



FIRST LESSON Luke 2:22–40 (page 55, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM “Nunc Dimittis” Benjamin P. Simmons

O Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory  
of thy people Israel.

PSALTER Psalm 8 (*responsively*) (page 466, O.T.)

\*GLORIA PATRI (The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON Revelation 21:1–6a (page 244, N.T.)

SERMON What This New Year Holds in Store JOHN W. VEST

\*HYMN 472 “O Sing to the Lord” Brazilian folk 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.**

**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**

“To My Humble Supplication”

*Louis Bourgeois*

To my humble supplication, Lord,  
give ear and acceptance; save thy servant  
that hath none help nor hope but thee alone. Amen.

**OFFERING**

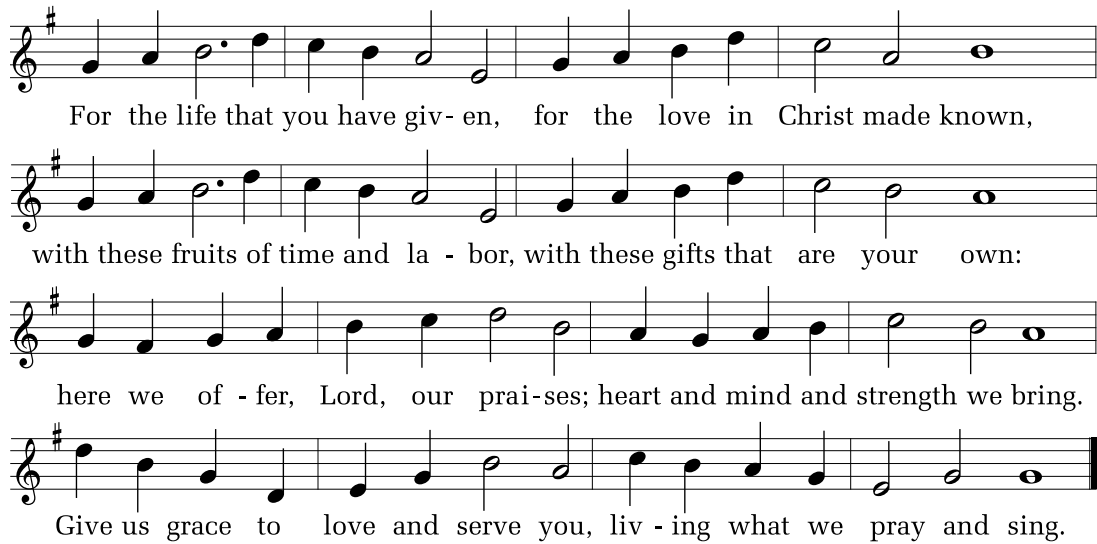
**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

“Now Is the Old Year Passed Away”

*Michael Praetorius*

Now is the old year passed away,  
let us begin the new this day,  
praising our God who here on earth  
kept us in quietness and mirth!  
O, like the glad new year may we wholly  
renewed this day be, praising our God eternally.  
Child of our love, O Jesu dear,  
thou who art still our Savior here,  
thee do we pray with all heart,  
nevermore leave us nor depart.  
Save us from war, from hate and fear;  
keep us in peace together here.  
Grant us a tranquil, joyous year.  
Gladly together then will we,  
O highest God of heaven,  
to thee bring through the year our songs of praise;  
and evermore through endless days,  
here while on earth our time shall be;  
and then through all eternity,  
singing with joyful hearts to thee!

**\*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: **Eternal God,**

**who makes all things new,**

**we thank you for good gifts of life.**

**Help us to begin this year in your faith**

**and to continue it in your grace.**

**Guided by you in all our doings,**

**we dedicate our lives to your service.**

**Use us, and these gifts we bring,**

**to proclaim the good news of your kingdom**

**in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**\*HYMN 275**

“God of Our Life”

