

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

A Path with Heart David Lanz
The Rising. Paul Sullivan
Meditation from *Thais* Jules Massenet

Introit

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” Thomas Jarman
*O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!*

*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: *O give thanks to God for all the goodness we are shown!
God’s steadfast love endures forever!*

People: We come from the east and the west,
the north and the south,
to give God thanks and praise!

Minister: *We once were a wandering people,
hungry and thirsty in a desert land.*

People: We cried to God to deliver us,
and we were led to a new land
rich in promise and harvest.

Minister: *We give thanks for God’s steadfast love!*

People: God’s generosity is beyond measure.

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 223 “O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Giving God,
you have blessed us
with an abundance of gifts and talents.
But we forget that you are the Giver
of all that we have, of all that we are.
And so we move through life grabbing for more
and holding on tightly to what we obtain.
You offered your very self, your own Son, for us.
But we have trouble giving our lives back to you.
Forgive us, loving God.
Forgive us for any stinginess and selfishness.
Forgive us for our constant desire for more.
Forgive us for all the ways we fall short
of living as your generous people.
Restore us to the new life you promise.
We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“Hear My Prayer, O Lord” Henry Purcell
Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my crying come unto thee.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 96 Old Testament, page 520

*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

Exodus 35:1-29; 36:2-7 Old Testament, page 78

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 434 “Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”

*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.

New Members (11:00)

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” John W. W. Sherer

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“O God, Thou Art My God” H. Purcell

*O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee.
My soul thirsteth for thee; my flesh also longeth after thee
in a barren and dry land where no water is.
Thus have I looked for thee in holiness,
that I might behold thy power and glory.
For thy loving-kindness is better than life itself;
my lips shall praise thee.
As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner
and lift up my hands in thy name.
Because thou hast been my helper, therefore,
under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice. Hallelujah.*

*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*)

Your importance in our lives, O God,
is reflected in our gifts.
We return to you,
through the ministry and outreach of this church,
a portion of all you have entrusted to us.
We promise that these offerings
will not be the end of our giving.
We will also invest our time and abilities in your work.
Bless each gift, whatever its size,
and multiply the good to be done
through our time, talent, and treasure. Amen.

*Hymn 538 “Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

The Heavens Declare Thy Glory Benedetto Marcello

Worship in the Reformed Tradition

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

9:30 Judith L. Watt, Thomas Schemper, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Hardy H. Kim, Claudia Learned, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir

Addison C. Teng, violinist

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

FOURTH CHURCH WELCOMES ADDISON TENG this morning as he plays violin during the prelude. Addison is on the faculty of the Music Institute of Chicago, which offers private music lessons for children and adults, Suzuki classes, and music therapy at Fourth Church and other locations. More information about this music program is available at www.musicinst.org.

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 photo depicts an ornamental cabbage plant in the Walter Family Courtyard (on the Delaware side of the Gratz Center) following a rainfall last week. The cover quote is from the hymn “Ten Lepers Facing Constant Scorn,” with words by John Thornburg, in *Glory to God*, the new Presbyterian hymnal.

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.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission

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

Layton Williams Pastoral Resident

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014
www.fourthchurch.org | www.facebook.com/fourthchurch
312.787.4570 | Voicemail 312.787.2729 | Fax: 312.787.4584