

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

The King of Love My Shepherd Is Keith Kolander

Introit

“Come, My Light” Charles Callahan

Come, my light, and illumine my darkness.

Come, my life, and revive me from death.

*Come, my King, sit upon the throne of my heart and reign there,
for thou alone art my King and my Lord. Amen.*

*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: *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.*

People: We worship the Lord with gladness.

Leader: *Come into God’s presence with singing.*

People: We know that the Lord is God.

God made us, and we belong to God.

Leader: *Let us praise God together.*

*Hymn 263 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, you taught us that as we treat our neighbors,
so we treat Jesus Christ. Forgive us for mistreating our brothers
and sisters and thus also you. When people hunger and thirst,
we too often do not work so they can obtain resources that sustain
life. With persons who are imprisoned or outcasts, we seldom go
out of our way to visit them. When others are sick or alone, we are
not quick to keep vigil at their side. We know you are in our midst
and rely on our response. Open our hearts and enlighten our eyes,
so we see your face in our neighbors and show compassion. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news.*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*sung*)

“Come, Worship God” (Psalm 95) The Hymnal, 386

Anthem

“One Thing More” Jane Marshall

*Thou who hast given so much to me, give one thing more: a grateful heart:
not thankful when it pleaseth me, as if thy blessings had spare days,
but such a heart whose pulse may be thy praise.*

First Lesson

Ephesians 1:15–23. New Testament, page 181

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

Matthew 25:31–46 New Testament, page 27

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“When Did We See You?” Victoria G. Curtiss

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 186 “Come Now, You Blessed, Eat at My Table”

*Affirmation of Faith. from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
 everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
 The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
 sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
 and binds us together with all believers
 in the one body of Christ, the church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
 rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
 engages us through the Word proclaimed,
 claims us in the waters of baptism,
 feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
 and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world
 the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
 to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
 to unmask idolatries in church and culture,
 to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
 and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

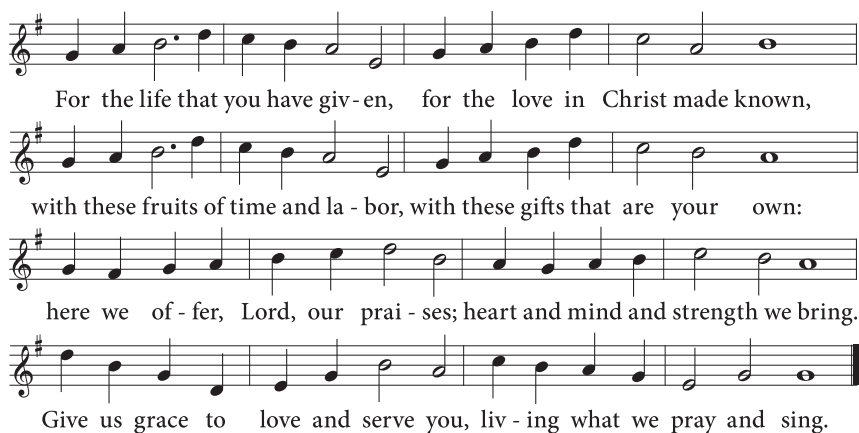
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
 we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
 and to live holy and joyful lives,
 even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,
 praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!” Calvin Hampton

*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 up 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 . . .*

. . . forever singing 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.

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 Anthem

“Father, We Thank Thee” Michael Sitton

*Father, we thank thee who hast planted thy holy name within our hearts.
Knowledge and faith and life immortal Jesus thy Son to us imparts.
Thou, Lord, didst make all for thy pleasure, didst give us food for all our days,
giving in Christ the bread eternal; thine is the power, be thine the praise.
Watch over thy church, O Lord, in mercy; save it from evil, guard it still,
perfect it in thy love, unite it, cleansed and conformed unto thy will.
As grain, once scattered on the hillsides, was in this broken bread made one,
so from all lands thy church be gathered into thy kingdom by thy Son.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of grace,
you renew us at your table with the bread of life.
May this food strengthen us in love
and help us to serve you in each other.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 766 “The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Trumpet Tune David Johnson

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Marsha Heizer, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir

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

Grant Nill, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED by intinction. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

FOURTH CHURCH OFFERS A VARIETY of worship opportunities on Sundays, including this service, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services, and a jazz service with Communion at 4:00 p.m. Each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer is held in Buchanan Chapel as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need. We will also offer a service in the style of Taizé on Sunday, December 31 (New Year's Eve) at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

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. All rights reserved.

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Alex Wirth Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

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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.

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