

MORNING WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE	Grand Chorus in C Major	<i>César Franck arr. Craig Garner</i>
	Thee Will I Love, My Strength Faith	<i>Sigfrid Karg-Elert Robert Schumann arr. Christine Worthing</i>
	Trio in G Minor	<i>Josef Rheinberger</i>
	Lord, I Have Only Thee	<i>Heinrich Schütz arr. Theresia Perry</i>

INTROIT	“Now Let Our Voices Join”	<i>Curt Oliver</i>
	Now let our voices join to raise a sacred song; ye pilgrims in Jehovah’s ways with music pass along. See flowers of paradise in rich profusion spring; the sun of glory gilds the path and dear companions sing. See Salem’s golden spires in beauteous prospect rise and brighter crowns than mortals wear, which sparkle through the skies. All honor to the name which marks the shining way, to Christ who leads the pilgrims on to realms of endless day!	

*DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION (The Hymnal, 592)

*HYMN 481 “Praise the Lord, God’s Glories Show” *Tune: LLANFAIR*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**Merciful God, we confess that
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart
and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

(11:00)

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM “Os Justi Meditabitur Sapientiam” *Anton Bruckner*

The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice. The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip.

PSALTER Psalm 119:33–40 (*responsively*) (page 535, O.T.)

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 5:38–48 (page 5, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON JOHN BUCHANAN

A Whole New Morality

“Give me understanding, that I may keep your law.”

Psalm 119:34 (NRSV)

*“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times. . . .
But I say to you.”* Matthew 5:21 (NRSV)

***HYMN 333** “Seek Ye First” *Tune: LAFFERTY*
(*congregation sings two times*)

***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 "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

*Plainsong
arr. Richard Gore*

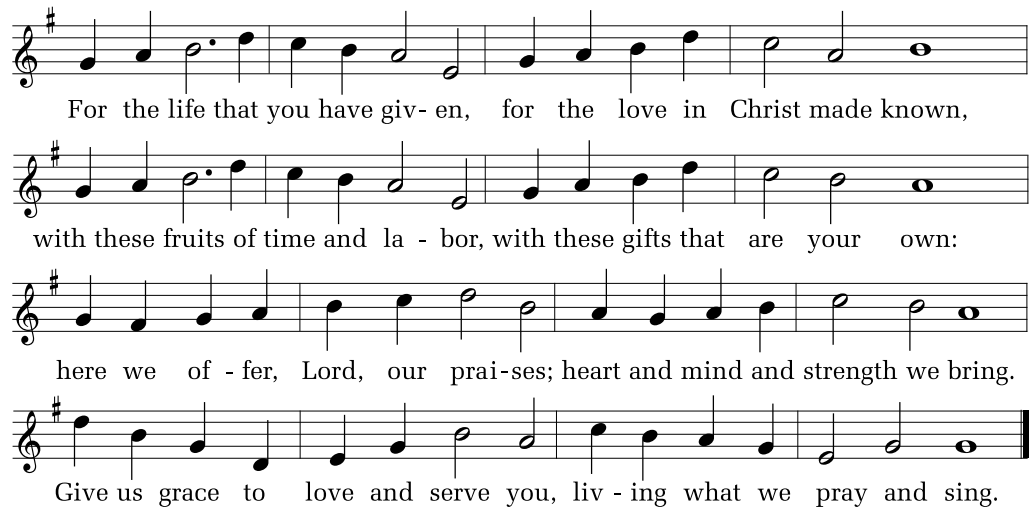
Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let our crying come unto thee.
Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Who Am I?" *Paul French*

Who am I? They often tell me I would step from my cell's confinement calmly, cheerfully, firmly, like a squire from his country house. They often tell me I would talk to my warders freely and friendly and clearly, as though it were mine to command. They also tell me I would bear the days of misfortune equably, smilingly, proudly, like one accustomed to win. Am I then really all that which other men tell of? Or am I only what I know of myself, restless and longing and sick, like a bird in a cage; struggling for breath as though hands were compressing my throat; yearning for colors, for flowers, for voices of birds; thirsting for words of kindness, for neighborliness; trembling with anger at despots and petty humiliation; tossing in expectation of great events; powerlessly trembling for friends at an infinite distance; weary and empty at praying, at thinking, at making; faint, and ready to say farewell to it all? This or the other? Am I one person today and tomorrow another? Am I both at once? A hypocrite before others and before myself a contemptibly woebegone weakling? Or is something within me still like a beaten army, fleeing disorder from victory already achieved? They mock me these lonely questions of mine. Whoever I am, thou knowest, O God, I am thine.

***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: **Almighty and merciful God,
from whom comes all that is good,
we praise you for your mercies,
for your goodness that has created us,
your grace that has sustained us,
your discipline that has corrected us,
your patience that has borne with us,
and your love that has redeemed us.
Help us to love you and to be thankful for all your gifts
by serving you and delighting to do your will,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***HYMN 446**

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” *Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN*

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

Donald Busarow

IN THE DETAILS



A close-up look at the seven-foot-tall carved wooden angels atop the aisle piers reveals their distinctive expressions, patterns, and instruments. Shown above are the pair of angels second from the rear of the church. The south angel (*left*) plays a pair of handbells, while the north angel (*right*) holds a shield with the lettering “IHS,” an abbreviation of “Jesus” in classical Greek characters.

Third in a series on the architectural details of Fourth Church

WORSHIP LEADERS

9:30 a.m. Thomas C. Rook, Joyce Shin, John Buchanan

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THE MUSIC TODAY

9:30 a.m. Tower Brass; the Morning Choir

11:00 a.m. Tower Brass; the Morning Choir

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

Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

WORSHIP NOTES

The text of this morning's Offertory Anthem, "Who Am I?", was written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Protestant pastor jailed during World War II. He wrote this poem while in prison, and it was later published in *Letters and Papers from Prison*.

Fourth Church welcomes to the 11:00 worship service the Confirmation class from New England Church in Aurora.

The textile banners and pulpit parament, "Unweavings" created by Laurie Wohl, were commissioned by Fourth Church for use during the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, the longest season of the church year (the season between Epiphany and Lent and between Pentecost and Advent). Through their combination of scripture texts and image, these banners celebrate and elevate the perception of the sacred in the "ordinary" as we make our faith journey day to day.

The bulletin cover photo, taken during an early December snow, shows a coiled vine hanging from a tree on the Michigan Avenue side of the cloisters.

PASTORAL STAFF

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission

Adam H. 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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