

THE COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(unison)

On this journey of life, O God, be our companion,
be our guide. Show us where to go. Wherever we are,
in the journey from birth to death, grant us your peace.
We thank you for each other, our companions
in the journey of faith, and we pray for those
with whom we travel. Thank you for this sacred food
that sustains us on our journey. Bring us together
to a new world of peace, through Jesus Christ,
who lived and died that all might be one. Amen.

*HYMN 80 "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"
Tune: LONESOME VALLEY

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Aria Pastorella *Valentin Rathgeber*

WORSHIP LEADERS

John W. Vest Associate Pastor
Jeffrey Lehn Liturgist
Thomas Gouwens Associate Organist
Alexia Kruger Soprano Soloist
The Vespers Choir

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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Fourth Presbyterian Church
Sunday, February 17, 2008
6:30 p.m.

vespers

PRELUDE When We Are in Greatest Need *Johann Sebastian Bach*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

People: **We rejoice in our God, who made a way
through the desert of this world.**

Leader: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of
mercy to flow in the wasteland.

People: **We are the people God has formed through Christ;
we worship God and we rejoice!**

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

People: **We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Amen.**

*HYMN 234 "I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes" *Tune: DUNDEE*

LITANY FOR LENT

Minister: O Christ, out of your fullness we have all received grace
upon grace. You are our eternal hope; you are patient and
full of mercy; you are generous to all who call upon you.

People: **Save us, Lord.**

Minister: O Christ, fountain of life and holiness, you have
taken away our sins. On the cross you were wounded
for our transgressions and were bruised for our inequities.

People: **Save us, Lord.**

Minister: O Christ, obedient unto death, source of all comfort,
our life and our resurrection, our peace and reconciliation:

People: **Save us, Lord.**

Minister: O Christ, Savior of all who trust you, hope of
all who die for you, and joy of all the saints:

People: **Save us, Lord.**

Minister: Jesus, Lamb of God,

People: **have mercy on us.**

Minister: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

People: **have mercy on us.**

Minister: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

People: **grant us peace.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison) God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves as pure when we are stained and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored the truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 12:1–4a (page 9, O.T.)
Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM “Leftover People in Leftover Places” *Colin Gibson*

SECOND LESSON

John 3:1–17 (page 88, N.T.)

THIRD LESSON

Romans 4:1–5, 13–17, 20–25 (page 144, N.T.)

SERMON by John W. Vest
HEAR ME NOW AND BELIEVE ME LATER

***HYMN 399** “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” *Tune: DUNLAP’S CREEK*

***APOSTLES CREED**

(unison) 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “To You Before the Close of Day”
Aaron David Miller

***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: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:
People (sung): **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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.