

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

When We Are in the Greatest Need Johann Sebastian Bach
O Darkest Woe! Ye Tears That Flow! Johannes Brahms
Prelude and Fugue on “O Darkest Woe! Ye Tears That Flow! Ethel Smyth

Introit

“Cantate” (9:30) Jim Leininger
Sing to the Lord a jubilant song, all the earth.
“Even Now, Says the Lord, Return to Me” (11:00) Richard Proulx
*Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart,
for I am gracious and merciful.*

*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: *We gather this day to worship the God of our salvation!*
People: We come with confidence to receive the good news.
Leader: *In this time of worship we meet Jesus,
whose message is abundant life.*
People: We are ready to encounter the risen Christ.
Leader: *The Holy Spirit awaken our gifts to be of service to this world.*
People: We breathe your holy breath, O Spirit of God.
Let us worship the triune God.

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 394 “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Lenten Confession (*unison*)

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you called us to be faithful followers, but we do not do what you command. We are often silent when we should speak, fearful when we should be courageous, risk-adverse when we are called to be bold in our witness.

Have mercy on us, O God. Forgive us, free us, empower us with your living truth, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ who, comes to us and takes on our pain and struggle. Hear us, O God, in the hush of our silence that you may hear those confessions we speak only to you.

(Please hold silence.)

Extinguishing the Third Lenten Candle

Kyrie Franz Schubert

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“Ach, arme Welt, du trügest mich” Johannes Brahms

Alas, poor world, you deceive me; indeed, I recognize this for sure, and yet I cannot avoid you. You false world, you are not true; your visions dissolve, as I surely know, with woe and great sorrow. Your honor, your goods, you poor world, are lacking in death, and in real necessity, your treasure is vain, false money; from this help me, Lord, find peace.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 86:1–13. Old Testament, page 514

*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

Mark 12:1-12 New Testament, page 45

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Sermon Series: Following Jesus in the Gospel of Mark

“A Rousing Word” Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 435 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

*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” Dale Wood

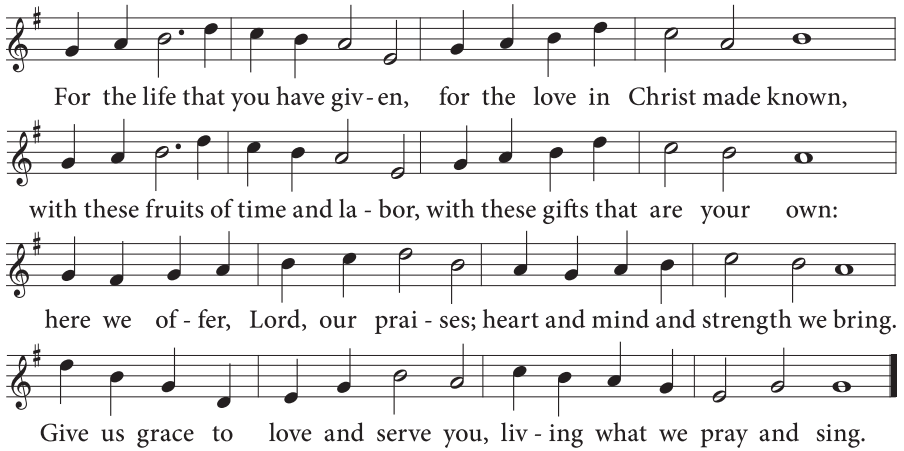
Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein” J. Brahms

When in the hour of deepest need we know not where to look for aid; when days and nights of anxious thought no help or counsel yet have brought, then is our comfort this alone, that we may meet you before your throne, O faithful God. We cry for rescue from our misery, for you have promised, Lord, to heed your children’s cries in time of need through him whose name alone is great, our Savior and advocate. And so we come, O God, today, and all our woes before you lay; for sorely tried, cast down, we stand, perplexed by fears on every hand. O from our sins, Lord, turn your face; absolve us through your boundless grace. Be with us in our anguish still; free us at last from every ill. So we with all our hearts each day to you our glad thanksgiving pay, then walk obedient to your word and now and ever praise you, O 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.

*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

Gracious Lord, you have given us so much that we can scarcely take it in. Through these offerings we return to you a portion of our bounty to further your good news to the world. Remind us, through these gifts, of the incredible love you’ve shown us through the gift of your Son Jesus, and make us instruments of his love in all we do. Through Jesus we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 37 “Let All Things Now Living”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Toccata Eugène Gigout

One Great Hour of Sharing

Called to be “repairers of the breach, restorers of streets to live in.”

—ISAIAH 58:12

Your gifts to our Lenten One Great Hour of Sharing Offering touch the lives of those in need, respond to injustice, provide shelter, and feed the hungry, both here in our city and around the world.

Your gifts support

Presbyterian Hunger Program, which takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and address the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.

Self-Development of People, which partners with communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty, and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters and provides support for refugees.

Chicago Lights Elam Davies Social Service Center, which annually meets the basic human needs of 1,800 persons who are hungry, homeless, or in transition.

Chicago Lights Tutoring, which encourages 400 students living in under-resourced neighborhoods to graduate from high school and pursue higher education and meaningful careers.

Fourth Church Meals Ministry, which distributes bag lunches each week, Tuesday through Thursday, to 200 people and serves a hot meal to approximately 130 guests on both Sunday and Monday nights.

To make a “One Great Hour of Sharing” gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks, write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, or make a gift online at www.bit.ly/FPCgiving

EACH SUNDAY DURING LENT we are extinguishing a candle at the front of the Sanctuary. Just as we lit candles on the Advent wreath to symbolize the light coming into the world through the birth of Christ, so now our extinguishing of candles points to the Lenten progression from light to the shadows of Good Friday and the crucifixion.

Worship Leaders

9:30 Judith L. Watt, Enjoliq McCullough, Shannon J. Kershner
Lucy Forster-Smith

11:00 Judith L. Watt, Charlie Turner, Henry Turner, Sally Morgan,
Shannon J. Kershner, Lucy Forster-Smith

Extinguishing the Lenten Candle

9:30 Larry and Alison Thomas

11:00 Allison Berger, Alicia Berger, and Gunder D'hondt

The Music Today

Morning Choir

Youth Choir (9:30)

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)

Grant Nill, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts leaf buds—symbolizing the promise of new life—encased in drops of thawing ice, photographed in the Michigan Avenue courtyard. The cover quote is from John O'Donohue's poem "For Someone Awakening to the Trauma of His or Her Past" in his book *To Bless the Space between Us*.

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.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt Pastoral Care

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident

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.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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