**Morning Worship**

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

**Prelude**

- Toccata and Fugue in F-sharp Minor  
  Dieterich Buxtehude  
- Prelude and Fugue in G Major  
  Felix Mendelssohn

**Introit**

“Now Let Our Voices Join”  
Curt Oliver

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**

(From The Hymnal, 592)

**HyMn 471**

“O Praise the Gracious Power”  
*Tune: Christpraise Ray*

**Prayer of Confession**  
*(Unison)*

- God, you heap your love upon us  
- like a parent providing for a family’s needs,  
- embracing a child with tenderness.  
- Forgive us when, like spoiled children,  
- we treat your generosity as our right  
- or hug it possessively to ourselves.  
- Give us enough trust to live secure in your love  
- and to share it freely with others in open-handed confidence  
- that your grace will never run out. Amen.

**Declaration of Pardon**

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

**Sacrament of Baptism**

**Unison Prayer**

- Holy God, remind us of the promises given in our own baptism and renew our trust in you.  
- Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy;  
- for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Concerns of the Church**

*Stand as you are able.*
Psalter

Psalm 127 (sung)  
(The Hymnal, 238)

Anthem

“Cantate Domino”  
Hans Leo Hassler
O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

First Lesson

2 Corinthians 8:1–15  
(page 172, N.T.)
Minister: The Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

*Gloria Patri  
(The Hymnal, 579)

Second Lesson

Mark 12:38–44  
(page 46, N.T.)

Sermon

Surprises on the Periphery  
Victoria G. Curtiss

*Hymn 414

“As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought”  
Tune: Forest Green

*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  “Amen”  Heinrich Isaak

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Laudate Dominum”  Aaron David Miller

Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness
of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring.

Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

*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: We dedicate our offerings and our lives to you, O God, in thanksgiving for your abundant love toward this earth, its creatures, and all your people. With those whose voice is silenced, with those who call for freedom, with those whose harvest celebration sings through hardship, labor, and love we pray that our gifts and our devotion are pleasing in your sight. Amen.

*HYMN 339*  
“Be Thou My Vision”  
*Tune: Slane*

**Benediction and Response**

**Postlude**  
Prelude in F Major  
*Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel*
Baptism
at Fourth Presbyterian Church

On the second Sunday of each month, Fourth Church includes the Sacrament of Baptism in morning worship. Baptism is the sign and seal of God’s grace and covenant in Christ. As The Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) explains, baptism signifies the faithfulness of God, the washing away of sin, rebirth, putting on the fresh garment of Christ, and adoption into the covenant family of the church. The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God’s love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The congregation, on behalf of the whole church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life, and it is for this reason that the congregation makes such a promise during the service. In the unison prayer we also remember that we too were baptized and as children of God are part of the worldwide family of faith.

Those being baptized at the 9:30 worship service are
  Jay Daniel DeStigter, son of Todd and Laura DeStigter
  Harper Adelaide Woods, daughter of Chris and Cheryl Woods

Those being baptized at the 11:00 worship service are
  James Chase Greenlees, son of Jamie and Dina Greenlees
  Olivia Monroe Hooper, daughter of Jarrod and Genevieve Hooper
  Benjamin Arthur Jackson, son of Michael and LeeAnn Jackson
  Adam Carleton James, son of Troy and Katherine James
  Emma Catherine Skowlund, daughter of Michael and Jennifer Skowlund
  Pierce William Van Osdol, son of David and Carrie Van Osdol

“Let the little children come to me . . .
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.”

Matthew 19:14 (NRSV)
Worship Leaders

9:30 a.m.  Joyce Shin, Calum I. MacLeod, Victoria G. Curtiss
11:00 a.m. Joyce Shin, Calum I. MacLeod, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

9:30 a.m.  The Morning Choir
11:00 a.m.  The Morning Choir

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

A special Disaster Relief Offering is being received today to help meet the emergency needs of those affected by Hurricane Sandy. Gifts, which will be distributed through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, can be made by using the Disaster Assistance envelopes in the pew racks, by writing “Disaster Assistance” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church, or online at www.pcusa.org/pda.

The Prayer of Confession was written by Jan Berry, and the Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication is adapted from a prayer by Janet Morley, both published in Bread of Tomorrow: Prayers for the Church Year.

Fourth Church offers a variety of worship opportunities in addition to Sunday morning services. A jazz service with Communion is held each Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Each weekday morning, Morning Prayer is held in the Sanctuary as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need (9:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday). The next Taizé service will be Monday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m.

Pastoral Staff

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor and Head of Staff
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
Edwin Estevez, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

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