

*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

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us . . . . . Johann Sebastian Bach

## Introit

“Our King and Savior Now Draws Near” . . . . . Iain Quinn

## \*Doxology and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: *One candle to remind us of the prophets,  
who believed in God during dark days  
and looked forward to the coming of Christ.  
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.  
They lived in a land of shadows,  
but now light is shining on them. (Isaiah 9:2)*

People: Living God, we thank you for faithful people of every age.  
We pray that we, too, may have faith,  
in spite of the darkness of our times,  
and may look for the coming of Jesus into our world. Amen.

## \*Hymn 82 . . . . . “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

## Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God,  
always with us, always coming:  
we confess that we do not know  
how to prepare for your Advent.  
We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;  
we have ignored the promise of your kingdom;  
we get distracted by the busyness of the season.  
Forgive us, God.  
Grant us the wonder of the shepherds,  
the courage of the magi,  
and the faith of Mary and Joseph  
that we may journey towards Bethlehem with them  
and find the good news of a child born for us. 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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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 42:1–8. . . . . Old Testament, page 487

Anthem

“Rorate Coeli” . . . . . Christopher Tye  
*Drop dew ye heavens, from above,  
and let the clouds break forth in showers  
upon the righteous ones; in rain upon the just.  
Let the earth be opened and blossom forth a savior.*

First Lesson

Isaiah 64:1–9. . . . . Old Testament, page 652

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

\*Gloria Patri (*sung*). . . . . The Hymnal, 581

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

Mark 13:24–37 . . . . . New Testament, page 47

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Shaped by Hope . . . . . Matt Helms

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 104 . . . . . “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

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

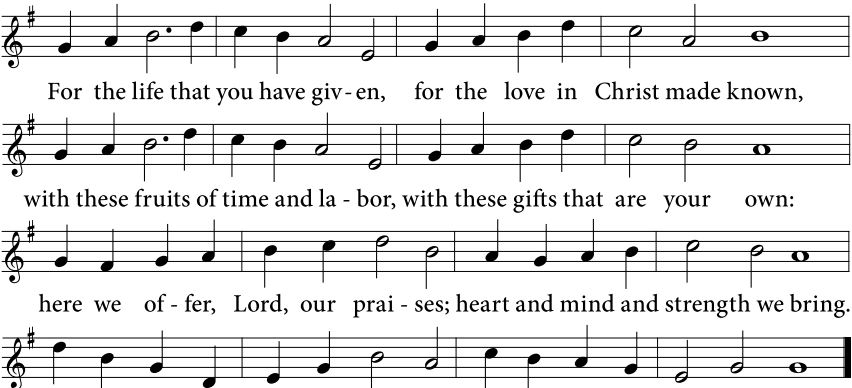
I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again 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 Voluntary

Savior of the Nations, Come . . . . . Dietrich Buxtehude

### \*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.

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## Sealing the Word

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### 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

“Who at My Door Is Standing?” . . . . . English folk song  
arr. K. Lee Scott

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

We thank you, O God,  
for gifts of bread and cup,  
for sustaining us in hope.  
Take us out to live as changed people,  
because we have shared this meal  
and cannot remain the same.  
Ask much of us, expect much from us,  
enable much by us, encourage many through us.  
We pray this in your Son’s name. Amen.

\*Hymn 546 . . . . . “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

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Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Savior of the Nations, Come . . . . . Paul Manz

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**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 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.  
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.

# Worship Leaders

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Judith L. Watt, Jim Kendzel, Matt Helms

# The Music Today

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The Chancel Choir  
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist  
MJ Chen, Organ Scholar

# Worship Notes

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TODAY’S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented on behalf of the “Light Up a Life” Christmas gift-giving program to benefit the life-changing work of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights. Light Up a Life gifts are being received throughout November and December. This year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs, mission, and community outreach—including Chicago Lights programs—and denominational efforts. “Light Up a Life” gifts can be made using the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks or by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

THE ADVENT BANNERS, in the form of wings, convey the idea of Advent stillness and of waiting in the presence of angels. They were designed and painted by Eliza Linley of Berkeley, California.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Pieces of our liturgy are from *Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship*, copyright © 2007 by Brian Wren, and are reproduced by permission. 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 by John Sherer © 1997.

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

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