
Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Fanfare	Jiri Ignac Linek arr. Robert Rada
Madrigal	Edwin H. Lemare
Our Father, Who Art in Heaven	Johannes Brahms arr. Fred W. Teuber
Paeon	Oliphant Chuckerbutty
In the Name of the Father	Orlando Gibbons arr. Charles Schuchat

Introit

“All Things Come of Thee, O Lord” Stephen Sturk
All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

*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: *We gather to share in our love of God.*
People: Lord, open our hearts and let us share your Good News.
Minister: *We gather to share our witness to God’s goodness.*
People: Lord, let our lives bear witness through service to your people.
Minister: *We gather to praise God, whose love is eternal.*
People: Lord, open our hearts today to sing your praises.
Minister: *Let us worship God!*

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 716 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

Prayer of Confession

Save us, Lord, from buying what we do not need,
confusing what we need with what we want, wasting what we do not own,
owning what we will never use, and letting our possessions possess us.
Strengthen us against these temptations. Challenge our greed.
Help us to live responsibly, remembering that creation belongs to you.
We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

**Stand as you are able.*

Assurance of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Anthem

“Bring Us Together, Lord” Michael McCabe

*Bring us together, Lord, for we would praise your name
and claim your gracious presence in our midst this day.*

We lift our hopes and hearts to you in joyful song.

Lord, give us strength unceasingly to pray.

*Bring us together, Lord; we would be living free
of chains of hateful darkness, fetters of the soul.*

Your world is weeping, Lord, in fear and rending pain.

O give us grace to make the broken whole.

*Bring us together, Lord, for we would want to heal
the hurts of hunger, sorrow, violence, and need.*

*May we be fit to carry in our hearts and hands
the bread of life to those who come to feed.*

*Bring us together, Lord, one family we would be,
including every age and every race and land.*

*Cleanse us with holy fire; then temper us and forge a tool,
a plowshare fitted to your hand.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 107:1–9 Old Testament, page 528

*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

Luke 12:13–21 New Testament, page 70

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 702 “Christ Be Beside Me”

*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.

Reception of 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

“Alleluia, Amen” Carl Wiltse

Offertory Anthem

“The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune” Ralph Vaughan Williams
*All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell; come ye before him, and rejoice.
The Lord, ye know, is God indeed, without our aid he did us make.
We are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
O enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.
For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure,
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.
To God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heaven and earth adore,
from us and from the angel host be praise and glory evermore. 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*)

O Lord our God, the author and giver of all good things,
 we thank you for all your mercies
 and for your loving care over all your creatures.
 We bless you for the gift of life, for your protection round about us,
 and for your guiding hand upon us.
 May we render an acceptable thanksgiving unto you
 all the days of our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 712 “As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought”

*Benediction and Response

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

Postlude

Lord, Let Your Servant Depart in Peace Gustav Holst
arr. Erich Peterson

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

Victoria G. Curtiss, John Dallas Jr., Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir; Tower Brass

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by Donna Cuning on behalf of the Mission Committee's Sunlight Project, which addresses human trafficking of youth in Chicago.

NEXT SUNDAY WALTER BRUEGGEMANN will be our guest preacher for the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Dr. Brueggemann is Professor Emeritus of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, and the author of more than sixty books. An ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, he is widely sought after as a preacher, teacher, and lecturer, and we look forward to having him with us once again on October 25.

THE BULLETIN COVER QUOTE is from Walter Brueggemann's prayer "We Are Much Drawn to Circuses" in his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is from *Ministry Matters* (<http://www.ministrymatters.com>). 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

Judith L. Watt Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Layton Williams Pastoral Resident

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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