

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

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in F-sharp Minor . . . . . Dieterich Buxtehude

### Introit

“O, Bless the Lord, My Soul” . . . . . Aaron Williams  
arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel

*O, bless the Lord, my soul. Let all within me join  
and aid my tongue to bless his name whose favors are divine.*

\*Doxology (*sung*). . . . . The Hymnal, 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### \*Call to Worship

Minister: *From the rising of the sun till its setting in the west,*

People: **God’s holy name be praised.**

Minister: *In the visions of the old and the dreaming of the young,*

People: **God’s holy name be praised.**

Minister: *In the banquet hall of heaven and the forgotten corners of our hearts,*

People: **God’s holy name be praised.**

Minister: *Let all that has life and breath praise the Lord.*

People: **Amen! Let us worship!**

### \*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 491 . . . . . “Stand Up and Bless the Lord”

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*\*Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

In your grace-filled presence, dear God,  
we try to speak the truth about ourselves.  
We have not done all you call us to do,  
but we have done things that have hurt you and those we love.  
We so easily forget who we are and your claim on our lives.  
Forgive us. Remind us that we are your children,  
that you are our God, and that in Jesus  
you have revealed yourself to be filled with love and forgiveness.  
Help us to stand on that solid ground and be open  
to your transforming grace. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

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Listening for the Word

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Anthem

“Go Down, Moses” . . . . . African American spiritual  
arr. Jerry Johnson

*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt land;  
tell old Pharaoh to let my people go.  
When Israel was in Egypt’s land,  
oppressed so hard they could not stand,  
thus spoke the Lord, bold Moses said,  
let my people go, if not I’ll smite your firstborn dead.*

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 13 . . . . . Old Testament, page 468

\*Gloria Patri (*sung*). . . . . The Hymnal, 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Romans 6:1b–11 . . . . . New Testament, page 146

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

\*Hymn 369 . . . . . “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

\*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) . . . . . Apostles’ Creed

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” . . . . . Anonymous

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Come Sing to Me of Heaven” . . . . . J. Aaron McDermid  
Come sing to me of heaven, when I am called to die.  
Sing songs of holy ecstasy to waft my soul on high.  
When the last moment comes let one sweet song begin.  
Let music cheer me last on earth; to greet me first in heaven.

\*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.

\*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

O God, receive these gifts.  
May they be used for Stephen Ministry materials,  
food for our youth groups,  
training for our elders,  
supplies for international mission trips,  
postage for new member letters,  
toys for the nursery,  
bread for sack lunches,  
and so much more.  
Bless these gifts so they will be put to good use  
spreading your word of justice, grace, and mercy,  
not just to those within these walls, but to all who need to hear. Amen.

\*Hymn 391 . . . . . “Take My Life”

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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### \*Charge and Benediction

#### Postlude

Rondeau . . . . . Jean-Joseph Mouret

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### Worship in the Reformed Tradition

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As the headings in our bulletin remind us each week, the center of our worship is **the Word**—by which we mean both Scripture and the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. Our Scripture witnesses to God and God’s activity. When it is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit.

It is this Living Word that is the center of everything we do in worship.

That worship follows the pattern we see in Isaiah 6: adoration, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, and service.

Overwhelmed by God’s majesty and glory, we **gather** together in **praise** offered through song and prayer.

In the face of that great goodness of God, we also see how we fall short of being who we were created to be and so we join in a **prayer of confession**.

We then proclaim the **forgiveness** that we know in Jesus Christ. We live our lives in this cycle of realizing where we fall short, being honest to God about that, and then recognizing that God always forgives us, even before the words are on our lips, and lets us start new.

As we listen for the Word of God, **Scripture** is read. The **sermon** is proclaimed.

We respond to the Word with thanksgiving, joining in **song** and **affirming our faith**, using words from the Presbyterian Church (USA)’s *Book of Confessions*—whether it be the Apostles’ Creed, a Brief Statement of Faith, or one of the other professions of faith—or words taken directly from Scripture.

Following Jesus’ instruction to pray, in the **Prayers of the People** we bring human need before God in hope, trust, and thanksgiving for God’s faithfulness, concluding with the **Lord’s Prayer**. Our response of thanksgiving also includes the giving of our material goods, bringing to God the **offerings** of our work as symbols of our gratitude and our acknowledgment that everything we have comes from God. In prayer we **dedicate** these gifts and our lives to the work of the church and God’s mission.

God then **sends** us, like Isaiah, back out into the world in service. Our final **hymn** of grateful praise moves directly into a **charge and blessing** to take what we have heard, to take what we have learned, and to actively live it out in the world, looking for God’s work all around us.

## Worship Leaders

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Judith L. Watt, Martha Brown, Hardy H. Kim, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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Men of the Chancel and Morning Choirs; Daniel Henry, soloist  
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music  
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

## Worship Notes

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TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by Michelle Weitz on behalf of the annual School Supply Drive organized by Women@Fourth Connect.

THIS MORNING'S FIRST ANTHEM, "Go Down, Moses," was arranged by Jerry Johnson, a member of Fourth Church and the Morning Choir.

THE TEXTILE BANNERS AND PULPIT PARAMENT, "Unweavings," created by fiber artist Laurie Wohl, were commissioned by Fourth Church for use during the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, the longest season of the church year (the season between Epiphany and Lent and between Pentecost and Advent). Through their combination of scripture texts and images, these banners celebrate and elevate the perception of the sacred in the "ordinary" as we make our faith journey day to day. Numerous other works by Laurie Wohl are on exhibit in the Loggia through July.

THE BULLETIN COVER PHOTO depicts the fountain in the Michigan Avenue Courtyard as nature's downpour complements the fountain's stream during a summer rainstorm. The cover quote is from a hymn that appears in *Glory to God*, the new Presbyterian hymnal: "Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters" was written by Ruth Duck and is © 1989 United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense.net A-712340.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The Call to Worship is from *The Wee Worship Book* / Iona. The words to "For the Life that You Have Given" are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission.

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**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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