

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(unison) God, who nourishes us for the journey,
it is strengthening to know
that as we have gathered at your table today,
your people throughout the world
are offering praise and thanksgiving
as bread and wine are shared.
May the mystery of your presence,
experienced in our worship,
bind us together into one worldwide community.
Amen.

***HYMN 440** "In Christ There Is No East or West" *Tune: MC KEE*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Grand Chorus from *Joshua* *George Frideric Handel*

WORSHIP LEADERS

- Erica Schemper** Pastoral Resident
- Jean Sweer** Liturgist
- Thomas Gouwens** Associate Organist
- The Vespers Choir**

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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Fourth Presbyterian Church
Sunday, May 14, 2006
6:30 p.m.

vespers

PRELUDE Prelude and Fugue in E Minor *Johann Sebastian Bach*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing a new song to God, who has done wonderful things,
whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

People: **God has made salvation known, shown justice
to the nations, and remembered the house of
the faithful in truth and love.**

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of
our God. Sing praise to God, all the earth; ring out your joy.

People: **Let the sea thunder and all within it,
the world and all its peoples.**

Leader: Let the rivers clap their hands, and
the mountains ring out their joy.

People: **Sing a new song to God, who has done wonderful things!**

INVOCATION

***HYMN 118** "The Day of Resurrection!" *Tune: LANCASHIRE*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Across the barriers that divide race from race:

People: **Reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Leader: Across the barriers that divide rich from poor:

People: **Reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Leader: Across the barriers that divide people of different cultures:

People: **Reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Leader: Across the barriers that divide Christians:

People: **Reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Leader: Across the barriers that divide men and women,
young and old:

People: **Reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

(Prayer continues on next page)

**Stand as you are able*

All: **Confront us, O Christ,
with the hidden prejudices and fears
that deny and betray our prayers.
Enable us to see the causes of strife,
remove from us all senses of superiority.
Teach us to grow in unity with all God's children. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER READING

Psalm 98 *(responsively)* (page 521, O.T.)

ANTHEM "A Vineyard Grows" *English folk song
arr. K. Lee Scott*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 10:44-48 (page 122, N.T.)
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God .**

COMMUNION MEDITATION Erica Schemper
SHARED BIRTH

***HYMN 443** "O Christ, The Great Foundation " *Tune: AURELIA*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(unison) **We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God. We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen, our Judge and our Hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**
(United Church of Canada)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Again" *Eric H. Thiman*

***DOXOLOGY** (The Hymnal, 592)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: . . . we join our voices to sing with all your people,
united by the Spirit in every time and place:

***HYMN 460** "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"
Tune: GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

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