

*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

Ascension Suite . . . . . Olivier Messiaen  
II. Serene alleluias from a soul longing for heaven

### Introit

“Alleluia, Christ the Lord Has Ascended into Heaven” . . . . . Iain Quinn  
*Alleluia, Christ the Lord has ascended into heaven; come, let us adore him;  
alleluia. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. 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.

### \*Invocation

\*Hymn 386 . . . . . “Come, Worship God”

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.  
We confess that it is still all too easy for us  
to sacrifice our convictions for convenience,  
your standards for status,  
and your principles for promotion.  
Forgive us, gracious God, for those times we turn away,  
and bring us back into the fullness  
of our covenant with you and one another.  
Through Christ, our Lord, we pray. 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 97 . . . . . Old Testament, page 521

#### Anthem

“O, Clap Your Hands” . . . . . Ralph Vaughan Williams

*O, clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph,  
for the Lord most high is terrible; he is the great King over all the earth.*

*God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.*

*Sing praises to God, sing praises unto our King; for God is King over all the earth.*

*Sing ye praises everyone that hath understanding. God reigneth over the heathen;*

*God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness, sing praises unto our King.*

#### First Lesson

Acts 16:11–24 . . . . . New Testament, page 127

Minister: *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

Acts 16:25–34 . . . . . New Testament, page 128

#### Sermon

“Unshackled” . . . . . Matt Helms

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 756 . . . . . “O God of Every Nation”

\*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 Solo

Panis Angelicus . . . . . César Franck

*Heavenly bread that becomes the bread for all mankind,  
bread from the angelic host that is the end of all imaginings.  
O, miraculous thing! This body of God will nourish  
even the poorest, the most humble of servants.*

\*Offertory 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.

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## Sealing the Word

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### 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:*

Sanctus (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 552

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Minister: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

#### 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

“Bread of the World” . . . . . Richard Shepherd

*Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed;  
by whom the words of life were spoken and in whose death our sins are dead:  
look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed;  
and be thy feast to us the token that by thy grace our souls are fed.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Most gracious God,  
we thank you for what you have given  
and for what you have promised us here.  
You have made us one  
with all your people on heaven and earth.  
You have fed us with the bread of life  
and the promise of the cup of salvation.  
Now we give ourselves to you,  
and we ask that our daily living  
may be part of your kingdom,  
that our love be shaped by your love.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 318 . . . . . “In Christ There Is No East or West”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Ascension Suite . . . . . O. Messiaen  
III. Outburst of joy from a soul before the glory of Christ

## Worship Leaders

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Matt Helms, Roberta Dawson

## The Music Today

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The Chancel Choir; Laura Kubelka, soloist  
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music  
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

## Worship Notes

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THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED BY INTINCTION. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

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.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts the large hanging sculpture in Buchanan Chapel, as viewed from Chestnut Street.

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** Associate Pastor  
for Children and Family Ministry

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

**Rocky Supinger** Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

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

**Nanette Sawyer** Minister for Congregational Life

**Jeffrey Doane** Parish Associate for Older Adults

**Layton Williams** Pastoral Resident

**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

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