

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 *George Schafer*

INTROIT “Our King and Savior Now Draws Near” *Iain Quinn*
Our King and Savior now draws near; come let us adore him. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Leader: In the coming of Christ, we hear God’s message to us: “I have exalted one chosen from the people. I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him; my hand shall always remain with him.” (Psalm 89:19–20, 26)

People: **We shall cry out to Christ, “You are my God, the Rock of my salvation!”**

Leader: The fourth candle on the Advent wreath reminds us that our Savior has almost come. He will bring light to the darkness and hope to the world.

People: **We are called into God’s house to bear witness to the light. We are sent from God’s house to take light into 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 12** “People, Look East” *Tune: BESANÇON*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of mercy and grace,
you know the secrets of our hearts:
how blind we are to our own faults,
yet harsh in judging others;
how swift we are to take for gain,
yet slow to give to others;
how proud we are of our success,
yet grudging in praise of others.
In your tender care and unfailing love,
forgive our conformity to the world's ways.
By your transforming grace,
make us open to your wisdom and your ways.
Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM

“In Night’s Dim Shadow” *George Guest*
In night’s dim shadow lying, our limbs fast locked
in sleep, to thee with faithful sighing, our souls
their vigil keep. Desire of every nation, hear, Lord,
our piteous cry. Thou word, the world’s salvation,
uplift us where we lie. Lord, be thine advent hastened,
lest sin thy people mar, the gates of Adam fastened,
the gates of heaven unbar. Son, to thine endless merit,
redeemer, savior, friend, with sire and Holy Spirit
be praises without end.

FIRST LESSON

Micah 5:2–5 (page 815, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:47–55 (page 53, N.T.)

SERMON

A Christmas Carol CALUM I. MACLEOD

***HYMN 24**

“Away in a Manger”

Tune: CRADLE SONG

***APOSTLES’ CREED** *(unison)*

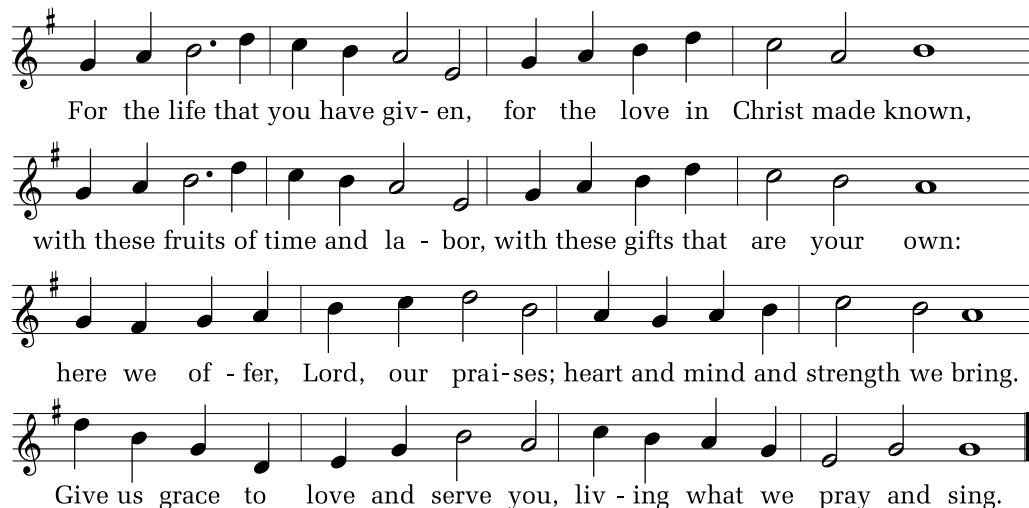
**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
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 “Sweet Little Jesus Boy”

Traditional spiritual

***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.

Words: Carl P. Daw Jr. ©1987; Music: Morgan Simmons ©1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission.

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.**

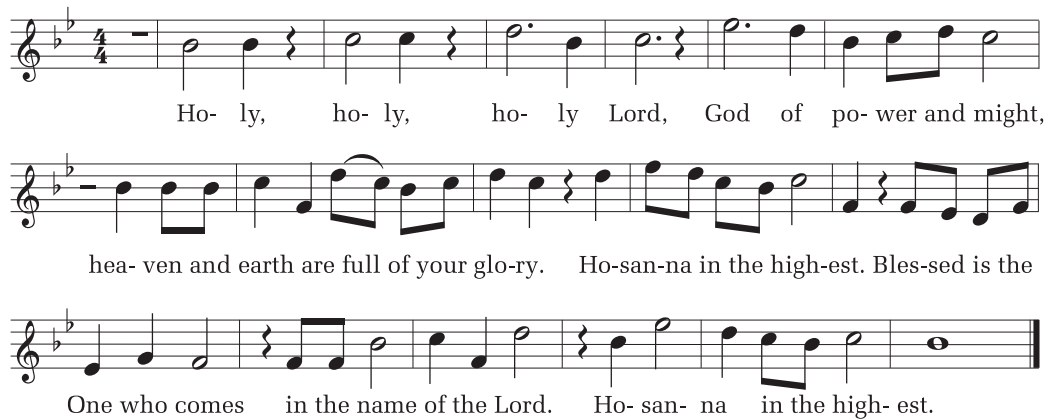
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PRAYER

Minister: Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high . . .

. . . 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.

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 “Creator of the Stars of Night” *Plainsong*
arr. Dale Wood

Creator of the stars of night, thy people’s everlasting light,
O Christ, thou savior of us all, we pray thee, hear us when
we call. To thee the travail deep was known that made the
whole creation groan, till thou, redeemer, shouldst free
thine own in glorious liberty. And when the world drew
on toward night, thou camest, not in splendor bright as
monarch, but the humble child of Mary, blameless mother
mild. At thy great name of Jesus, now all knees must bend,
all hearts must bow, and things celestial thee shall own,
of things terrestrial, Lord, alone. Come in thy holy might,
we pray; redeem us for eternal day from every power of
darkness, when thou judgest all the sons of man. To God
the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, three in one,
laud, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

**Most gracious God,
we praise you for what you have given us
and for what you have promised us here.
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.
Now we give ourselves to you
and ask that our daily living
may be a part of your kingdom,
and that our love may be your love
reaching out into the life of the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***HYMN 23** “Angels We Have Heard on High” *Tune: GLORIA*

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Noël *Jean-François Dandrieu*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader, Joann H. Lee, Calum I. MacLeod

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Rhonda Carlson

THE MUSIC TODAY

The Chancel Choir; Jerry Johnson and Cole Seaton, soloists

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

Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader, Pastoral Resident

Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident

Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus

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