

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Elegy George Thalben-Ball

Introit

“In Thee, O Lord, Let Me Put My Trust” Stephen Sturk
In thee, O Lord, let me put my trust; let me never be confounded. 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

Leader: *God gave freely for the sake of all of us,
including outcasts, rebels, and even persecutors.*

People: **God loved us so much
that Jesus Christ laid down his life for our sakes.**

Leader: *God did not hold our sin against us.
Though violated, Christ refused to strike back
and took on himself the suffering that should have been ours.*

People: **For God’s immeasurable grace and inexhaustible love,
we now worship God with thanks and praise.**

*Hymn 610 “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious God, we confess that in our sinfulness we unleash destructiveness and death. We break relationships. We break the minds and hearts and bodies of others, those we know and those we have never met. We sin in our action and our inaction. We especially fall short of Christ and give in to the temptation of putting false idols of power and greed before our Lord. Forgive us, please. Help us live full lives in you, understanding that only in you can we be dead to sin and alive in Christ. Amen.

Extinguishing the Fourth Lenten Candle

Kyrie Franz Schubert
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“The Lord Is My Shepherd” Howard Goodall
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. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; you will comfort me. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*sung responsively*)
“Shepherd Me, O God” (Psalm 23) The Hymnal, 473

First Lesson

John 18:28–32 New Testament, page 106
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 18:33–38 New Testament, page 106
Leader: *The Word of the Lord*.
People: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Sermon Series: Following Jesus in the Gospel of John
“Paradoxical Truth” Victoria G. Curtiss

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 274 “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

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

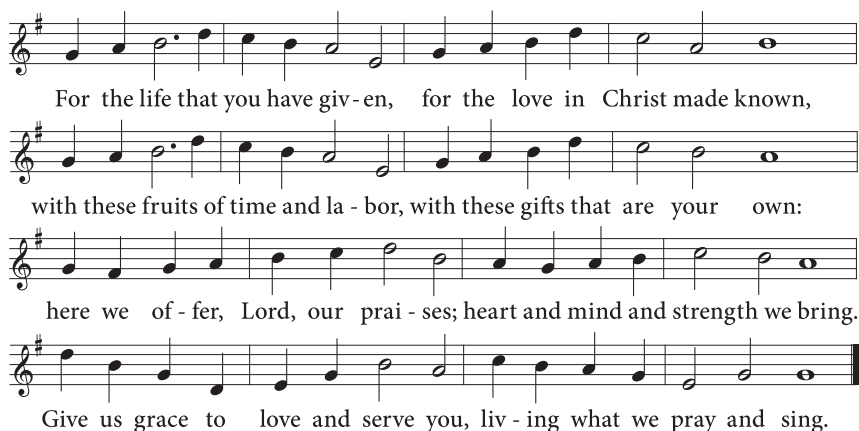
I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; 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

“Out of the Depths” Alan Hovhaness
Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear my voice; let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.
If thou, Lord, should mark iniquities, who shall stand?
I wait for the Lord, more than they that watch for the morning.

*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.

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 up 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 . . .*

. . . forever singing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus (*sung*) The Hymnal, 572

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, 573

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

“Wondrous Love” American folk hymn
arr. Alice Parker

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul. When I was sinking down, O my soul, when I was sinking down beneath God’s righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, to God and to the Lamb who is the great “I am”; while millions join the theme I will sing. And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on; I’ll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I’ll sing on.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 209 “My Song Is Love Unknown”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

O Bread of Life from Heaven Johannes Brahms

Worship Leaders

Shannon J. Kershner, Larry Thompson, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir; Carol Mycio, Cole Seaton, and Katherine Weber, soloists
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

EACH SUNDAY DURING LENT we are extinguishing a candle at the front of the Sanctuary. Just as we lit candles on the Advent wreath to symbolize the light coming into the world through the birth of Christ, so now our extinguishing of candles points to the Lenten progression from light to darkness as we make our way to Good Friday and the crucifixion.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING is being received throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and Elam Davies Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a “One Great Hour of Sharing” gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks or write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

THE ANTHEM “THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD” was written in 1994 by English composer Howard Goodall to be the theme of the BBC series *The Vicar of Dibley*.

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. All rights reserved.

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