

MORNING WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE Sung by the Choir of Alma College

INTROIT “The Lord Is Full of Compassion” *Iain Quinn*
The Lord is full of compassion and mercy;
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 will be forever. Amen.

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

***HYMN 457** “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art” *Tune: TOULON*

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.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

PSALTER

Psalm 130 (*congregation sings the refrain*) Hal H. Hopson



Out of the depths I call to you, O Lord! Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive; Lord, hear my plea.

Refrain: In you, O Lord, there is mercy.

Should you, O Lord, remember all our sins, Lord, who could stand?
But with you we are forgiven; for this we worship you. **(Refrain)**

My soul waits for you, O Lord; in your word I hope.
My soul waits for you, O Lord, more than those
who watch for the morning. **(Refrain)**

May Israel wait for you, O Lord, for with you there is mercy.
With you there is full salvation; you will redeem Israel
from all its sins. **(Refrain)**

ANTHEM

“Come Sweetest Death” Johann Sebastian Bach
Come sweet death, come soothing rest, come and lead me home.

FIRST LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

(page 170, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON

John 8:1–12

(page 94, N.T.)

SERMON

JOHN BUCHANAN

Confrontation with the Accused and Her Accusers:
The Scandal of Grace

“Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first
to throw a stone at her.” John 8:7 (NRSV)

***HYMN 280**

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

Tune: AMAZING GRACE

*** 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE

“Kyrie”

Morgan Simmons

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

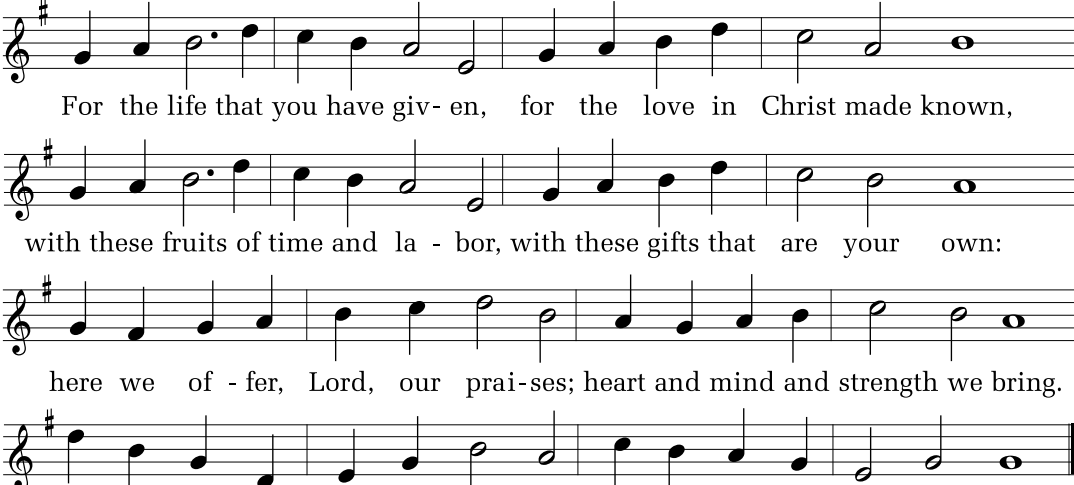
OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Simple Gifts"

*Shaker song
arr. René Clausen*

'Tis the gift to be simple; 'tis the gift to be free;
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be;
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend
we shan't be ashamed; to turn will be our delight
till by turning, turning, we come round right.

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND 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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*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

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.**

All: **God of mercy, we praise you that in love
you have reached across the abyss of our sin
and brought us into your embrace.
By your Spirit, give us the grace of repentance
and guide us in ways of righteousness.
Take our humble offerings
as tokens of our commitment
to follow Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord.
Amen.**

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary

John Stanley

A SERMON SERIES BASED ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John Buchanan’s sermons up through Easter will be based on incidents in the life of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of John and inspired by Frances Taylor Gench’s book *Encounters with Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of John* (copies of which are available during Coffee Hour).

Previous sermons in the series, which began January 17, are available in the literature racks and in both audio and transcript formats at www.fourthchurch.org.

January 17: Miracle at a Wedding

January 24: Appointment after Dark

February 21: Conversation at a Well

February 28: Confrontation with the Accused and Her Accusers

March 7: Two Angry Sisters and Their Recently Deceased Brother

March 14: Extravagant Intimacy with Dearest Friends

March 21: New Commandment

March 28: On Trial: Who Is Your King?

April 4: A New World at First Light

This year’s daily Lenten devotions, written by Fourth Presbyterian Church members and staff, are also based on texts from the Gospel of John.

To receive these devotions by email, send addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org. The devotions are also available online at www.fourthchurch.org/currentdevotions.html and, in printed format, in the literature racks throughout the church.

WORSHIP LEADERS

9:30 a.m. Victoria G. Curtiss, Adam Fronczek, John Buchanan

11:00 a.m. Victoria G. Curtiss, Thomas C. Rook, John Buchanan

THE MUSIC TODAY

9:30 a.m. The Alma College Choir; the Morning Choir; Callie Thompson, soloist

11:00 a.m. The Alma College Choir; the Morning Choir; Callie Thompson, soloist

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Director

WORSHIP NOTES

Fourth Church welcomes the Alma College Choir to worship this morning, directed by William Nichols. Founded in 1886, this Presbyterian college is located in Alma, Michigan.

Today's Minute for Ministry is presented by Ana Pranger, a fourth-grade Sunday School student.

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

All Sunday bulletin covers are photographed at Fourth Church. Today's cover depicts the stairway leading from the narthex to the east balcony.

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