

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

✻ *Liturgy of the Palms* ✻

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Gathering around the Word

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Prelude

Processional Fanfare No. 1 . . . . .	Elgar Howarth
Fanfare . . . . .	Henry Purcell
Procession of the Nobles . . . . .	Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov; arr. Rich Mays
Processional . . . . .	William Mathias
Fanfare . . . . .	Paul Dukas; arr. William Barrington

Introit ✻ “Antiphonal Hosanna” . . . . . G. Alan Smith

\*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.

\*Palm Sunday Litany

Leader: *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.*

People: **Blessed is the coming realm of God!**

Leader: *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Chicago’s poor; in the name of the sick and suffering in our hospitals; in the name of those searching for meaning on Michigan Avenue; in the name of the hungry and the thirsty awaiting a meal; in the name of the prisoners in the Cook County Jail. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*

People: **Blessed is the coming realm of God!**

Leader: *Blessed is the coming end to wars in the Middle East; blessed is the coming end to gun violence; blessed is the coming end to poverty; blessed is the planet fully alive.*

People: **Blessed is the coming realm of God!**

Leader: *Blessed is the end of injustice, greed, and unaccountability; blessed is the coming end of debt; blessed is the coming end of fear; blessed is the coming end to death.*

People: **Blessed is the coming realm of God!**

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

\*Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem . . . . . Matthew 21:1–11

\*Hymn 196 . . . . . “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

### Palm Sunday Children’s Message

#### Litany of Confession

Leader: *Judas, servant of jealousy, where are you?*

People: I am here.

Leader: *Peter, servant of fear, where are you?*

People: I am here.

Leader: *Thomas, servant of doubt, where are you?*

People: I am here.

Leader: *Disciples, whose devotion changed to desertion, where are you?*

People: We are here.

Leader: *People of Jerusalem, whose cries moved too quickly  
from “Hosanna” to “Crucify,” where are you?*

People: We are here. Faithful God, it is true. We promise to be faithful,  
but we fall away. We betray you; we deny you; we forsake you;  
we desert you; we are afraid. But we are here. And so we ask you  
to take who we are and transform us by your grace.

*(Please hold silence.)*

### Extinguishing the Sixth Lenten Candle

Kyrie . . . . . The Hymnal, 551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

#### Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

#### Concerns of the Church

Anthem :: “Hosanna to the Son of David” . . . . . Orlando Gibbons

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

Psalter . . . . . Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29

Leader: *Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God’s mercy endures forever.*

People: Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”

Leader: *Open for me the gates of righteousness;*

*I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.*

People: “This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter.”

Leader: *I give thanks to you, for you have answered me*

*and you have become my salvation.*

People: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

Leader: *By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.*

People: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: *Hosanna! O Lord, save us! We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!*

People: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;

we bless you from the house of the Lord.

Leader: *The Lord is God and has given us light.*

*Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.*

People: You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Leader: *Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God’s mercy endures forever.*

\*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 :: Matthew 26:1–16 . . . . . New Testament, page 28

Sermon . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

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

\* Liturgy of the Passion \*

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Responding to the Word

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Silent Reflection

\*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) . . . . . from A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Litany on Christ's Passion

Leader: *Our Redeemer suffered death, was buried, and rose again for our sake.  
With love let us adore him, aware of our needs. Let us pray.  
Christ our teacher, for us you were obedient, even to death.*

People: **Teach us to obey God's will in all things.**

Leader: *Christ our life, by dying on the cross you destroyed the power of evil and death.*

People: **Enable us to die with you and to rise with you in glory.**

Leader: *Christ our strength, you were despised and humiliated as a condemned criminal.*

People: **Teach us the humility by which you saved the world.**

Leader: *Christ our salvation, you gave your life out of love for us.*

People: **Help us to love one another.**

Leader: *Christ our Savior, on the cross you embraced all time with your outstretched arms.*

