

## MORNING WORSHIP

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

**PRELUDE** O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? *Michael Burkhardt*

**INTROIT** “Drop Dew, Ye Heavens” *Christopher Tye*  
Drop dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds  
break forth in showers upon the righteous ones,  
in rain upon the just; and let the earth be opened  
and blossom forth a Savior.

**\*DOXOLOGY** (The Hymnal, 592)

### **\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Leader: In expectation of her child,  
Mary sang out for joy:  
“My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor upon  
the lowliness of his servant.”

People: **“Surely, from now on all generations  
will call us blessed; for the Mighty One  
has done great things for us,  
and holy is God’s name.”**

Leader: The third candle on the Advent wreath stands  
for joy. It reminds us to be thankful that God’s  
presence is becoming brighter in our world.

People: **The light reminds us that God’s child  
is coming to bring joy to 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 5** “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” *Tune: PICARDY*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

**Gracious God,  
our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide,  
and too deep to undo.  
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
what our hearts can no longer bear,  
and what has become for us a convicting judgment.  
Shed your light upon us that we may see  
what we have done and how we have lived.  
Shed your light upon us that we may feel  
your warmth and your grace.  
Shed your light upon us that we may know  
another way: the way of truth, hope, and love. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

**CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**ANTHEM**

“People, Look East”

*Besançon carol  
arr. Philip Dietterich*

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today; love, the guest, is on the way. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today; love, the rose, is on the way. Birds, though ye long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen, he for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today; love, the bird, is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today; love, the star, is on the way. Angels, announce to man and beast him who cometh from the east. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today; love, the Lord, is on the way.

**PSALTER**

Psalm 10:1–4, 14–18 (*responsively*) (page 467, O.T.)

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

(The Hymnal, 579)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

The Beginning of the End

JOYCE SHIN

*“You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?”* Luke 3:7 (NRSV)

**\*HYMN 409**

“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”

*Tune: ABERYSTWYTH*

**\*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** “Alleluia” from *Exsultate, Jubilate*

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

**\*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.**

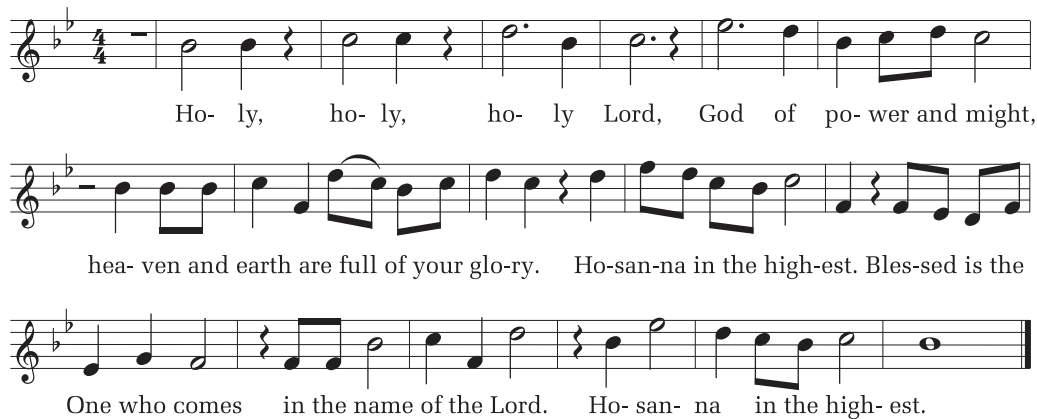
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 “Creator of the Stars of Night”

*Plainsong  
arr. Dale Wood*

Creator of the stars of night, thy people’s everlasting light; O Christ, thou Savior of us all, we pray thee, hear us when we call. To thee the travail deep was known that made the whole creation groan till thou, redeemer, shouldest free thine own in glorious liberty. And when the world drew on toward night, thou camest, not in splendor bright as monarch, but the humble child of Mary, blameless mother mild. At thy great name of Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow and things celestial thee shall own, of things terrestrial, Lord, alone. Come in thy holy might, we pray; redeem us for eternal day from every power of darkness, when thou judgest all the sons of men. To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, three in one; laud, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *(unison)*

**God, you have so greatly loved us,  
long sought us,  
and mercifully redeemed us.  
Give us strength for your service  
and songs for your praises  
that the world may know the joy made possible  
through your Son’s sacrifice.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

### \*HYMN 13

“Prepare the Way”

*Tune: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN*

### BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

*Bruce Neswick*

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Judith L. Watt, Hardy H. Kim, Joyce Shin

## **LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

Sue Thompson

## **THE MUSIC TODAY**

The Chancel Choir; Laura Perkett, soloist

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

**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.

**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 by 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.

## **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

**Matt Helms**, 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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