

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Impromptu Louis Vierne
Méditation Maurice Duruflé
Antiphon in F Major. André Fleury

Introit

- “Lead Me in Your Truth” (9:30). Daniel Barta
“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises” (11:00) South African melody

- *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: *Throughout God’s world this day,
Christian churches celebrate the Lord’s Supper
as one family dining together in one room, under one roof.*

People: **Our sisters and brothers in all lands and countries
join us in lifting the bread of life and the cup of salvation.**

Leader: *In Christ’s love there is no east, no west, no north, no south,*

People: **but only one Spirit of hope, love, and peace for all!**

*Prayer of Praise

- *Hymn 509 “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, as proclaimers of your grace, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.

*Stand as you are able.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news:*

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Concerns of the Church

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 25:1-9 Old Testament, page 475

First Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:11-21 New Testament, page 170

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

1 Peter 2:9-10 New Testament, page 219

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Priests without Robes (or Tabs)” Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 515 “I Come with Joy”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) Confession of 1967

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world
as God’s reconciling community.
This community, the church universal,
is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation
and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities
which separate people from God and from each other.

Christ has called the church to this mission
 and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.
 The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ
 has set the pattern for the church's mission.
 His human life involves the church in the common life of all people.
 His service to men and women commits the church
 to work for every form of human well-being.
 His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering
 so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need.
 His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment
 on the inhumanity that marks human relations and
 the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice.
 In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming,
 the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life
 in society and of God's victory over all wrong.
 The church follows this pattern in the form of its life
 and in the method of its action.
 So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Greater Love Hath No Man” John Ireland

*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 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 . . .*

. . . who forever sing 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.

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 Anthems

"Venite, populi" Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Come, all people, come from afar and marvel; God is near to all the nations and to each of us. God's true presence we continually contemplate through living faith.

O destiny more blessed than all others. O destiny of the faithful for whom breaking the bread and sharing the cup is a help. Therefore, let us feast on the unleavened bread of truth and sincerity. Let us feast and drink the cup of eternal joy.

“Laudate Dominum” from *Vesperae solemnes de confessore* . . . W. A. Mozart
*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! Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.*

Psalm 23 (*recited in unison after all have received the cup*)

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. He restoreth
my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear
no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you.
Take us out to live as changed people because
we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 536 “Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Toccata in B-flat Minor Louis Vierne

TODAY FOURTH CHURCH CELEBRATES THE SACRAMENT of the Lord’s Supper.

Communion is not just for Presbyterians or “members of the church.”
All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, even those who doubt
or whose trust is wavering, are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper,
in which we are assured of God’s love and grace.

The congregation is served in the pews by Fourth Church elders, deacons,
and youth. The congregation also takes on the role of serving: worshipers
take the bread (which is gluten-free) and grape juice from the plate held by
their neighbor, and then they take the plate and serve the neighbor on their
other side. Empty glasses are placed in the ringed holes in the pew racks.

Worship Leaders

9:30 Alex Wirth, Jim Kulich, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Alex Wirth, Fred Schwartz, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Youth Choir (9:30); Morning Choir

Laura Perkett and Sean Stanton, soloists

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth (9:30)

Hsing-Huei Huang, pianist (9:30)

Worship Notes

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY is a day when worshipers around the world gather for the Lord's Supper, enacting the words of the hymn "Come, Risen Lord": "One church united in communion blest; one name we bear, one bread of life we break."

AS WE MARK THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION this autumn, we continue our seven-part "Always Reforming" sermon series, which today focuses on the priesthood of all believers. As a visual reminder of the call we all share, we have placed on the Communion table a variety of liturgical stoles, which recall the words of Jesus in Matthew 11:29—"Take my yoke upon you"—and represent our yoke of service to Christ. Each week we are also affirming our faith by using different creeds and statements of faith from the Reformed tradition.

TODAY'S PEACEMAKING AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING supports efforts towards peacemaking by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Gifts to this offering can be made using the envelopes available in the pew racks or by writing "Peacemaking" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

THE BULLETIN COVER quote is from Walter Brueggemann's sermon "What a Difference Mercy Makes" in his book *Inscribing the Text*.

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.

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Alex Wirth Minister for Evangelism

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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.

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