the gift of your Holy Spirit.  
We pray all of this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

### Declaration of Pardon

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

### Concerns of the Church

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*\*Stand as you are able.*

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

#### Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 145:10–18 . . . . . Old Testament, page 549

#### Anthem

“I Lift Up My Eyes to the Hills” . . . . . Paul Bouman

*I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?  
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved, and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.  
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep;  
the Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand  
so that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.  
The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe.  
The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore.*

#### First Lesson

2 Kings 4:38–44 . . . . . Old Testament, page 320

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

John 6:1–21 . . . . . New Testament, page 91

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

#### Sermon

Loaves and Wishes . . . . . Matt Helms

“*There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they  
among so many people?*” John 6:9 (NRSV)

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 716 . . . . . “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

\*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.

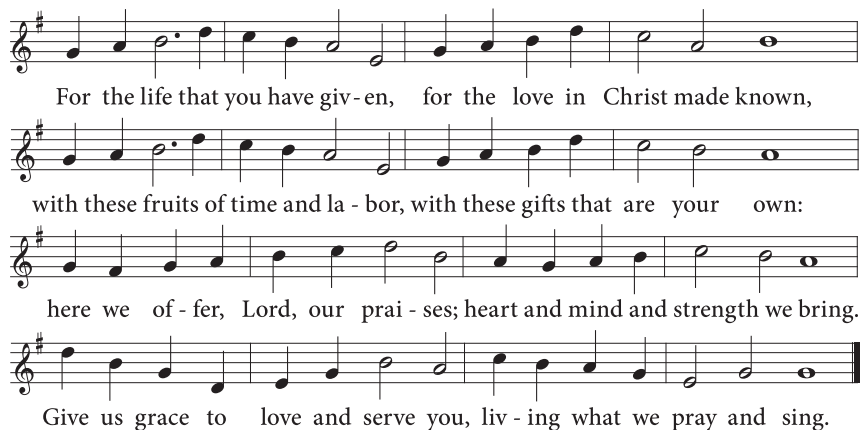
### Prayer Response

“Amen” . . . . . Anonymous

## Offertory Anthem

“Alleluia” . . . . . William Boyce; arr. Mark Schweizer  
*Alleluia.*

### \*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 Dedication (*unison*)

God of wonder,  
we offer you these humble gifts  
as a sign of our deep gratitude to you  
and as a sign of our desire to see your kingdom flourish.  
Help us to share in your vision,  
to proclaim your love,  
and to change this world  
through all that we do. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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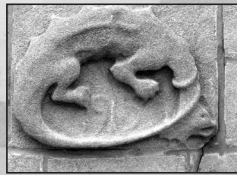
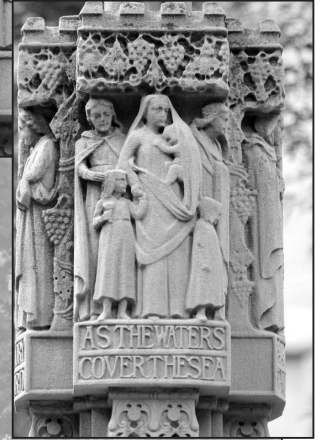
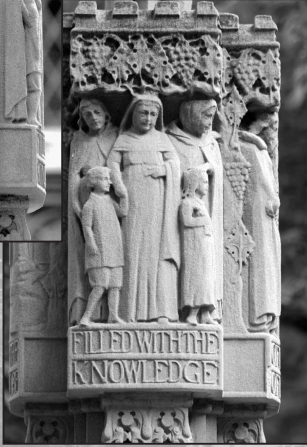
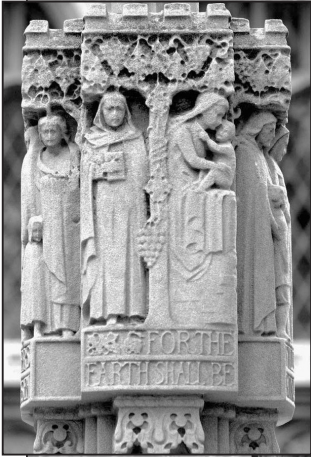
\*Hymn 761 . . . . . “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

### \*Benediction and Response

#### Postlude

Prelude and Fugue in A Minor . . . . . G. Merkel

## IN THE DETAILS



The associate architect of the Michigan Avenue property, Howard Van Doren Shaw, donated the courtyard “Children’s Fountain” in 1913. The base is decorated with depictions of various animals, while the four sides of the top include the verse “For the earth shall be / filled with the knowledge / of the glory of the Lord / as the waters cover the sea” (Isaiah 11:9; Habbakuk 2:14).

## Worship Leaders

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Layton Williams, Liz Kurman, Joyce Shin, Matt Helms

## The Music Today

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Women of the Chancel and Morning Choirs

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Chelsie Coren, Organ Scholar

## Worship Notes

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ORGAN SCHOLAR CHELSIE COREN began assisting with 8:00 worship this summer. This internship program is a partnership between Fourth Church and the University of Chicago.

THE WOMEN OF THE CHANCEL AND MORNING CHOIRS are providing musical leadership during worship through September 6. The full choirs will return on September 13. Anyone interested in joining a Fourth Church choir is encouraged to contact John Sherer (312.981.3592; [jsherer@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jsherer@fourthchurch.org)).

THE TEXTILE BANNERS AND PULPIT PARAMENT, “UNWEAVINGS,” created by fiber artist 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 images, 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 photo depicts the courtyard fountain (see page 7).

The cover quote is from Paul Murray’s book *An Evening of Long Goodbyes*.

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.

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**Shannon J. Kershner** Pastor

**Victoria G. Curtiss** Associate Pastor for Mission

**Matt Helms** Minister for Children and Families

**Hardy H. Kim** Associate Pastor for Evangelism

**Joyce Shin** Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

**Judith L. Watt** Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

**Jeffrey Doane** Parish Associate for Older Adults

**Layton Williams** Pastoral Resident

**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

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