

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue on a Theme by Vittoria Benjamin Britten
Sarabande Herbert Howells
Adagio in E Major Frank Bridge

Introit

“O Thou Sweetest Source of Gladness” Louis Bourgeois
arr. Philip Ledger

*O thou sweetest source of gladness, light’s all lovely fountainhead,
who alike in joy and sadness leavest none unvisited.
Breath of Godhead, highest King, who, upholding everything,
wilt uphold with love undying; hear, O hear me, humbly crying.*

*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

Leader: *In Jesus Christ, all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.*

People: **Through Christ, God reconciled all things
in heaven and on earth.**

Leader: *In awe and gratitude for the gift of reconciliation,
let us worship the Lord our God.*

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 450 “Be Thou My Vision”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that we have been distracted by many things.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and strength.
We have not paid close attention to your Word.
We have allowed those of us who are poor to be neglected
and those of us who are weak to be oppressed.
We have been impatient in worship and insincere in our dealings with others.
We have turned our faces from signs of injustice and held our tongues
rather than speaking out.
Forgive us, we pray.
Teach us the power of repenting and starting again.
Make us steadfast in faith and dedicated to living out your Gospel.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 15 Old Testament, page 469

Anthem

“Steal Away” African American spiritual
arr. Malcolm Archer

Steal away to Jesus, steal away home. I ain't got long to stay here.
My Lord, he calls me by the thunder. The trumpet sounds within my soul.
Steal away to Jesus, steal away home. I ain't got long to stay here.
Green trees bending, poor sinner stands trembling.
The trumpet sounds within my soul.

First Lesson

Colossians 1:15–20 New Testament, page 188

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

Luke 10:38–42. New Testament, page 67
Minister: *The Word of the Lord*.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 372 “O for a World”

*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.

Reception of New Members (11:00)

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” Morgan Simmons

Offertory Anthem

“The Road Home” Stephen Paulus

Tell me, where is the road I can call my own that I left, that I lost so long ago? All these years I have wandered. O, when will I know there’s a way, there’s a road that will lead me home? After wind, after rain, when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream in the gold of day, through the air there’s a calling from far away, there’s a voice I can hear that will lead me home. Rise up, follow me, “come away” is the call, with the love in your heart as the only song. There is no such beauty as where you belong. Rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

*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*)

O God, receive these gifts, which are the product of our labors,
 and let us not forget the better part of our offering,
 which is our devotion to your words of life
 and our commitment to living them out. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 756 “O God of Every Nation”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Carillon William Mathias

Worship in the Reformed Tradition

As the headings in our bulletin remind us each week, the center of our worship is **the Word**—by which we mean both Scripture and the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. Our Scripture witnesses to God and God’s activity. When it 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 (page 597 of the Old Testament): adoration, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, and service. Overwhelmed by God’s majesty and glory, we **gather** together in **praise** offered through song and prayer.

In the face of that great goodness of God, we also see how we fall short of being who we were created to be and so we join in a **prayer of confession**. We then proclaim the **forgiveness** that we know in Jesus Christ. We live our lives in this cycle of realizing where we fall short, being honest to God about that, and then recognizing that God always forgives us, even before the words are on our lips, and lets us start new.

As we listen for the Word of God, **Scripture** is read. The **sermon** is proclaimed. We respond to the Word with thanksgiving, joining in **song** and **affirming our faith**, using words from the Presbyterian Church (USA)’s *Book of Confessions*—whether it be the Apostles’ Creed, a Brief Statement of Faith, or one of the other professions of faith—or words taken directly from Scripture.

Following Jesus’ instruction to pray, in the **Prayers of the People** we bring human need before God in hope, trust, and thanksgiving for God’s faithfulness, concluding with the **Lord’s Prayer**. Our response of thanksgiving also includes the giving of our material goods, bringing to God the **offerings** of our work as symbols of our gratitude and our acknowledgment that everything we have comes from God. In prayer we **dedicate** these gifts and our lives to the work of the church and God’s mission.

God then **sends** us, like Isaiah, back out into the world in service. Our final **hymn** of grateful praise moves directly into a **charge and blessing** to take what we have heard, to take what we have learned, and to actively live it out in the world, looking for God’s work all around us.

Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger, Marcus Miller, Matt Helms, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Women's Choir

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

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by by Renee Linton on behalf of the School Supply Drive coordinated by Women at Fourth.

FOURTH CHURCH EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the Women's Choir for their musical leadership during morning worship this summer. Beginning next Sunday, July 24, the Men's Choir will be singing in Sunday morning worship through September 4. Anyone interested in joining a Fourth Church choir is encouraged to contact John Sherer (312.981.3592; jsherer@fourthchurch.org).

FOURTH CHURCH OFFERS A VARIETY of worship opportunities on Sunday, including an 8:00 a.m. Communion service and a jazz service with Communion at 4:00 p.m. Each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer is held in Buchanan Chapel as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need. We also offer a monthly fourth-Friday prayer service in the style of Taizé, which meets this month on July 22 at 7:30 p.m.

THE BULLETIN COVER image shows a close-up view of summer flowers in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. The cover quote is from Walter Brueggemann's poem "Your Word" in his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is adapted from Colossians 1:19–22. Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. Prayer of Confession and Prayer of Dedication are from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*, copyright © 2012; reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press. 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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John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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