

*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

- Rocking Jerusalem . . . . . African American spiritual  
arr. John W. Work
- Esto les Digo . . . . . Kinley Lange Matthew
- Quiet Place . . . . . Ralph Carmichael and Mervyn Warren
- Precious Lord . . . . . Thomas Dorsey  
arr. Arnold Sevier
- Excerpts from the *Coronation Mass* . . . . . Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

### Introit

- “O Give Thanks unto the Lord” . . . . . English folk song  
*O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious and his mercy endureth forever.*

- \*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: *This is the day that God has made,*  
People: *we will rejoice and be glad in it!*  
Leader: *Let us worship God, our Maker and our Giver of Joy.*

### \*Prayer of Praise

- \*Hymn 409 . . . . . “God Is Here!”

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*\*Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Loving God, you told us that to love you,  
our neighbors, and ourselves was to live a life of fullness.  
Yet though we have been created by love  
and are surrounded by love, we stumble.  
We have trouble trusting in your infinite compassion for us.  
Forgive our lack of faith.  
We withhold forgiveness and compassion from others.  
Forgive our desperate control.  
Free us from the fears and anxiety that hold us captive.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Anthem

“Lux Aurumque” . . . . . Eric Whitacre  
*Light, warm and heavy as pure gold, and the angels sing softly to the new-born baby.*

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Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 105:1-11 . . . . . Old Testament, page 525

\*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.

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 29:1, 10-12, 15-20 . . . . . Old Testament, page 25

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 30 . . . . . “O God, in a Mysterious Way”

\*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

“The Word Was God” . . . . . Rosephanye Powell  
*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.  
By him all things were made that have been made.  
Nothing was made he has not made.*

\*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*)

Lord of Life, we celebrate your countless gifts,  
 in days and nights, in rainbows and rain,  
 in hands that sew, in food on the table.  
 Yet above all, we celebrate the gift  
 of your coming among us,  
 walking our roads, calling our names,  
 enfolding our lives, inviting us home.  
 May these gifts be our “thank you”  
 for all this and so much more. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 366 . . . . . “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

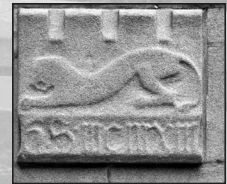
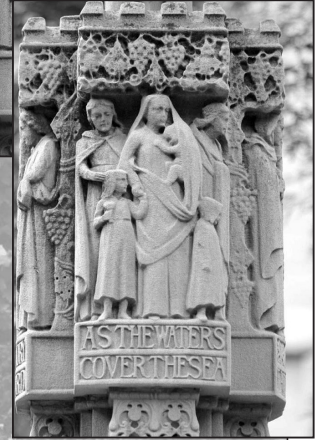
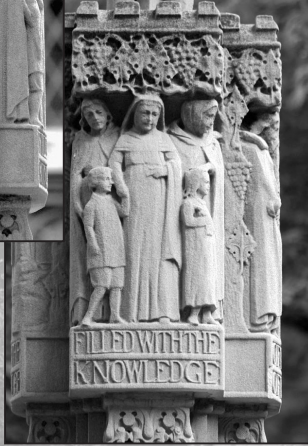
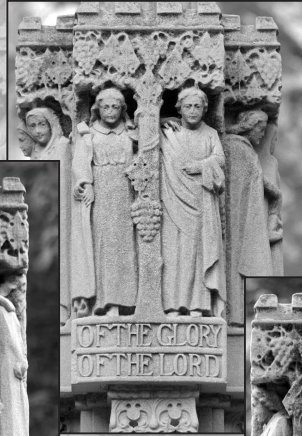
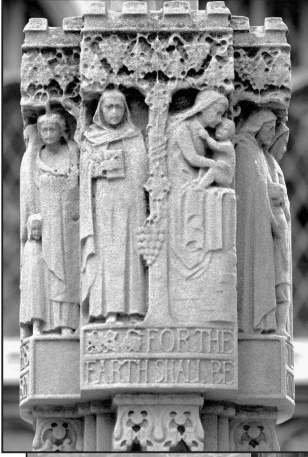
\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Fugue on the Theme of the Carillon at Soissons Cathedral

Maurice Duruflé

## 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 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).

*One in a series on the architectural details of Fourth Church*

## Worship Leaders

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9:30 Abbi Hemiach-Snipes, Alison Van Vark, Ron Bottrell, Matt Helms,  
Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Abbi Hemiach-Snipes, Linda Gibboney, John Dallas, Matt Helms,  
Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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The Women's Choir; After School Matters Choir

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

Thomas E Gouwens, Associate Organist

## Worship Notes

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THE FOURTH CHURCH WOMEN'S CHOIR is singing in worship through September 3. The Chancel and Morning Choirs will return on September 10.

FOURTH CHURCH WELCOMES THE AFTER SCHOOL MATTERS CHOIR directed by Daniel Henry and Jerry Johnson. Sponsored by the City of Chicago, this choir brings together high school students from around the city to sing concerts in many settings each summer.

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by Alison Gerlach Blaser (9:30) and Maggie Lewis (11:00) on behalf of the Nominating Committee.

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 on the Delaware Place side of the Sanctuary. The cover quote is from Walter Brueggemann's prayer "At the Dawn" in his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*.

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 Prayer of Confession is adapted from *Before the Amen: Creative Resources for Worship*. 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

**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

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**THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**  
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