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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude
Fanfare Paul Dukas
Canzona
Grand March Chorus
arr. Craig Garner
Chaconne Dieterich Buxtehude
Jubilate Deo
arr. Charles Schuchat
Introit
"You Belong to Christ" Robert A. Hobby
You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.
*Doxology (sung)
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: How good it is to thank our God and speak our Savior's name,
People: with choir, organ, heart, and voice, God's wonders to proclaim!
Leader: Let us worship God!
*Prayer of Praise
*Hymn 363 "Rejoice, the Lord is King!"
Sunday School Teacher Commissioning
Youth Leader Commissioning (9:30)

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of Mystery, we want to be ready for your surprises,

but sometimes we are tired and dulled by the usual routine.

We want to work patiently for the fulfillment of your reign,

but we can get frustrated by our desire for immediate results.

We want to trust your promises from ancient days,

but some of us are overwhelmed by doubts.

Forgive us, O God, and break us open again.

Awaken us with your unexpected grace.

Shock us with your daring mercy.

Lift us up from numbness and apathy

and set our feet on your way once more. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: Friends, believe the good news:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

"Exultate Deo" Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.

Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (responsively)

Psalm 114 Old Testament, page 532

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.

Scripture Lesson

Romans 14:1–12 New Testament, page 152

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 439 "O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer" *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 "Thou Wilt Keep Them" Eric DeLamarter

Thou wilt keep them in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on thee.

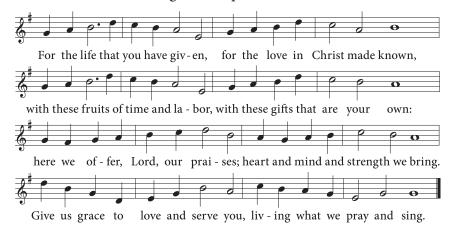
Offering

Offertory Anthem

"Psalm 148" Gustav Holst

Lord, who hast made us for thine own, hear as we sing before thy throne, alleluia. Accept thy children's reverent praise for all thy wondrous works and ways, alleluia. Waves, rolling in on every shore, pause at his footfall and adore, alleluia. Ye torrents rushing from the hills, bless him whose hand your fountains fills, alleluia. Earth, ever through the power divine, seedtime and harvest shall be thine, alleluia. Sweet flowers that perfume all the air, thank him that he hath made you fair, alleluia. Burn, lamps of night, with constant flame; shine to the honor of his name, alleluia. Thou sun, whom all the lands obey, renew his praise from day to day, alleluia.

*Presentation of the Offering and Response



*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Lord, you have blessed our lives in so many ways.
In gratitude for all these blessings
and in confidence that our gifts will be used
for ministries of peace and hope, we offer these gifts. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 268	"Crown Him with Many Crowns"
*Benediction and Response	
Postlude	
Canzon Francese	Giovanni Cavaccio
	arr. Erich Peterson

Sunday School and Youth Ministry Commissioning

Today's commissioning of Sunday School teachers, staff, and youth leaders is an affirmation of their dedicated service to our church, its members, and those who are among us as visitors.

Sunday School Leaders

Liz Adams Barbara Joabson Kathleen Page Michelle Becker Nath Jones Josie Phelps Briana Belding-Peck Hilary Richardson Patty Kendall Amy Kleckner Kim Ruhana Agnes Boateng Norah Satre Trisha Breitlow Erica Kuhlmann Anne Canfield Ii Inn Lee Stacy Shonkwiler Dennis Canfield Dawn Mayfield John Stracks Rhonda Carlson Caroline Meneau Ned Thomas Chrissy Cersale Tim Mertzlufft Len Tomaka

Pam Crowell Mark Meyer Susan Van der Meulen

Gayle Engberg Ann Murray Kaity Vostry
Dave Ericson Justin Myers Charlotte Wager
Marci Hanzlik Larry Nicholson Debbie Whitmore
Abigail Hodges Tanya Padilla Todd Zimmerman

Sunday School Staff

Matt Helms, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry

Jill Keiser, Nursery Superintendent

Briana Belding-Peck, Family Ministry Coordinator

Pam Crowell, Sunday School Coordinator

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Youth Leaders

Junior High: Julie Cook, Kim Douglass, Jill Fenstermaker, Laura Lewandowski

Confirmation Circle Leaders: Kjirsten Almos, Luke Beasley, Carole Bekken,

Regan Burke, Karen Frank, Andrea Page, Kathi Rodak

Senior High: Stephen Hauser, Mark Nelson, Mark Schimmelpfennig, Gretchen Wahl

Youth Ministry Staff

Rocky Supinger, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Shelley Donaldson, Senior High Youth Coordinator

Katie Patterson, Youth Mission Coordinator

Worship Leaders

- 9:30 Matt Helms, Pam Block, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner
- 11:00 Matt Helms, Jeff Weber, Kathryn Burkhart, Victoria G. Curtiss Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir; Tower Brass
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist
Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

Worship Notes

Tower Brass, Fourth Church's resident brass ensemble, today begins their twentieth year of providing music leadership during Fourth Church worship. Started in 1997 with a generous gift from the Andrew Family Foundation in honor of Edith and Edward Andrew's fortieth wedding anniversary, Tower Brass is now endowed by the Foundation.

THE BULLETIN COVER depicts (at bottom) the Sanctuary, the cornerstone of which was laid 105 years ago today (on September 17, 1912), and the Gratz Center, the cornerstone of which was laid five years ago this weekend (on September 16, 2012). The cover quote is from Walter Brueggemann's book *Prayers for a Privileged People*.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is adapted from the hymn "Found in Piece Together Praise" by Brian Wren © 1993 Hope Publishing. 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. The Prayer of Dedication is from www.ministrymatters.com.

Shannon I. 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

Alex Wirth Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults **Abbi Heimach-Snipes** Pastoral Resident

Iohn 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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