

MORNING WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE Savior of the Nations, Come *Helmut Walcha*
Savior of the Nations, Come *Paul Manz*
The King Shall Come *Ruth Elaine Schram*
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? *Michael Burkhardt*

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 a quiet time of hope,
the prophet Isaiah called out to the Lord,
“O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil.”

People: **We light candles on the Advent wreath
to remind us of a time of waiting and watching,
a time of hope,
a time to bring the light of Christ into the world.**

Leader: The light is for us all—
to heal and to challenge,
to break down injustice and to build up love.

People: **In the face of the uncertainties of our world,
God is coming to make all things new.**

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 5** “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” *Tune: FRENCH CAROL*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. In our seasonal preoccupations, we overlook light shining in the darkness. We have not trusted good news to be good, and we have missed glory in our midst. In your mercy, forgive us. Open our eyes and our hearts to welcome him whose coming is sure, whose day draws near: Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 122 *(responsively)* (page 540, O.T.)

***GLORIA PATRI** (The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 2:1–5 (page 594, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON The Teachable Kingdom VICTORIA G. CURTISS

***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.**

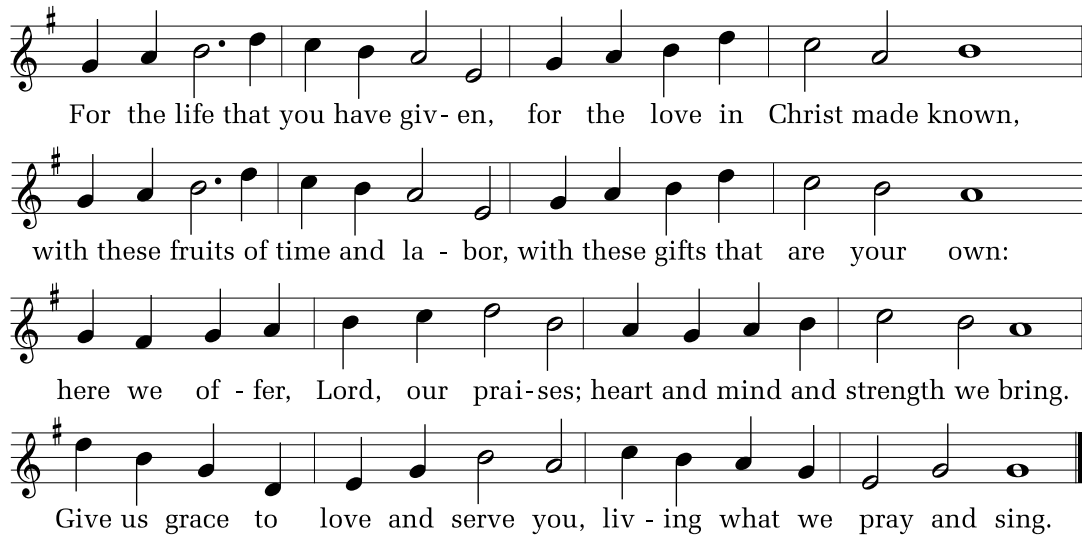
OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "O Sacrum Convivium"

Peter Mathews

O sacred banquet in which Christ is received; the memory of his passion is recalled; the spirit is filled with grace; and the promise of future glory is given to us, alleluia.

*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.

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 "Jesus Comes"

Donald James

Jesus comes with all his grace, comes to save a fallen race.
Object of our glorious hope, Jesus comes to lift us up.
Let the living stones cry out; let the sons of Abraham shout.
Praise we all our lowly King; give him thanks, rejoice and sing.
We shall gain our callings prize; after God, we all shall rise filled
with joy and love and peace, perfected in holiness.

PSALM 23 *(recited in unison after all have received the cup)*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in
the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life; and I shall dwell
in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Strengthen us, O God,
in the power of your Spirit,
to bring good news to the poor
and lift blind eyes to sight;
to loose the chains that bind
and claim your blessing for all people.
Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes in final victory
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm. Amen.

***HYMN 3** “Comfort, Comfort You My People” *Tune: GENEVAN PSALTER*

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us *Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

The Lord's Supper at Fourth Presbyterian Church

All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. The congregation is served in the pews by elders and deacons.

Worshippers take the bread and grape juice from the plate held by their neighbor and then they take the plate and serve the neighbor on their other side. Empty glasses are placed in the ringed holes in the pew racks.

WORSHIP LEADERS

9:30 a.m. Joyce Shin, Adam Fronczek, Victoria G. Curtiss

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THE MUSIC TODAY

9:30 a.m. The Handbell Choir; the Morning Choir

11:00 a.m. The Handbell Choir; the Morning Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist and Handbell Director

WORSHIP NOTES

The “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout November and 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.

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.

In the bulletin cover depiction of the Handbell Choir’s bells, one can see the reflection of the Fourth Church sanctuary ceiling and side aisle windows.

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

Sarah A. Johnson, Minister for Congregational Care

Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism

Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Kerri N. Allen, Pastoral Resident

Matthew J. Helms, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus

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