

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Meditation Marguerite Roesgen-Champion
Petit Lied Henri Mulet
Cantilene Lynn Trapp

Introit

“Halle, Halle, Halle” Caribbean melody;
arr. John Bell
Hallelujah!

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 606

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: *Old and young,*

People: we seek God’s face.

Minister: *Happy and sad,*

People: we seek God’s face.

Minister: *Strong and weak,*

People: we seek God’s face.

Minister: *God is our light and our help;*

People: let us worship God!

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 485 “We Know That Christ Is Raised”

**Stand as you are able.*

Litany of Confession

Minister: *O God, before the challenge of the life of Christ,
we often draw back in fear:*

People: **have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister: *We are sometimes paralyzed by lack of hope:*

People: **have mercy on us, O God**

Minister: *We are tempted to tell ourselves and others
that we should take the easier path:*

People: **have mercy on us, O God**

Minister: *We pretend that we haven't heard what you are saying to us:*

People: **have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister: *We leave others to face things alone,
as though they are stronger than we are:*

People: **have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister: *And we are overcome with doubt:*

People: **have mercy on us, O God, for we cannot live without you.**
(silent prayer)

Minister: *In Christ's name we pray.*

People: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

Sacrament of Baptism

Unison Prayer

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

Anthem

“Jubilate Deo” Orlando di Lasso
*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.
Know that the Lord is God.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 19 Old Testament, page 472

*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.

Scripture Lesson

Mark 8:27–38 New Testament, page 41

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 159 “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”

*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” Dale Wood

Offertory Anthem

“Rejoice in the Lord Alway” Anonymous;

*Rejoice in the Lord alway, 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,
keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesu. Amen.*

*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*)

We lift up these offerings as a sign of our gratitude
for your love and care, O God.
We pledge ourselves, time, talent, and treasure.
We pray that we may follow you without hesitation.
We dedicate our lives to you and seek to grow
in our faithfulness to your Word. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 157 “I Danced in the Morning”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Andante Maestoso Louis Lewandowski

“Let the little children come to me . . .
for it is to such as these that the
kingdom of heaven belongs.”

Matthew 19:14 (NRSV)

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.

Being baptized at the 9:30 worship service:

Jacob Dane Christian Hansen, child of Chris and Carolyn Hansen
Andrew James Hoffmeyer, child of David and Julie Hoffmeyer
Vivian Leslie Page, child of John and Andrea Page
Charles Michael Jennings, child of Stephen and Monique Jennings
Mirabelle Rose Royer, child of Randall and Fiona Royer
Jackson Thomas Slaby, child of Mark and Dana Slaby

Being baptized at the 11:00 worship service:

Drew Jonathan Blaise Baker, child of Drew Baker and Lauren Pace
Jason Constantopoulos, child of
 Vassilios Constantopoulos and Emily Killmer
Grant Fredrik Gardstrom, child of Erik and Lauren Gardstrom
Samuel Logan Tolle, child of John and Rebecca Tolle
Olivia Van Beek, child of Jeremy and Alexandra Van Beek
Stella Van Beek, child of Jeremy and Alexandra Van Beek

Worship Leaders

Hardy H. Kim, Geoffrey Anderson, Joyce Shin, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Laura Perrett, oboist

Worship Notes

THE TEMPORARY ELECTRONIC ORGAN that we have been using since last summer has been moved from the Choir Loft to the Sanctuary floor. It will remain there this fall while work is done in the loft to install the rebuilt pipe organ, which we anticipate dedicating on November 22.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts flowers outside the Chestnut Street entrance to the Parish House. The cover quote is from the sermon “On Losing Your Life and How Jesus Isn’t Your Magical Puppy” by Nadia Bolz-Weber. An author and Lutheran pastor, she will be speaking about her new book—*Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People*—tomorrow evening, Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. here in the Sanctuary.

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 Associate Pastor
for Children and Family Ministry
Hardy H. Kim Associate Pastor for Evangelism

Joyce Shin Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
Judith L. Watt Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults
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.

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