

MORNING WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE “Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us
Jacobus Kloppers

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

***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.”

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

“Gabriel, from the Heaven Descending”

Seth Bingham

Gabriel, from the heaven descending, on the faithful word attending, is in holy converse blending with the virgin full of grace. At the promise that he sendeth God the incarnate word descendeth; yet no carnal touch offendeth her, the undefiled one. As the rod, by wondrous power, moistened not by dew or shower, bare the almond and the flower, thus he came, the virgin's Son. Jesus, kind above all other, holy child of gentle mother, in the stable born our brother, whom the angelic hosts adore. On that child with Mary gazing, join ye Christians all in raising songs to him whom heaven is praising, God incarnate, come for all.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 7:10–16

(page 598, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 1:18–25

(page 1, N.T.)

SERMON

Christmas Dreams

CALUM I. MACLEOD

***HYMN 48**

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” *Tune: ES IST EIN' ROS'*

*** APOSTLES' CREED** (unison)

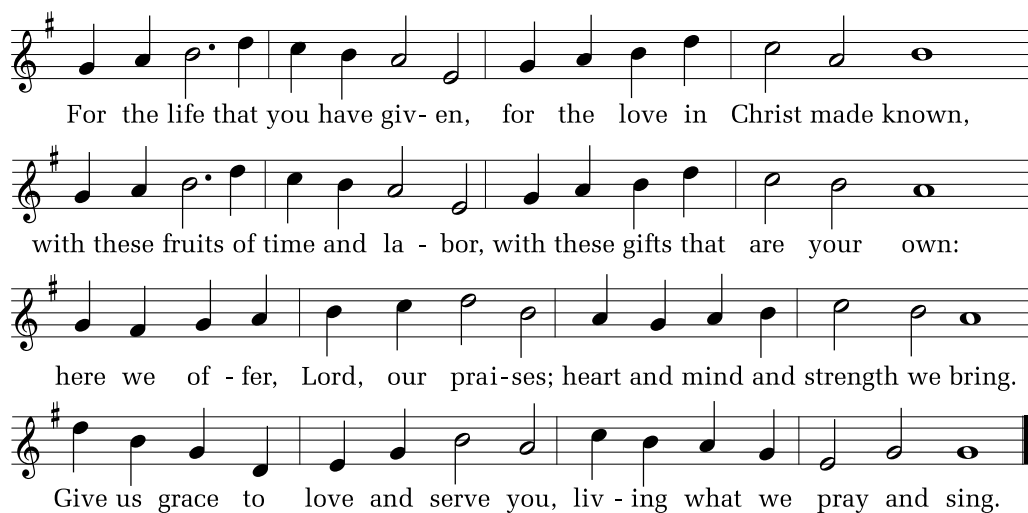
**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ
his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again
from the dead; 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 "I Wonder as I Wander" *John Jacob Niles*

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the
Savior did come for to die, for poor on'ry people like
you and like I. When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's
stall, with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the
promise of ages it then did recall. If Jesus had wanted
for any wee thing, a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, he surely
could have it, 'cause he was the king.

*** 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 “Redeemer of the Nations, Come” *Plainsong*

Redeemer of the nations, come; reveal yourself in virgin birth, the birth which ages all adore, a wondrous birth, befitting God. From human will you do not spring, but from the Spirit of our God; O word of God, come; take our flesh and grow as child in Mary’s womb. With God the Father you are one, and one with us in human flesh. O, fill our weak and dying frame with godly strength which never fails. Your cradle shines with glory’s light; its splendor pierces all our gloom. Our faith reflects those radiant beams; no night shall overcome it now. All praise, O unbegotten God, all praise to you, eternal word, all praise, life-giving Spirit, praise, all glory to our God Triune.

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 Final from *Noël* *Marcel Dupré*

The Lord’s Supper at 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. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles. All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Joyce Shin, Thomas C. Rook, Calum I. MacLeod

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Bill and Sonja 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 and Handbell Director

WORSHIP NOTES

The Prayer after Communion is from the *Common Order* of the Church of Scotland.

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.

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 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

Hardy H. Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism

Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

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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