

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Prelude in B-flat Major Pierre Camonin

Introit

“Blessed Is He That Cometh” Eric DeLamarter
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

*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.

*Invocation

*Hymn 488 “The God of Abraham Praise”

Prayer of Confession

You, God, know our hearts.
You know that we wrestle with you,
with others, and with ourselves.
Our consciences are a witness
to our inconsistencies and lack of integrity.
We want contradictory things.
We struggle to make sense of what we have been
and what we strive to be.
Make us whole, God.
Make us beautiful, even if scarred;
resilient, even if restless.
Strengthen us through our struggles
so that in the end we will come to know
that we have been blessed by you, Lord of our hearts. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter

Psalms 17:1–6, 15 (*responsively*) Old Testament, page 469

Anthem

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” Calvin Hampton

*There’s a wideness in God’s mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there’s a kindness in his justice, which is more than liberty.
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the head.
For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind,
and the heart of the eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more simple we should take him at his word,
and our lives would be all sunshine in the sweetness of our Lord.
Fearful souls, why will you scatter like a crowd of frightened sheep?
Foolish hearts, why will you wander from a love so true and deep?
There is welcome for the sinner and more glances for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior, there is healing in his blood. Amen.*

First Lesson

Romans 9:1–5 New Testament, page 148

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

*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.

Second Lesson

Genesis 32:22–31 Old Testament, page 29

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Wrestling a Blessing Joyce Shin

“I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” Genesis 32:26b (NRSV)

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 278 “Our God, to Whom We Turn”

*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.

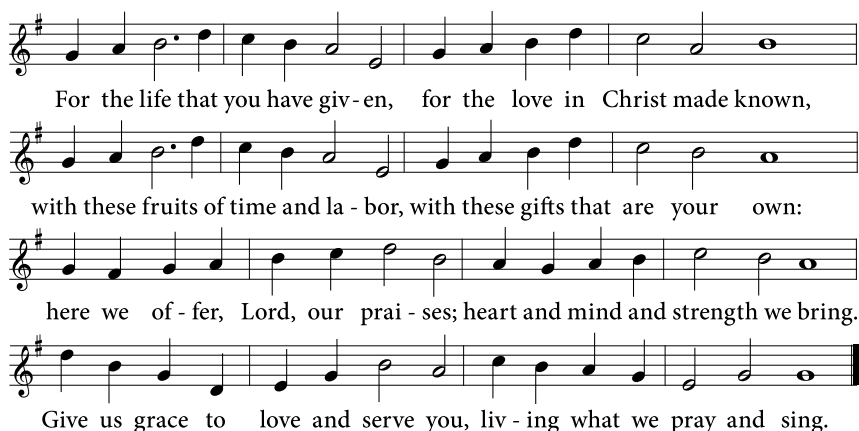
Offering

Offertory Solo

“I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked” Geoffrey O’Hara

*I walked today where Jesus walked, in days of long ago;
I wandered down each path he knew, with reverent step and slow.
Those little lanes, they have not changed, a sweet peace fills the air.
I walked today where Jesus walked and felt his presence there.
My pathway led through Bethlehem, ah, memories ever sweet;
the little hills of Galilee, that knew those childish feet;
the Mount of Olives, hallowed scenes that Jesus knew before.
I saw the mighty Jordan roll as in the days of yore.
I knelt today where Jesus knelt, where all alone he prayed,
the garden of Gethsemane, my heart felt unafraid.
I picked my heavy burden up and with him by my side,
I climbed the hill of Calvary where on the cross he died.
I walked today where Jesus walked and felt him close to me.*

*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.

Sealing the Word

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.

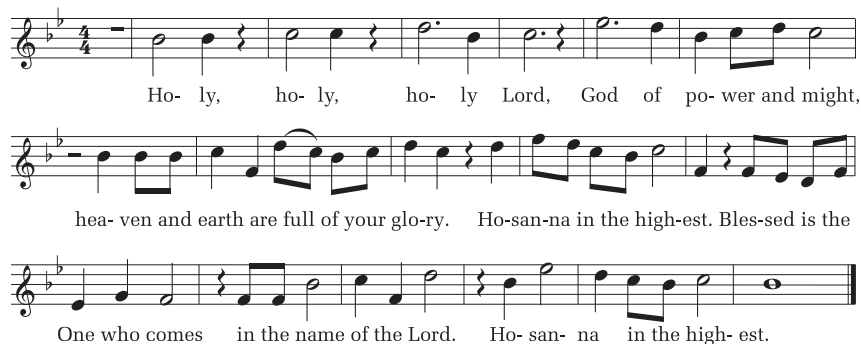
Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

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.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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

“Ave Verum” Karl Jenkins
*Jesus, word of God incarnate, born of the blessed virgin Mary,
on the cross thy sacred body for us all with nails was torn.
Cleanse us by the blood and water streaming forth from thy pierced side;
feed us with thy body broken now and in death's final moment.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

At your table, O Lord, you give us all that we need.
You give us acceptance and grace.
You give us fellowship and communion.
You give us bread for our stomachs and your word for our lives.
You give us rest for our bodies and refreshment for our spirits.
Now send us out renewed with more than we need—
songs of praise on our tongues and love in our hearts.
For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ and the world he loves, we pray.
Amen.

*Hymn 412 “Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Improvisation on a Gregorian Chant

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Joyce Shin

The Music Today

Women of the Morning Choir
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

SHANNON KERSHNER is in Scotland, participating in a seminar that had been planned prior to her call to Fourth Church. There she is joining with Presbyterian pastors from North Carolina and from Scotland to talk about the church today. She returns on August 19.

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED BY INTINCTION. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The Lord’s Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is not just for Presbyterians or “members of the church.” All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper. Access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ.

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 words to “For the Life that You Have Given” are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 by Hope Publishing Co. The music for “Holy, Holy, Holy” is © 1997 by John Sherer. All are used by permission.

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Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission	John W. Vest Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Matt Helms Minister for Children and Families	Judith L. Watt Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Hardy H. Kim Associate Pastor for Evangelism	Layton Williams Pastoral Resident
Joyce Shin Associate Pastor for Congregational Life	John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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