

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Song Louis Vierne
Voluntary in F Major John Stanley
Andante – Vivace
In Thee Is Joy Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit

“The Earth Is the Lord’s” Iain Quinn
*The earth is the Lord’s, for he made it; come let us adore him.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

*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: *God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God,*
People: **and God abides in them.**
Minister: *This is the day that the Lord has made;*
People: **let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 302 “I Danced in the Morning”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Dear God, we confess how difficult it is
for us to accept your invitation to deeper discipleship.
We can be self-absorbed
and too busy following our own agendas.
We can be tied up
with all our demands, responsibilities, promises, and regrets.
We confess we are often afraid and anxious.
We also admit, O God,
how difficult it is these days to live as hope-filled people
who trust in your grace and mercy.
Lord God, forgive all these ways we fall short.
Help us choose life in all its fullness
over substitutes that leave us
sick and tired, empty and wanting. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)

Unison Prayer (11:00)

Holy God, remind us of the promises given in our own baptism
and renew our trust in you.
Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Concerns of the Church

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 23 Old Testament, page 474

Anthem

“Rejoice in the Lord Always” Anonymous
Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men: the Lord is e’en at hand. Be careful for nothing, but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

First Lesson

Philippians 4:1-9 New Testament, page 187

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

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

Glorify 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

Matthew 22:1-14 New Testament, page 23

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 487 “When Morning Gilds the Skies”

*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

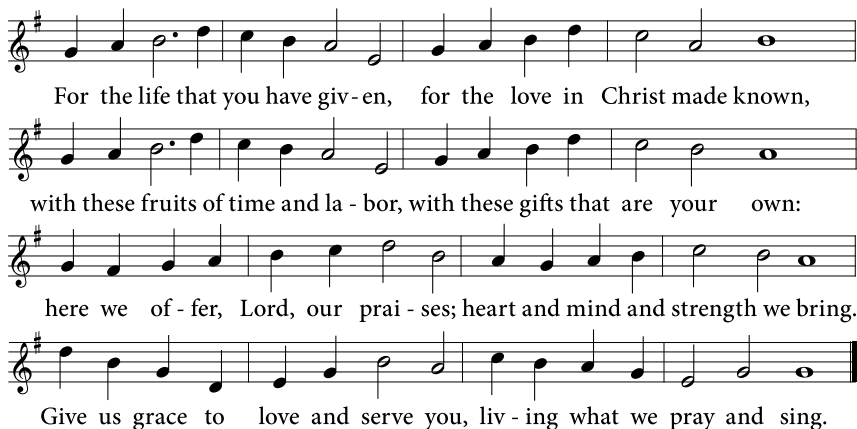
"Amen" Richard Warner

Offering

Offertory Anthem

"Ich Freue Mich Im Herrn" Gottfried A. Homilius
I will rejoice in the Lord, and my soul shall be joyful in my God.

*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, be in the ministries and mission
for which these gifts are given,
and bless those who give them,
that we may dedicate ourselves as well.
Teach us again and again the power of generosity and love.
May we be a part of your creative work
of healing in this world. Amen.

*Hymn 145 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

Bearing the Word into the World

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Trumpet Tune and Air Henry Purcell

Baptism at Fourth Presbyterian Church

On the second Sunday of each month, Fourth Church includes the Sacrament of Baptism in morning worship. Baptism is the sign and seal of God's grace and covenant in Christ. As *The Book of Order* of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) explains, baptism signifies the faithfulness of God, the washing away of sin, rebirth, putting on the fresh garment of Christ, and adoption into the covenant family of the church.

The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God's love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The congregation, on behalf of the whole church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life, and it is for this reason that the congregation makes such a promise during the service. In the unison prayer we also remember that we too were baptized and as children of God are part of the worldwide family of faith.

Those being baptized at the 11:00 worship service are

Carter-Treme Charles Colbert,

son of Joffre-Charles and Betsy Colbert

Charlotte Ruth Parr, daughter of Travis and Cynthia Parr

August Preston Teborek, son of Mark and Libby Teborek

Worship Leaders

9:30 Joyce Shin, John R. Dallas Jr., Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Victoria G. Curtiss, John R. Dallas Jr., Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

AS THE BULLETIN HEADINGS remind us, the center of our worship is the Word—by which we mean both Scripture, and also the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. When Scripture 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. We listen for the Word of God. We respond in song, affirmation of our faith, prayer, and the giving of our gifts and dedication of our lives, and then God sends us back into the world to live out our faith, looking for God’s work all around us.

THE TEXTILE BANNERS AND PULPIT PARAMENT, “UNWEAVINGS,” created by 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 image, these banners celebrate and elevate the perception of the sacred in the “ordinary” as we make our faith journey day to day.

THE BULLETIN COVER depicts white tulips silhouetted against the stained-glass windows in the south aisle. The cover quote is from N. T. Wright’s book *Matthew for Everyone, Part 2*.

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 Hope Publishing Co.

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This worship bulletin is printed on recyclable paper that contains recycled post-consumer waste and is acid free. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.

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