

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

Johann Sebastian Bach

INTROIT

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”

Richard Proulx

Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.
Rejoice, the Lord is at hand!

*DOXOLOGY

(The Hymnal, 592)

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: In a hopeful time, a time like Advent,
the psalmist declares, “Let me hear what God
the Lord will speak, for God will speak peace
to God’s people.” (Psalm 85:8–9)

People: **“Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear God,
that God’s glory may dwell in our land.”**

Leader: We light a second candle on the Advent wreath
to remind us that God’s presence
is becoming brighter in our world.

People: **The light of Christ reminds us to move
beyond fear to caring, beyond self to neighbor,
beyond protection to growth.**

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 11

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Come, Lord Jesus. And as we await your coming, in this season of Advent, forgive us when we say “Thy kingdom come” when we are actually trusting in our own nations, political parties, militaries, banks, and institutions to save us; forgive us when we bow down to them or “believe” in them as able in themselves to accomplish your gracious reign. Teach us that we must only believe in you and not in countries, armies, political parties, or even churches to bring about your kingdom; remind us that we can’t keep saying “Thy kingdom come,” with words only, but must open our hearts. Come, Lord Jesus, and make us whole, that we might reconcile with one another and lay aside the distractions that lead us astray. Come, Lord Jesus, and remind us of our forgiveness and our task to extend it to others. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19 *(responsively)* (page 504, O.T.)

ANTHEM “And the Glory of the Lord” from *Messiah*
George Frideric Handel
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth
of the Lord hath spoken it.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 11:1–10 (page 602, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI** (The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON Matthew 3:1–12 (page 2, N.T.)

SERMON “John, Did You Know?” EDWIN ESTEVEZ

***HYMN 10** “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”
Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

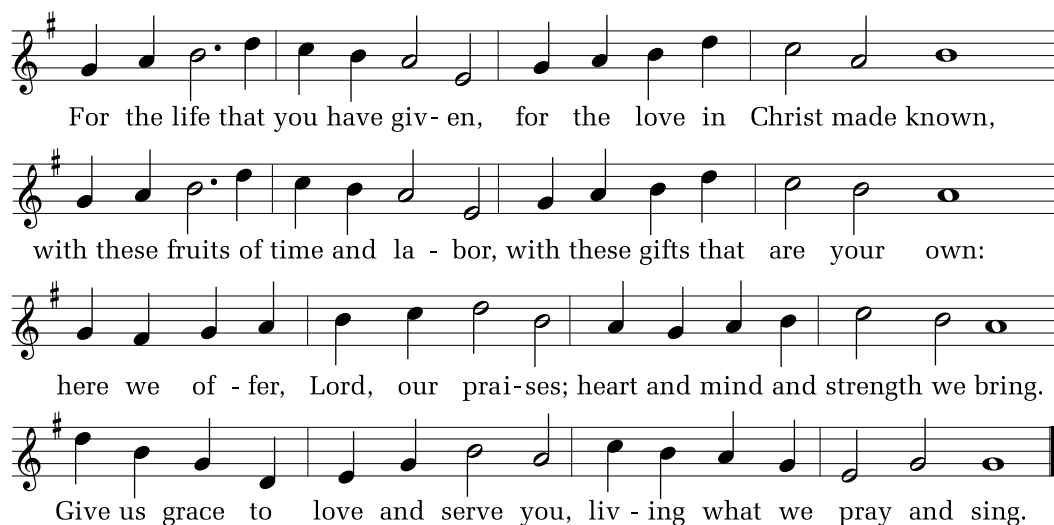
*** APOSTLES' CREED** *(unison)*

**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 VOLUNTARY Improvisation on "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*** 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.**

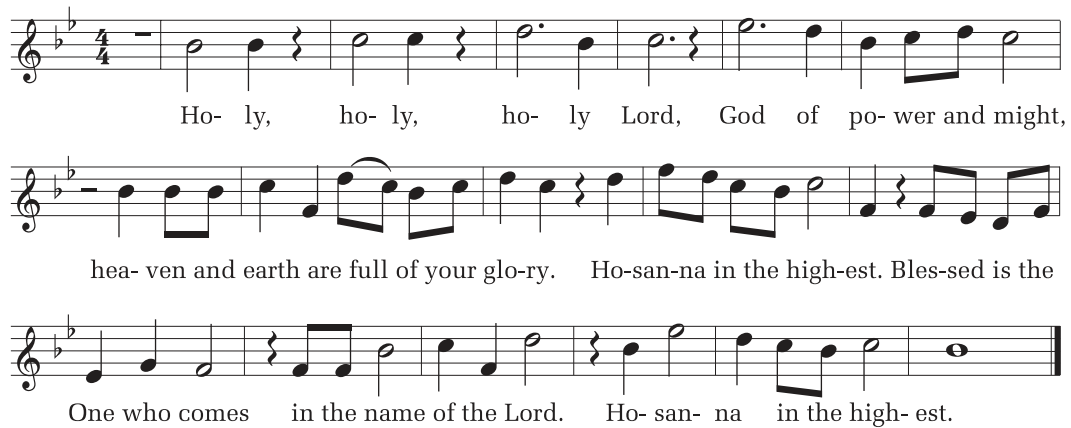
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PRAYER

Minister: 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 “Rorate Coeli”

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. Let the earth be opened
and blossom forth a Savior.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

**God of new beginnings,
you draw near to us in word and sacrament
to strengthen and renew us;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit.
May your light so shine through us
that all may welcome your Son at his coming.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Emmanuel. Amen.**

*HYMN 13

“Prepare the Way”

Tune: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

Paul Manz

Festival of Advent Lessons and Music

Today at 6:30 p.m.

In the Sanctuary

Cookies-and-cocoa reception follows



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Tuesday, December 24

In the Sanctuary

4:00 p.m. Children’s Pageant

6:00 p.m. Family Service

8:30 p.m. Lessons and Carols

11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols



Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25, 11:00 a.m.

In the Sanctuary

WORSHIP LEADERS

Calum I. MacLeod, Judith L. Watt, Edwin Estevez

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Bill and Sonja Bowen

THE MUSIC TODAY

The Chancel Choir

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

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

Edwin Estevez, Pastoral Resident

John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

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