

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Urban Litany Aaron David Miller
Ritmico—Serenely—Spirited

Introit

“O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips” Richard Webster
*O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.
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.
Praise ye the Lord. The Lord’s name be praised.*

*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: *Gathered together—the familiar and the unknown,
for the first time or the hundredth time—*

People: come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: *Gathered together—where people have prayed and praised
and God has listened—*

People: come, Holy Spirit.

Leader: *Gathered together—to open doors, dispel fears,
deepen faith, and bring us closer to Christ—*

People: come, Holy Spirit. Meet us here.

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 393. “O Day of Rest and Gladness”

*Stand as you are able. †Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O God, gladly we live and move and have our being in you.
Yet always in the midst of creation's glory
we see sin's shadow and feel death's grip.
It is around us in the earth, sea, and sky, in the abuse of matter.
It is beside us in the broken, the hungry, and the poor,
in the betrayal of one another.
And often it is deep within us, in a striving against your Spirit.
O Trinity of Love, forgive us
that we may forgive ourselves and one another.
Heal us that we may become people of healing.
And renew us that we may be makers of peace. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Commissioning of Musicians (9:30)

Anthem

“Os Justi meditabitur sapientiam” Anton Bruckner
*The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom and their tongues speak justice.
The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip. Alleluia.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 19 Old Testament, page 472

*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.

[†]Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

Scripture Lesson

Mark 8:27-38 New Testament, page 41

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 14. “For the Beauty of the Earth”

*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.

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

“Hear, O Lord, When I Cry” Eric H. Thiman

Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice; have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“As Truly as God Is Our Father” William Mathias

As truly as God is our Father, so just as truly is he our Mother. In our Father, God almighty, we have our being; in our merciful Mother we are remade and restored. Our fragmented lives are knit together. And by giving and yielding ourselves, through grace, to the Holy Spirit we are made whole. It is I, the strength and goodness of Fatherhood. It is I, the wisdom of Motherhood. It is I, the light and grace of holy love. It is I, the Trinity. It is I, the unity. I am the sovereign goodness in all things. It is I who teach you to love. It is I who teach you to desire. It is I who am the reward of all true desiring. All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well. Amen.

*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)

God, we hear and we respond to your words of wisdom,
 your words of call and life.
 May these gifts, not only of our money,
 but of our very selves—our words, our thoughts, our actions—
 be acceptable to you and help spread your words of life and love. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 689 “When the Morning Stars Together”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

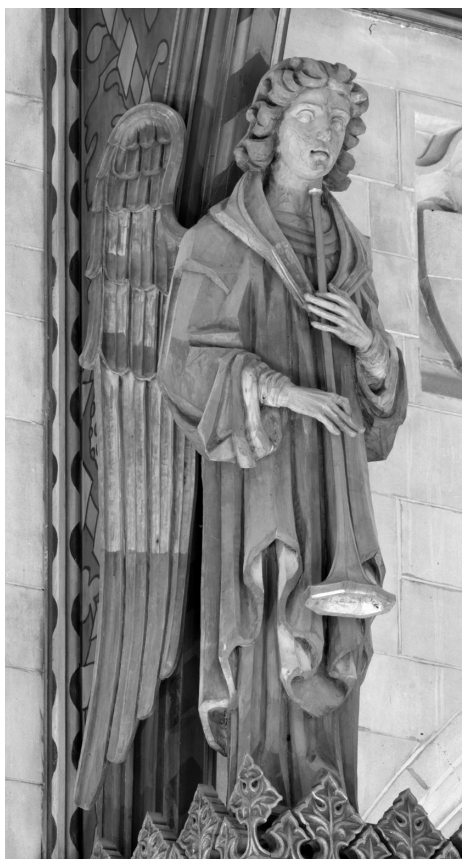
Overture Jean-Philippe Rameau; arr. Simon Cox

Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lute and harp!

*Today's commissioning of the Morning Choir and Tower Brass lifts up
the musical gifts they offer in weekly worship leadership.*

Morning Choir: Gretchen Adams, Melissa Arning, Jeanne Bishop,
Carol Carpenter, Beena David, Micah Dinger, Todd DeStigter, Robert Doak,
Thomas Gouwens, Kimberly Gunderson, Daniel Henry, Rachael Holzhausen,
Carla Janzen, Laura Kubelka, Craig Palmer, Laura Perkett, Brett Potts,
Dan Richardson, Marshall Rollings, Cole Seaton, John Sherer, Sean Stanton,
Justin Taylor, Sarah van der Ploeg, Leslie Ventsch, Katherine Weber, Kathryn Wills

Tower Brass: Reed Capshaw, Matthew Comerford, Gregory Flint, Karen Suarez Flint,
David Inmon, Terry Leahy, Matthew Lee, Charles Schuchat



Many of the seven-foot-tall carved wooden angels atop the aisle piers
are holding musical instruments, a reference to Psalm 150.
Shown above are the two angels closest to the chancel.

Worship Leaders

9:30 Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Jeffrey Weber, Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Joseph Fong, Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Tower Brass; Morning Choir

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, directed by Matthew Comerford, provides musical leadership on the third Sunday of most months during the year. The musicians in this octet also play in many area ensembles, including the Orchestra of the Lyric Opera and the Elgin Symphony.

TODAY'S OFFERTORY ANTHEM was written by the English composer William Mathias in 1987 and was composed at the request of the Friends of St. Paul's Cathedral for a premiere in the presence of their patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother. The text for this anthem was written by Julian of Norwich (1342–1430), an English mystic and theologian who was the first woman to write a book in English, *Revelations of Divine Love*, in 1395.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts white tulips on a pillar in the south aisle, backlit with light from the stained-glass windows. The cover quote is from Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar in the World*.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is from "A Welcome Service," *Iona Abbey Worship Book* (p. 9). 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 is adapted from "Services for Justice and Peace," *Iona Abbey Worship Book* (p. 104). 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 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

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident

Shawn Fiedler Ministerial Associate for Worship

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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