

vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday March 1, 2009

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

PRELUDE O People, Bewail Your Grievous Sin
Johann Sebastian Bach

INVOCATION

***HYMN 212** “Within Your Shelter, Loving God” *Tune: ABBEY*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Ignoring your commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of fear and judgment. Set us free from a past we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Hear and believe the good news!

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 25:1–10 *(responsively)* (page 475, O.T.)

ANTHEM “Hide Not Thou Thy Face from Us, O Lord”
Richard Farrant

**Stand as you are able.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Genesis 9:8–17

(page 7, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION
MEMORY

by Jocelyn C. Cadwallader

***HYMN 178** “Lord, to You My Soul Is Lifted” *Tune: GENEVAN 25*

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

**In life and in death, we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of
the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God,
the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we
worship and serve. We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love, God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God’s image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham
and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry, God delivered the children
of Israel from the house of bondage.**

**Loving us still, God makes us heirs with
Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who
will not forsake her nursing child, like a father
who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

(A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Call to Remembrance, O Lord” *Farrant*

***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.

Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho- ly Lord, God of po- wer and might,
hea- ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bles-sed is the
One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san- na in the high- est.

Music: John W.W. Sherer; © 1997. Used by permission.

Minister: . . . Great is the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will
come again.**

Minister: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(traditional)*

(The Hymnal, page 16)

THE COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

**Gracious God, you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
You have fed us with the bread of life,
and renewed us for your service.
Help us who have shared Christ's body and
received his cup to be faithful disciples,
so that our daily living may be part of the life
of your kingdom, and our love be your love,
reaching out into the world. Amen.**

***HYMN 272** "God of the Sparrow"

Tune: ROEDER

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee *J. S. Bach*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader Pastoral Resident

John W. Vest Associate Pastor

The Vespers Choir

Thomas E. Gouwens Associate Organist

The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is being received throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support the work of the Presbyterian Self-Development of People Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, as well as the Chicago Lights Tutoring Program and Elam Davies Social Service Center. To make a "One Great Hour of Sharing" 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.

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