*Tune: SANDON*

**BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**

Fanfare for the New Year

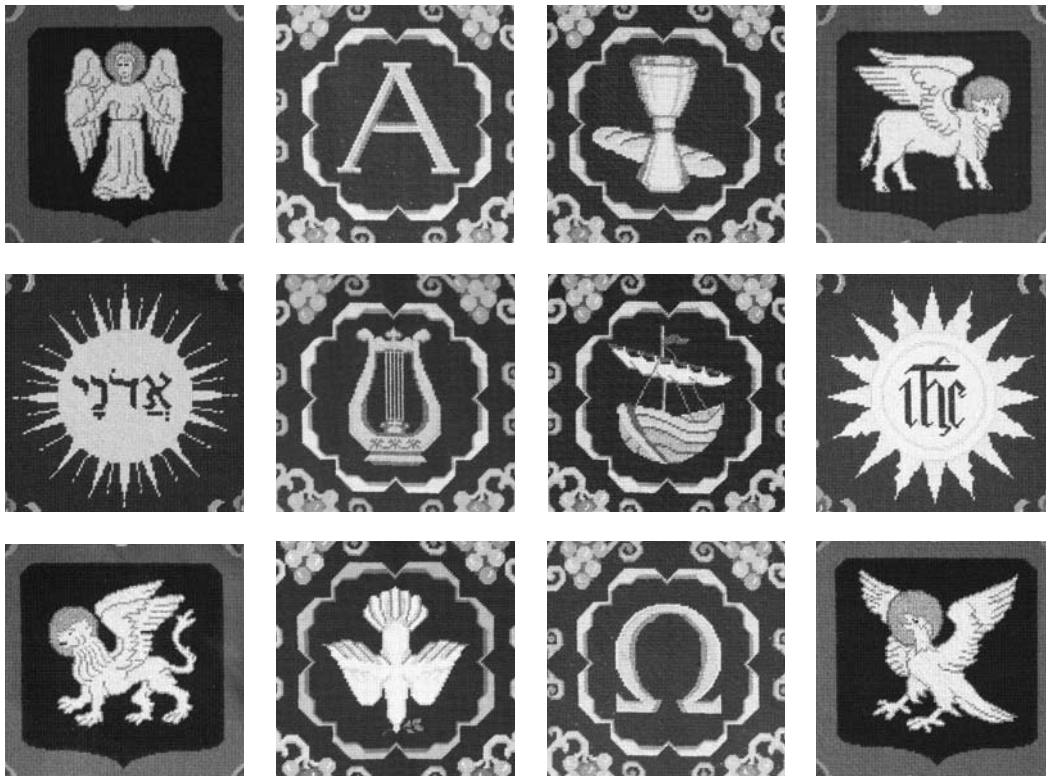
*Calvin Hampton*

## IN THE DETAILS



The needlepoint cushions in the chancel, including thirteen cushions, faux carving, panels of wheat and grapes, and the gold cross, are the handiwork of Morgan Simmons, a member of this congregation and, from 1968 to 1996, organist and choirmaster of Fourth Church. The combined number of stitches for these works approaches 2 million, 169 per square inch.

Central to each of the upper and lower chancel cushions is a religious symbol (shown here), surrounded by clusters of grapes, which echo the motif found in many of the chancel and pulpit carvings and in the stained glass windows.



## WORSHIP LEADERS

11:00 a.m. Adam H. Fronczek, Joyce Shin, John W. Vest

## THE MUSIC TODAY

11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir

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

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Today's first anthem**, "Nunc Dimittis" was composed by Benjamin Simmons, the grandson of Morgan and Mary Simmons, and the piece is dedicated to them. Morgan Simmons was Organist and Choirmaster at Fourth Church from 1968 to 1996 and Mary was Associate Organist during that same time. Benjamin Simmons is currently a student at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. The St. Olaf Choir will be in concert at Fourth Church on Friday, February 10 at 7:30 p.m. (Tickets are available from St. Olaf at [www.stolaftickets.com](http://www.stolaftickets.com); 800.363.5487.)

**Fourth Church offers a variety of worship opportunities each week.** On Sunday mornings throughout the year, there are three services: 8:00 Communion, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. An afternoon jazz service with Communion is also held on Sundays. On weekday mornings, Morning Prayer is held in the Sanctuary as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need (9:00 a.m. on Tuesday; 9:30 a.m. on Monday—except tomorrow, January 2—Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday). A Taizé service is held at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month except for November and December. In December, the Taizé service is held on New Year's Eve at 7:30 p.m.

## 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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