People: **Gather all the scattered children of God into your realm.**

Leader: *Jesus, Lamb of God,*

People: **have mercy on us.**

Leader: *Jesus, bearer of our sins,*

People: **have mercy on us.**

Leader: *Jesus, redeemer of the world,*

People: **grant us peace.**

Leader: *Indeed, O God, grant us peace . . .*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*) . . . . . The Hymnal, page 35

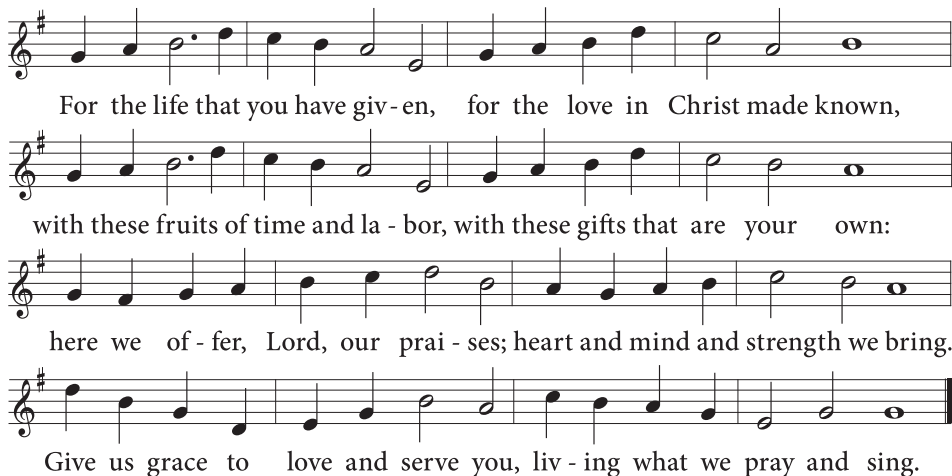
Prayer Response :: "Amen" . . . . . Richard Warner

## Offering

### Offertory Anthem :: “O CruX” . . . . . Mark Jennings

*O cross, more radiant than the stars, celebrated throughout the earth, beloved of the people, holier than all things, which alone was found worthy to bear the light of the world; blessed tree, blessed nails, blest the weight you bore. Save the flock which today is gathered to praise you.*

### \*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.

### \*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ into Jerusalem with a triumphal procession, but he was soon left alone in humiliation. The cries of “Hosanna” soon turned to cries of “Crucify him!” As we enter into this Holy Week, we thank you for the abundant mercy you show, as you invite us again to follow Jesus on the road to the cross. Accept these our gifts as our protest against the ways we have not followed Christ in the past and as our expression of hope that we may renew our walk of faith in the days to come. This we ask through Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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### \*Hymn 223 . . . . . “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

### \*Benediction and Response

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

### Postlude :: The Holy City . . . . . Stephen Adams; arr. Robert Nagel

## Worship Leaders

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9:30 Matt Helms, Greta Temple, Justin Epps, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner  
11:00 Matt Helms, Mari Bahnfleth, Cornell Wilson, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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Tower Brass; Cherub Choir; Children's Choir; Youth Choir; Morning Choir  
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music  
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist; Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass  
Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth; Hsing-Huei Huang, Pianist

## Worship Notes

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EACH SUNDAY DURING LENT we have extinguished 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.

THE LENTEN ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING SUPPORTS Chicago Lights Tutoring and Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals and Shower Ministries; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a gift, use the envelopes in the pew racks or write "Lenten Offering" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Gifts can also be made online at [www.fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online)

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE of palm branches in the choir loft evokes the tension present in Palm/Passion Sunday, as we encounter both joyous celebration and the unraveling of expectation—and as we witness heads both bowed in adoration and bent low in lament. The cover quote by Kathleen Norris is from *God for Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Lent and Easter*.

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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 Litany after Communion is adapted from *Liturgical Year, The Worship of God: Supplemental Resource 7*. 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.

*This worship bulletin is printed on acid-free paper. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.*

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

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