

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Johann Nicolas Hanff
Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit (9:30)

“Exultate, Jubilate” Dave and Jean Perry

Introit (11:00)

“Sing for Joy, Sing Together” Mark Patterson

*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: *Throughout the human story,
the Spirit of God continues to speak*

People: **in vision and voices,
in images and ideas,**

Minister: *in all languages and all time,
to all people in all places,*

People: **inviting the people of God
to discover God’s Living Word.**

Minister: *The church Reformed,
always willing to be reformed
by the wildly creative Spirit of God.*

People: **Let us worship God!**

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 260 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Eternal God,
you have called us into covenant,
yet our commitment is shallow and our love is weak.
We place lesser concerns high on our list of priorities
and give you whatever time and energy are left.
Forgive our sin, O God,
and turn us again toward your purposes.
Reform our lives by renewing our dedication to you.
By your Holy Spirit,
give us a new sense of our calling,
a new zeal in our faithfulness,
a new compassion toward neighbors in need,
and a new appreciation for your love in Jesus Christ our Lord.
May we always be open
to the reforming and refreshing wind of your Spirit. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Discipleship

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 46 Old Testament, page 489

Anthem

“Consecration” Bruce Saylor
Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my heart; it is thine own. It shall be thy royal throne. Take my voice, and let me sing. Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong: they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee. Take me life, and consecrate it, Lord, to thee. Amen.

First Lesson

Romans 3:19–28 New Testament, page 144

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

John 8:31–36 New Testament, page 95

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 414 “As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought”

*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

“Hear Our Prayer” Plainsong
arr. Richard T. Gore

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let our crying come unto thee.
Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name. Amen.*

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Set Me as a Seal upon Thine Heart” William Walton

*Set me as a seal upon thine heart,
as a seal upon thine arm;
for love is strong as death,
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.*

*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.

*Litany of Dedication of Our Offerings and 2015 Pledge Commitments

Minister: *The Creator of all life and love
has given our earth bountiful blessings.*

People: **God created humanity
to share in the wonder and joy of these blessings.**

Minister: *All thanks be to God,
Giver and Receiver of all that is good.*

People: **We return to God portions of what God has given us:
our time, the fruits of our labors, our commitment.**

Minister: *May the giving from the fullness of our lives
be acceptable in God’s sight.*

People: **May the gifts we bring show
that God’s rule is at hand—both now and to come.**

Minister: *We dedicate our offerings
toward the ministry God has given us.*

People: **Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

*Hymn 422 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Benediction and Response

*Recessional (*please remain standing*)

“Scotland the Brave” Traditional Scottish melody

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Helmut Walcha

TODAY IS REFORMATION SUNDAY, a day when we recall the rich heritage of the Protestant tradition. The Presbyterian Church (USA) grew out of the Reformation of the sixteenth century under leaders such as John Calvin and John Knox. It was on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther posted his ninety-five theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany, the watershed event sparking the Reformation. Luther later authored the hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” sung early in today’s service and featured in the Prelude and Postlude. Reformation Day is also a day when we remember and give thanks for Reformation leaders and all others who have kept the faith.

Worship Leaders

Hardy H. Kim, Linnea Schramm, Joyce Shin, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

9:30: The Youth Choir

11:00: The Children's Choir; Carol Carpenter, flutist

The Morning Choir; Carla Janzen and Craig Palmer, soloists

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Hsing-Huei Huang, Children and Youth Choir Accompanist

George Sims, bagpiper

Worship Notes

TODAY IS COMMITMENT SUNDAY, a day when we join together to pledge our commitment to the 2015 Annual Appeal for Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Lights, that this community might continue to proclaim the mighty acts of God and be a light for this city.

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP is presented by Caroline Staublin on behalf of the 2015 Annual Appeal.

THE BULLETIN COVER photograph depicts the cross that is formed in the panels over the seats on the left and right sides of the chancel. The image also evokes the wooden church door to which Martin Luther nailed his ninety-five theses 497 years ago this week (*see page 7*). The cover quote is by Scottish Reformation leader John Knox, who was born 500 years ago, in 1514.

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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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

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John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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