

# vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday May 10, 2009

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

**PRELUDE** Three Preludes on Welsh Hymn Tunes  
II. Rhosymedre *Ralph Vaughan Williams*

## INVOCATION

\***HYMN 367** “Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love” *Tune: CHEREPONI*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Minister: Lord, you said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

All: **Forgive us our lukewarm love and our disobedience.**

Minister: Lord, you said, “You may ask for anything in my name.”

All: **Forgive us for relying on ourselves.**

Minister: Lord, you said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

All: **We confess that our lives are often consumed by worry and anxiety.**

Minister: Lord, you said, “If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.”

All: **Forgive us our barren lives, Lord.**

Minister: Lord, you said, “Love each other as I have loved you.”

All: **In this and in so many other ways, we confess our failures and shortcomings. In your great mercy, forgive us. Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Hear and believe the good news!

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

*\*Stand as you are able.*

## CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

**PSALTER** Psalm 22:25–31 (*responsively*) (page 474, O.T.)

**FIRST LESSON** 1 John 4:7–21 (page 226, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM** “Beloved, Let Us Love” *Austin Lovelace*

**SECOND LESSON** John 15:1–8 (page 103, N.T.)

**COMMUNION MEDITATION** by Joann H. Lee  
BRANCHES THAT BEAR FRUIT

\***HYMN 418** “God, Bless Your Church with Strength!”

*Tune: ICH HALTE TREULICH STILL*

\***AFFIRMATION 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 Jesus Christ, fully human,  
fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching the good news to the poor and release  
to the captives, teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children, healing the sick and  
binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and  
believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for  
blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain and giving  
his life for the sins of the world. God raised this  
Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us  
from death to life eternal. With believers from**

**every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

*(from A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA)*

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “A Vineyard Grows”

*English melody  
arr. K. Lee Scott*

\*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.

## 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)*

**God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life and the fruit of the vine. Help us to be branches that abide in you, so that we may bear fruit and love one another without condition, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 501** “Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed” *Tune: AFRON*

## BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

**POSTLUDE** Festival Voluntary *Flor Peeters*

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### WORSHIP LEADERS

**Joann H. Lee** Pastoral Resident  
**Jocelyn C. Cadwallader** Liturgist  
**The Vespers Choir**  
**Thomas E. Gouwens** Associate Organist

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Tonight's Prayer of Confession is adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook*.

### The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)  
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584