

MORNING WORSHIP

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

PRELUDE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *Robert Lau*

INTROIT “Our King and Savior Draweth Nigh” *Stephen Sturk*
Our King and Savior draweth nigh; O come, let us
adore him.

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

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Leader: In expectation of her child, Mary sang out for joy:
“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices
in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor upon
the lowliness of his servant.” (Luke 1:47–49)

People: **“Surely, from now on all generations will call us
blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things
for us, and holy is God’s name.”**

Leader: The third candle on the Advent wreath stands
for joy. It reminds us to be thankful that God’s
presence is becoming brighter in our world.

People: **The light reminds us that God’s child is coming
to bring joy to the world.**

Leader: A voice cries out in the wilderness: “Prepare the
way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

People: **Soon the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth
of the Lord has spoken it.**

***HYMN 13** “Prepare the Way”

Tune: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of grace, whose eternal Word took flesh among us, we confess that we have not expected your kingdom. We live casual lives, O God, ignoring your promises. We accept lies for truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Prepare our hearts for his light which shines in the darkness; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM

“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree” *Elizabeth Poston*

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green; the trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree. His beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know, but never can tell, the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree. For happiness I long have sought and pleasure dearly I have bought; I missed of all, but now I see, 'tis found in Christ the apple tree. I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile; under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ the apple tree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive; it keeps my dying faith alive, which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

PSALTER

Psalm 8 (*responsively*)

(page 466, O.T.)

***GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 3:7–18

(page 56, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

What Should We Do?

JOCELYN C. CADWALLADER

***HYMN 2**

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *Tune: HYFRYDOL*

***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.

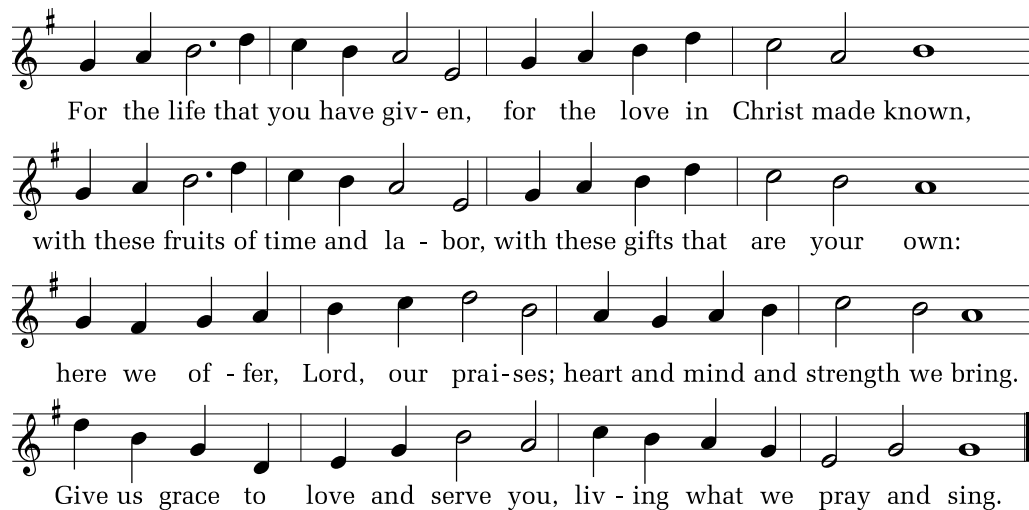
OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO “Ave Maria”

*Johann Sebastian Bach
and Charles Gounod*

Hail Mary, thou art highly favored; God is with thee. Blessed art thou above all women; blessed be thine offspring; and blessed be thy Son, the Son of God, the Lord most high. Blessed Maria, hear us, now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**



For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we of - fer, Lord, our prai-ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

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THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

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: And now, lest we believe . . . Great is the
mystery of faith.

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

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

COMMUNION ANTHEM “O Taste and See”

A. Nikolsky

O taste and see how gracious is the Lord. O Blessed is the one that trusteth in him. Alleluia.

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 life of the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN 516

“Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation”

Tune: O QUANTA QUALIA

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

WORSHIP LEADERS

Sarah A. Johnson, John H. Boyle, Jocelyn C. Cadwallader

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Sonja and Bill Bowen

THE MUSIC TODAY

The Chancel Choir; Laura Kubelka, alto soloist

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

WORSHIP NOTES

The “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout December. This year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs; mission and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs; and denominational programs. “Light Up a Life” gifts can be made using the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks or by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

This morning, Communion is served by intinction. The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they will then dip into the chalice of grape juice. Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles. The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is not just for Presbyterians or “members of the church.” All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper.

The Advent banners, in the form of wings, convey the idea of Advent stillness and of waiting in the presence of angels. They were designed and painted by Eliza Linley of Berkeley, California.

PASTORAL STAFF

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission

Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for

Adult Education and Worship

Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism

Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for

Congregational Life

Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

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Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident

Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus

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