

*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

Lord, I Have Only Thee . . . . . Heinrich Schütz; arr. Theresia Parry  
Prelude and Fugue in E Minor . . . . . Johann Sebastian Bach  
Three Welsh Hymn Preludes . . . . . Ralph Vaughan Williams; arr. Greg Fudala  
    II. Rhosymedre

Introit :: “Freedom Is Coming” . . . . . South African song  
*Freedom is coming; O yes, I know. Jesus is coming; O yes, I know.*

\*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: *Wonderful is Jesus Christ, who gathers the poor of the earth.*

People: **Glorious is our God, who satisfies the hunger of the just.**

Leader: *Wonderful is Jesus Christ, who wipes away the tears of sorrow.*

People: **Glorious is our God, who lifts high the persecuted.**

Leader: *Wonderful is Jesus Christ, who finds the lost.*

People: **Glorious is our God, who awakens the dead.**

Leader: *Wonderful is Jesus Christ in whom is our salvation.*

People: **Glorious is our God, for whom we leap for joy, adore, and worship.**

### \*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 309 . . . . . “Come, Great God of All the Ages”

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

## Litany of Confession

Leader: *Loving God, you call us to be the salt of the earth,  
but too often we consider your way to be bland  
and we miss the delight of life filled with flavor  
that spreads from us to those around us.*

**People: Forgive us, God, and help us be more like Jesus.**

Leader: *You call us to be the light of the world,  
but too often our actions do not bring praise to you.  
We make choices that help us blend into our culture  
rather than stand out as your people.*

**People: Forgive us, God, and help us be more like Jesus.**

Leader: *You call us to settle matters quickly,  
but too often we nurse grudges  
and look for ways to settle scores on our own terms.*

**People: Forgive us, God, and help us be more like Jesus.**

Leader: *You call us to go the second mile,  
but too often we consider our own convenience first,  
passing up opportunities to show love to our neighbor.*

**People: Forgive us, God, and help us be more like Jesus. Amen.**

## \*Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

## Concerns of the Church

### Anthem

“Venite Exultemus Domino” ..... Orlando Gibbons

*O come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!  
Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!  
Hallelujah. Amen.*

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

Psalter . . . . . Psalm 1

Leader: *Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!*

People: **Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

Leader: *They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper.*

People: **It is not so with the wicked;  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Leader: *Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright  
when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.*

People: **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

\*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

Luke 6:17–26 . . . . . New Testament, page 60

Sermon . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

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

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 815 ..... “Give to the Winds Thy Fears”

\*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 :: “Amen” ..... Vincent Persichetti

Minute for Discipleship

Offering

Offertory Anthem :: “Jubilate Deo” ..... William Walton

*O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands; serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence  
with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves.  
We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving  
and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him and speak good of his name. For the  
Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth from generation to generation.  
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.*

\*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*)

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.

With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives

to the care and redemption of all that you have made,

for the sake of the one who lived his life for us—

Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 550 ..... “Give Praise to the Lord”

\*Benediction and Response

*Worshipers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir during the Benediction responses.*

Postlude :: Sonata pian e forte ..... Giovanni Gabrieli; arr. Robert King

## Worship Leaders

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Jeff Doane, Jane Nerison, Arlene Raine, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner  
Jeff Doane, Betsy Storm, Janet Love, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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Morning Choir; Tower Brass; Drum Circle  
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music  
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist  
Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass  
John Doty, Director of the Drum Circle

## Worship Notes

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TODAY'S MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP is presented by Kathryn Burkhardt (9:30) and Marsha Heizer (11:00) on behalf of the Spiritual Formation Council and their Lenten "Path of Discipleship" series.

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.

THE BULLETIN COVER image, which was photographed from inside the cloister looking toward Michigan Avenue, illustrates how tree branches that look skeletal and grey against the daytime winter sky are transformed into a luminous presence at night.

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**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 M. Fiedler** Ministerial Associate for Worship  
**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

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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The Fourth Church logo (*front cover*) is based on the Great East Window in the Sanctuary.

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