

vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday March 29, 2009

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

PRELUDE Prelude and Fugue in C Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Almighty God, Jesus came into the world
to free us all from sin and death.

People: **Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit,**

Leader: that we may be raised to new life in Christ,

People: **and serve you in holiness and righteousness
all our days.**

Leader: Glory be to God!

People: **Glory be to Christ!**

Leader: Glory be to the Holy Spirit!

All: **One God, forever and ever. Amen.**

***HYMN 76** “My Song Is Love Unknown” *Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN*

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 pure when we are stained,
and great when we are small.**

We have failed in love,

neglected justice,

and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.

**Return us to paths of righteousness through
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**Stand as you are able.*

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Hear and believe the good news!

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 51:1–12 (*responsively*) (page 492, O.T.)

ANTHEM “Lord, for Thy Tender Mercies’ Sake”
Richard Farrant

SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 31:31–34 (page 691, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION by John W. Vest
CHANGE HAS COME, CHANGE IS COMING

***HYMN 85** “What Wondrous Love Is This”
Tune: WONDROUS LOVE

***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 “Wondrous Love” *American folk hymn*
arr. Paul Christiansen

*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: It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .

. . . 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 *(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)*

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 83** "O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"
Tune: DEO GRACIAS

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Allegro *Joseph Jongen*

WORSHIP LEADERS

John W. Vest Associate Pastor

Joann H. Lee Liturgist

The Vespers Choir

John W. W. Sherer Organist and Director of Music

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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