

*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

Prelude and Fugue in C Minor . . . . . Anton Bruckner  
Trio in G Minor . . . . . Josef Rheinberger  
Benedictus . . . . . Max Reger

### Introit

“Louez le Seigneur!” . . . . . Cameroon melody  
arr. Ralph M. Johnson

*Praise the Lord! Praise God’s holy name, alleluia.*

\*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: *Sing a new song to the Lord who has worked wonders,  
whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.*

People: The Lord has made known salvation;  
has shown justice to the nations;  
has remembered truth and love for God’s people.

Leader: *All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing out your joy.

Leader: *Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music.*

People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
acclaim the Lord, our Sovereign.

### \*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 1 . . . . . “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

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*\*Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of Grace,  
we confess that we have elevated  
the things of this world above you.  
We have made idols of possessions and people  
and used your name for causes  
that are not consistent with you and your purposes.  
We have permitted our schedules to come first  
and have not taken the time to worship you.  
We have participated in systems  
that take life instead of give it.  
We have been unfaithful in our relationships  
with you and with one another.  
We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours,  
and we have misrepresented others' intentions.  
Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we fall short of your glory.  
Help us to learn to live together according to your ways  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

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Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 105:37-45 . . . . . Old Testament, page 526

Anthem

“Hear My Prayer, O Lord” . . . . . Henry Purcell  
*Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my crying come unto thee.*

First Lesson

Exodus 16:2-15 . . . . . Old Testament, page 60  
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

Philippians 1:27-30 . . . . . New Testament, page 185

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“The Sovereignty of God” . . . . . Paul T. Roberts Sr.

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Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 12 . . . . . “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

\*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) . . . . . The Scots Confession, Chapter I

We confess and acknowledge one God alone,  
to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve,  
whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust.  
Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable,  
incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible;  
one in substance and yet distinct in three persons,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.  
By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth,  
visible and invisible to have been created, to be retained in their being,  
and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence  
for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness,  
and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.

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

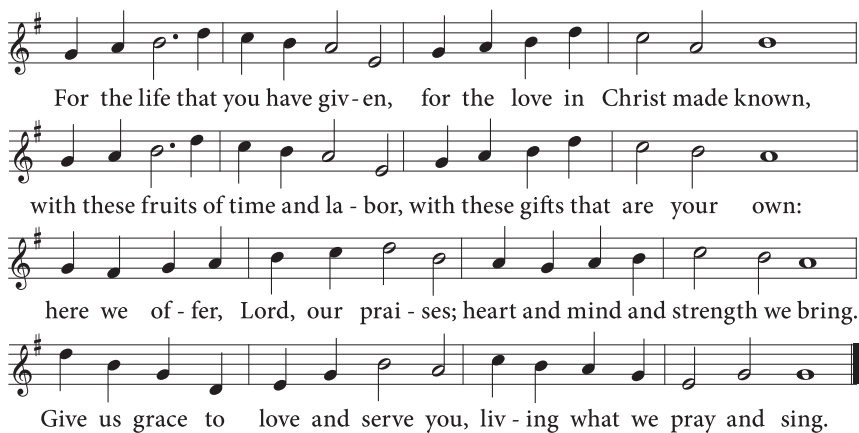
## Offering

### Offertory Anthem

“Laudate Dominum” . . . . . Aaron David Miller

*Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples!  
For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!*

### \*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.

## Commissioning of the Morning Choir and Ushers

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

Yours, God, is the greatness,  
the power and the glory,  
the victory and the majesty.  
All that is in the heavens  
and on the earth is yours,  
and you rule over all.  
Therefore, O God, receive these offerings,  
our tangible expressions of love and gratitude.  
Transform them into a source of life for many  
so that your reign may grow in the hearts of all.  
In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 719 ..... “Come, Labor On”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Postlude in F Major ..... Charles Ives

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### MORNING CHOIR COMMISSIONING

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Today’s commissioning of the Morning Choir lifts up the musical gifts they offer in weekly worship leadership.

Gretchen Adams, Melissa Arning, Jeanne Bishop, Carol Carpenter, Kathryn Cole, Beena David, Micah Dingler, Todd DeStigter, Robert Doak, Thomas Gouwens, Kimberly Gunderson, Daniel Henry, Rachel Holzhausen, Carla Janzen, Laura Kubelka, Grant Nill, Craig Palmer, Laura Perkett, Brett Potts, Dan Richardson, Marshall Rollings, Cole Seaton, John W. W. Sherer, Sean Stanton, Sarah van der Ploeg, Leslie Ventsch, Katherine Weber

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### USHER COMMISSIONING

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Today’s commissioning of Fourth Church ushers is an affirmation of their dedicated service to our church, its members, and those who are among us as visitors.

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#### 9:30 A.M USHERS

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Gerry Bloomer, Dianne Bowman, John Brill, Scott Casler, Karin Cohn, Linda Crane, Bennie Davis, Don DuPree, Chris Foster, Louise Gram, Renee Golas, Pam Jameson, Steve Jurgens, Ji Inn Lee, Sue Lopatka, Brenda Mauldin, Pauline Merrill, Sandy Nelson, Lynne Ostfeld, Rob Sinclair, Gene Tonsager, Jeff Weber, Claudia Winkler

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#### 11:00 A.M. USHERS

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Dean Banick, Nan Birmingham, Norma Borcharding, Don Brettmann, Kay Brungs, Vern Broders, Lynn Davis, David Douglas, Joe Fong, Deborah Ford, Rita Fritz, Bob Jewell, Jim Lacy, Laura Lee Larson, Young Lee, Leon LeRoy, Arthur Martin, Marc Miller, Mary Christina Oxtoby, Arlene Raine, Tony Ruger, Mary Schaafsma, Susan Schemper, Menno Scholten, Joe Sifferlen, Pat Tam, Barton Tretheway, Beverly Washington, Cornell Wilson

## Worship Leaders

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9:30 Judith L. Watt, Larry Braskamp, Shannon J. Kershner, Paul T. Roberts Sr.

11:00 Judith L. Watt, John Dallas, Shannon J. Kershner, Paul T. Roberts Sr.

## The Music Today

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The Morning Choir; the Drum Circle

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

John Doty, Director of the Drum Circle

## Worship Notes

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THIS WEEK'S AFFIRMATION OF FAITH comes from the first chapter of the Scots Confession. As we mark the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, we will affirm our faith by using different creeds and statements of faith from the Reformed tradition.

ALSO IN COMMEMORATION of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, today we begin a seven-week sermon series, "Always Reforming":

September 24 "Sovereignty of God"

October 1 "Priests without Robes (or Tabs)"

October 8 "Depraved and Confused"

October 15 "Total Grace"

October 22 "Gratitude and Responsibility"

October 29 "Always Being Reformed"

November 5 "Commitment to the City"

THE BULLETIN COVER depicts the church steeple in fog with the low sun behind it. The cover quote is an excerpt from Maya Angelou's 1993 inauguration poem, "On the Pulse of the Morning."

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship (based on Psalm 98:1–6) is adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook*, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship 2004. 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 and Prayer of Dedication are from *The Worship Sourcebook*. 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

**Alex Wirth** Minister for Evangelism

**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**  
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014  
www.fourthchurch.org | www.facebook.com/fourthchurch  
312.787.4570 | Voicemail 312.787.2729 | Fax: 312.787.4584