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## WORSHIP LEADERS

**Judith L. Watt** Associate Pastor  
**John W. Vest** Associate Pastor  
**John W. W. Sherer** Organist and Director of Music  
**Thomas E. Gouwens** Associate Organist  
**Ryan Loeckel** Violinist  
**The Chancel Choir**

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**The season of Lent** calls Christians to embrace the faith journey by reflecting upon and deepening their relationship with God and by acting upon their Christian beliefs.

**Although often considered a time for giving up something** as a way of symbolizing Jesus' sacrifice and his struggle in the wilderness, the forty days of Lent also offer an opportunity for taking up. During this season, we are invited to thoughtfully take up the gifts of faith—worship, study, prayer, and service—in preparation for Holy Week and Christ's journey to the cross.

**Daily Lenten devotions** are available via Facebook ([www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)), Twitter (@FourthChicago), email (send addresses to [devotions@fourthchurch.org](mailto:devotions@fourthchurch.org)), and in printed booklets in the literature racks.

### The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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**February 13, 2013**  
**7:30 p.m.**

## Ash Wednesday

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### PRELUDE

Behold, I Stand at the Threshold	<i>Johann Sebastian Bach</i>
All People Are Mortal	<i>Johann Ludwig Krebs</i>
If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee	<i>Sigfrid Karg-Elert</i>
Earth Prayers	<i>Augusta Read Thomas</i>

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Minister: God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

**PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY** *(unison)*

Almighty God, you despise nothing you have made,  
and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent.  
Create in us new and contrite hearts,  
that truly repenting of our sins  
and acknowledging our brokenness,  
we may obtain from you, the God of all mercy,  
full pardon and forgiveness;  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our redeemer,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

**WELCOME**

\***HYMN 85** “What Wondrous Love Is This”

*Tune: WONDROUS LOVE*

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

Isaiah 58:1–12 (page 647, O.T.)

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21 (page 5, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**REFLECTION** by Judith L. Watt

\***HYMN 372** “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

*Tune: I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** “Valediction”

*David Conte*

Leave me, O love, which reaches but to dust; and thou, my mind,  
aspire to higher things. Grow rich in that which never taketh rust,  
whatever fades but fading pleasure brings. Draw in thy beams and  
humble all thy might to that sweet yoke where lasting freedoms be,  
which breaks the clouds and opens forth the light, that doth both  
shine and give us sight to see. O take fast hold; let that light be  
thy guide in this small course which birth draws out to death,  
and think how evil becometh him to slide, who seeketh heaven  
and comes of heavenly breath. Then farewell, world; thy uttermost  
I see; eternal love, maintain thy life in me.

**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** “Remember”

*Larry Harris*

Remember now that from dust you came and to dust you shall  
return. Remember that short are your days upon the earth.  
Come back to the Lord with all your heart. Leave the past in  
ashes, and turn to God with prayer and fasting, for God is slow  
to anger and ready to forgive.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(unison)*

**God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ  
you reconciled your people to yourself.  
Following his example of prayer and fasting,  
may we obey you with willing hearts and  
serve one another in holy love,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\***HYMN 84** “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

*Tune: RATHBUN*

**BENEDICTION**

**THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

*Those who wish are invited to come to either the front or back  
of the Sanctuary to receive ashes either on the back of the  
hand or on the forehead. Ashes serve as a sign of human  
mortality and penitence and as a reminder that only by  
God’s grace in Jesus Christ are we given eternal life.  
Ashes are imposed with the words “Remember that  
you are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19).*

**DEPART IN SILENCE**

## INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

**PSALTER** Psalm 51:1–17 (*responsively*) (page 492, O.T.)

### LITANY OF PENANCE

Minister: Let us pray.

People: **Holy and merciful God,  
we confess to you and to one another,  
and to the whole communion of saints  
in heaven and on earth,  
that we have sinned by our own fault  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.**

Minister: We have not loved you with our whole heart  
and mind and strength.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ  
served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ.  
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness:  
the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our  
exploitation of others; our anger at our own frustration,  
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,  
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our negligence in prayer and worship,  
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Accept our repentance, O God,  
for the wrongs we have done.  
For our neglect of human need and suffering  
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister: For our waste and pollution of your creation and  
our lack of concern for those who come after us,

People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

People: **Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

Minister: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

People: **that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

Minister: By the cross and passion of our Savior,

People: **bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's  
resurrection. Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION AND 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.**

### THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One  
who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Minister: . . . great is the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Minister: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit . . .