

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Septimi Tempri	Robin Dinda
Carillon	Leo Sowerby
Pavane	Gabriel Fauré arr. Aaron David Miller
Intermezzo	Hermann Schroeder
Festive and Commemorative Music	Johannes Brahms arr. Fred. W. Teuber

Introit

“Praise Ye the Lord” James McCray
*Praise ye the Lord. Praise God with the sound of the trumpet.
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!*

*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

Leader: *Our help is in the name of the Lord,*
People: **who made heaven and earth.**
Leader: *Siblings in Christ,*
People: **let us worship God!**

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 409 “God Is Here!”

**Stand as you are able.*

Litany of Confession

Leader: *God of grace, for our failure to love others as you have loved us,*

People: **forgive us.**

Leader: *For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods,*

People: **forgive us.**

Leader: *For losing heart and abandoning hope,*

People: **forgive us.**

Leader: *For all the ways we turn from you,*

People: **forgive us.**

(Please hold silence.)

Leader: *We offer our prayers in the name of the One who saves us,
Jesus Christ.*

People: **Amen.**

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Discipleship

Anthem

“Prayer” René Clausen

Help me spread your fragrance wherever I go. Flood my soul with your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that my life may be only a radiance of yours. Shine through me and be so in me that every soul I know will feel your presence in my soul. Let them look up and see no longer me, but only you. Amen.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter *(responsively)*

Psalms 121 Old Testament, page 539

*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 18:1-8. New Testament, page 76

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 688 “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

*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

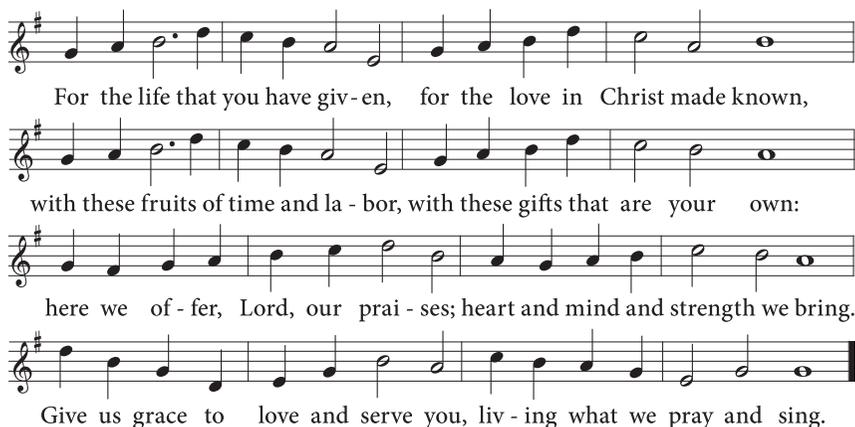
“Amen” Clarence Dickinson

Offertory Anthem

“Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi” Ron Nelson

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O, Divine Master, grant that I may seek not so much to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. 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*)

God of generous providing, we belong to you,
and all that we have belongs to you.
Use these offerings, we pray,
in service of the justice you are establishing,
through your kingdom in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

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

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Lord, I Have Only Thee Heinrich Schütz
arr. Theresia Perry

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

9:30 Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Victoria G. Curtiss, 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

TOWER BRASS, Fourth Church's brass ensemble, participates in worship services as well as special events and concerts throughout the year.

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP on "Let Your Light Shine," the 2017 Annual Appeal for Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Lights, is presented by Brian Satre.

FOURTH CHURCH OFFERS A VARIETY of worship opportunities on Sunday, including an 8:00 a.m. Communion service and a jazz service with Communion at 4:00 p.m. Each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer is held in Buchanan Chapel as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need. We also offer a monthly fourth-Friday prayer service in the style of Taizé, which is held this month on October 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

THE BULLETIN COVER image depicts candles at a Taizé service at Fourth Church. The cover quote is from Nadia Bolz-Weber's November 17, 2010, sermon "Prayer and the Persistent Widow."

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship (from Psalm 121) and Litany of Confession are adapted from *Feasting on the Word*, Proper 24. 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

Rocky Supinger Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Nanette Sawyer Minister for Congregational Life

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Abbi Heimach-Snipes 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.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014
www.fourthchurch.org | www.facebook.com/fourthchurch
312.787.4570 | Voicemail 312.787.2729 | Fax: 312.787.4584