

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Voluntary in D Minor John Stanley
Allegro – Adagio – Allegro

Voluntary in D Major William Boyce
Larghetto – Vivace

Introit

“Exultate, Jubilate” (9:30) D. and J. Perry

“Clap Your Hands” (11:00) Sally Albrecht

*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: *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 394 “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we trust you are the Maker of all,
the Redeemer of all, and the Sustainer of all.
But for some of us, when we come face to face
with fear or suffering or pain, our trust wavers.
If we find ourselves sitting among the ashes of despair,
our mouths are more likely to fill with cries of abandonment
rather than cries of trust in your presence.
And so we confess that our belief in you can be fickle and conditional.
We join our voices with the father in scripture saying,
“Lord, we believe. Help thou our unbelief.”
Gracious One, Faithful One, Merciful One,
increase our trust in you until the day
when the only refrains that fill our mouths are “Glory” and “Praise.”
We pray in the name of Jesus, your Love made flesh. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

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

Commissioning of the Choir (9:30)

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Discipleship

Anthem

“Os Justi Meditabitur Sapientium” Anton Bruckner
*The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice.
The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 104:1-9 Old Testament, page 524

*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

Job 3 (*selections*) Old Testament, page 430

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 475 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from Romans 8:35, 37–39

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will hardship, or distress, or persecution,
or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
No, in all these things we are more than conquerors
through him who loved us.
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
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” Anonymous

Offertory Anthem

“Haec Dies” William Byrd
This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice in it. Alleluia.

*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.

Commissioning of Ushers (11:00)

*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

Almighty God, receive the gifts we bring
 in gratitude for your astounding goodness.
 May they be used for your healing work of justice and reconciliation.
 Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 804 “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

*Benediction and Response

Worshipers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir during the Benediction responses.

Postlude

Canzona Domenico Zipoli

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 (page 597 of the Old Testament): 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

Judith L. Watt, Ed Miller, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Youth Choir (9:30); The Children's Choir (11:00)

The Morning Choir

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

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Hsing Huei, Pianist

Worship Notes

TODAY'S PRELUDE is being played from the East Balcony on a Jardine pipe organ built in 1850. The oldest playing organ in Chicago, the Jardine requires air to be pumped into the bellows by hand before being released into the pipes. For more information about this organ, please attend today's organ tour at 12:15 p.m.

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP is presented by Elaine Filus on behalf of the Officer Nominating Committee.

TODAY'S COMMISSIONING OF THE MORNING CHOIR lifts up the musical gifts they offer in weekly worship leadership.

TODAY'S COMMISSIONING OF FOURTH CHURCH USHERS is an affirmation of their dedicated service to our church, its members, and those who are among us as visitors.

THE BULLETIN COVER photograph depicts the left chandelier over the choir loft. The cover quote is from Frederick Buechner's book *Telling the Truth*.

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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