Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Introit

"Through Love to Light"..... Jean Sibelius

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: When we seek justice for the other,

when we love kindness more than ever,

People: we live as God asks us to live.

Leader: When we walk humbly through life,

when we offer mercy to those who hurt us,

People: we are the blessing God hopes we will be.

Leader: When we are willing to look foolish by following Jesus,

when we choose weakness rather than power,

People: we reflect the One who is in our midst.

Leader: Let us worship God.

*Hymn 749 "Come! Live in the Light!"

Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, we confess that we have not always been faithful to you. You require us to do justice, yet we conform to the standards of our world and do not work for change. You ask us to love kindness, but we fail to be caring friends and neglect those who are different from us. You ask us to walk humbly with you, yet we often take you for granted and seek our own way. O God, remind us again of your steadfast love and your call upon our lives. Give us strength to do what you desire. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends*, *believe the good news*.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination
Psalter
Psalm 15 Old Testament, page 469
Anthem
"The Lord Is My Shepherd"
First Lesson
Matthew 5:1–12 New Testament, page 4
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
*Gloria Patri (sung)
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
Micah 6:1–8 Old Testament, page 816
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Sermon
"Justice, Kindness, Humility" Victoria G. Curtiss
Responding to the Word
*Hymn 70

*Affirmation of Faith (unison).....from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers

in the one body of Christ, the church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles

rules our faith and life in Christ through scripture;

engages us through the Word proclaimed;

claims us in the waters of baptism;

feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation;

and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing;

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior;

to unmask idolatries in church and culture;

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced;

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

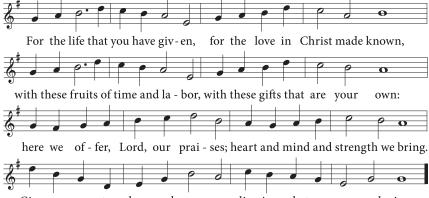
and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch

for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

*Offertory Response



Give us grace to love and serve you, liv-ing what we pray and sing.

Sealing the Word

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 up 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
forever singing to the glory of your name:
Sanctus (sung)
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Minister: Great is the mystery of faith:
Memorial Acclamation (sung) The Hymnal, 57
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
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.
The Communion
Communion Anthem

"The Call"..... Alexander Brent Smith

Prayer after Communion (unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn (tune: Hymnal 321) "O God, You Call for Justice"

O God, you call for justice—for goodness, never greed! You seek a world of fairness where all have what they need—where all have food and water and homes in which to thrive, where all have hope and laughter and joy to be alive!

O God, you call for kindness instead of keeping score; you seek a world that welcomes the hungry and the poor. Lord, where there is injustice may we work to protect the struggling ones, the voiceless that others would reject.

You call us to walk humbly, for we are not our own; we all are poor and needy; we need the grace you've shown. May we respond to others reflecting what you give—compassion, kindness, justice—so all may gladly live.

O God, may our great nation seek justice, as we should, and work with dedication to seek the common good. We're blessed to be a blessing; may we within our law seek justice and compassion that reaches out to all.

*Benediction

Postlude

Toccata in E Minor Johann Pachelbel

Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger, Eric Olson, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by Youth Ministry on behalf of the Souper Bowl of Caring.

FOURTH CHURCH OFFERS A VARIETY of worship opportunities on Sunday, including this 8:00 a.m. Communion service, services at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m., and a jazz service with Communionat 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 will next be held on Friday, February 24 at 7:30 p.m., and on Tuesday mornings at 7:45 a.m. we gather for Sacred Pause in Stone Chapel, a time of meditative silence (twenty minutes) to begin the day.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE is a reminder that as a church in the heart of the city we are daily reminded of the meshing of "the love of God" with "how we treat our human companions."

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. "O God, You Call for Justice" is copyright © 2012 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

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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

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