

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(unison)*

O amazing God, you come into our ordinary lives and set a holy table among us, filling our plates with the bread of life and our cups with salvation. Send us out, O God, with open eyes and tenderheartedness to see and touch an ordinary everyday world with the promise of your holiness. Amen.

***HYMN 18** "The Desert Shall Rejoice" *Tune: STERLING*

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Savior of the Nations, Come *Paul Manz*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader Pastoral Resident

John W. Vest Associate Pastor

The Vespers Choir

Thomas Gouwens Associate Organist

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org

312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday November 30, 2008

A LIGHT IN THE CITY
FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
www.fourthchurch.org

PRELUDE Savior of the Nations, Come *J. S. Bach*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Joanna Ericson

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.

All: **We gather, awake to the Word of God.**

One: You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant, ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.

All: **We listen, alert to the Word of God.**

One: You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom, sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet, but always dwelling among us.

All: **We watch and wait for the Word of God.**

***HYMN 20** "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" *Tune: ABERYSTWYTH*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Most gracious and most merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that time after time, we have entered into your presence with countless prayers but with hearts that have been closed to your grace. We have lifted our hands to you in praise, but our feet have still walked in the ways of evil. We have rehearsed your commandments but have refused to see your face in the needs of our neighbor. We pray, Lord, that you forgive our inability to keep watch, and pardon our acts of laziness. Grant us the healing that comes from your

**Stand as you are able.*

presence and the cleansing of your all-powerful love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news!

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19 (*responsively*) (page 511, O.T.)

FIRST LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:3–9 (page 155, N.T.)

Minister: God's Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM "Drop Dew Ye Heavens" *Christopher Tye*

SECOND LESSON Mark 13:24–37 (page 47, N.T.)

COMMUNION MEDITATION by Jocelyn C. Cadwallader
WHAT TIME IS IT?

***HYMN 12** "People, Look East" *Tune: BESANÇON*

***PROFESSION OF FAITH** (*unison*)

I believe it is a matter of faith to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. I believe it is a matter of faith to recognize equally and love all members of God's human family. There are no exceptions to God's love. I believe God's creation is good, beautiful, and sacred; therefore, to condemn any portion of God's creation is to condemn a portion of God. This is sin. I believe Jesus Christ came to us to free all people from sin and to make disciples—people willing to live Christ's discipline of love and justice for all. I believe the Holy Spirit

is that power within us that gives us courage and stamina to face the truth and to live it, even to die for it, as Jesus died. I believe in the resurrection, the victory over death, and the truth that is life for all in Jesus' name. Glory is to God, the One in Three: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of Love.

(Adapted from text by Ruth Duck and Maren Tirabassi)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "The Eyes of All Wait upon Thee"
Jean Berger

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

PRAYER

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name.

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
(sung) **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.