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

# Gathering around the Word

### Prayer of Confession

Holy God, the earth is full of your creation; in wisdom you have made us all and you have delivered us into one another's care, asking that we love one another as you first loved us. But we have fostered discord rather than unity, contempt rather than respect, ignorance rather than love. Communities, peoples, creatures, lands, and seas have been set apart, torn apart, or driven apart by conflicting claims and thoughtless ambitions. You know our thoughts, O Lord, and so we humbly ask that you forgive and renew us. Help us walk in your way of love and reconcile us in your spirit of peace, that all may truly know your gift of life. In Christ's name we pray. 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 65:1–8. Old Testament, page 499

#### Anthem

"Beautiful Savior"...... Silesian folk tune arr. F. Melius Christiansen

Fair are the meadows, fairer the woodlands, robed in flowers of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man; glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine.

First Lesson
Isaiah 55:10–13 Old Testament, page 645
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
*Gloria Patri (sung)
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.
Second Lesson
Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23 New Testament, page 13
Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Sermon
"Sown Freely"
D 10 1 TIT 1
Responding to the Word
*Hymn 450 "Be Thou My Vision"
*Hymn 450 "Be Thou My Vision"
*Hymn 450

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

"Call to Remembrance, O Lord"..... Eric DeLamarter Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies, and thy loving-kindness which have been ever of old. Amen.

### Offertory Anthem

"Ride the Chariot" . . . . . . . . . . . . African American spiritual arr. William Henry Smith

I'm going to ride the chariot in the morning, Lord.

I'm getting ready for the judgment day, my Lord.

Are you ready, my brother? Are you ready for the journey?

Do you want to see your Jesus? I'm waiting for the chariot because I'm ready to go.

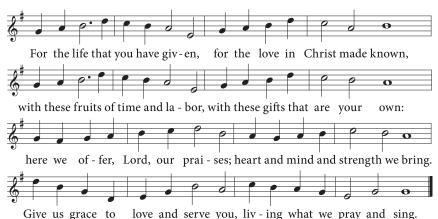
Are you ready, my sister? Are you ready for the journey?

Do you want to see your Jesus? I'm waiting for the chariot because I'm ready to go.

I never can forget that day when all my sins were taken away.

Ride in the chariot to see my Lord. My feet were snatched from the miry clay. Ride in the chariot to see my Lord.

### \*Presentation of the Offering and Response



#### \*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, we give ourselves to you.

Take us out to live as changed people because, after our experience of you, we cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.

May we each sow the seeds of your love freely,

and may they indeed take root in our world. Amen.

## Bearing the World into the World

*Hymn 697	
*Benediction and Response	
Postlude	
Fanfare	Ronald Arnatt

### Worship Leaders

9:30 Jeff Doane, Nicole Spirgen, Victoria G. Curtiss, Matt Helms11:00 Jeff Doane, Eric Olson, Ashley Swidnicki, Victoria G. Curtiss, Matt Helms

### The Music Today

The Men's Choir; Sean Stanton, flutist and soloist; Cole Seaton, soloist John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

### Worship Notes

FOURTH CHURCH EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the Men's Choir for their musical leadership during morning worship this summer. The Women's Choir will be singing from July 23 through September 3.

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by Kathryn Burkhardt on behalf of the School Supply Drive sponsored by Women at Fourth

THE BANNERS DISPLAYED IN THE SANCTUARY are based on seven statements attributed to Jesus Christ in the Gospel according to John in which Jesus declares "I am . . . the Resurrection and the Life; the Bread of Life; the Light of the World; the Gate; the Good Shepherd; the Way, the Truth, and the Life; and the Vine." The banners were designed and created by Associate Pastor Victoria G. Curtiss. In the literature racks is a brochure explaining them, with accompanying prayers.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts flowers in the Michigan Avenue courtyard after a rain.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is from Psalm 100. 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
Matt Helms Associate Pastor
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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 Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

This worship bulletin is printed on recyclable paper that contains recycled post-consumer waste and is acid free. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled. THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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