

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Lord, Take My Heart, It Beats for Thee Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Introit

“O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips” George Guest

O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.

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. Praise ye the Lord. The Lord’s name be praised.

*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.

*Invocation

*Hymn 645 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious and compassionate God,

your love for us is unflinching and unfailing,

but we confess that our love for you is uneven.

We ask for your help, but act as though we saved ourselves.

We ask for your forgiveness, but repeat the same mistakes.

We ask for your grace, but live as though it wasn’t present.

So renew us once again, O Lord.

Set us free from a past we cannot change;

open us to a future in which we can be changed;

and guide through the gift of your Holy Spirit.

We pray all of this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news.*

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

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: *And also with you.*

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

Concerns of the Church

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 139:1–12 Old Testament, page 545

Anthem

“Gloria” John W. W. Sherer

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Lesson

Genesis 28:10–18. Old Testament, page 24

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: *Thanks be to God.*

*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.*

Second Lesson

Romans 8:18–25 New Testament, page 148

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

“The Power of Promise” Matt Helms

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 29 “O God, You Search Me”

*Affirmation of Faith Apostles’ Creed

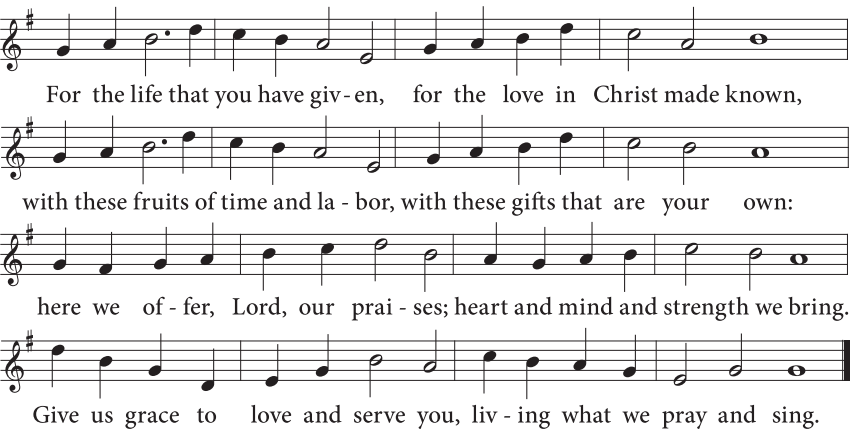
I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; 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.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

Communion Louis Vierne

*Offertory 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.

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*) The Hymnal, 572

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.

Minister: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 573

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

“Litany to the Holy Spirit” Peter Hurford

*In the hour of my distress, when temptations me oppress,
and when I my sins confess, sweet Spirit, comfort me.
When I lie within my bed, sick in heart and sick in head,
and with doubts discomfited, sweet Spirit, comfort me.
When the house doth sigh and weep, and the world is drowned with sleep,
yet mine eyes the watch do keep, sweet Spirit, comfort me.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

We thank you, O God,
for these gifts of bread and cup
that remind us that you sustain us in hope
every day of our lives.
Help us to offer you lives of witness and worship,
serving and sharing in this world you have made.
Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 543 “God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Sortie César Franck

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED BY INTINCTION.
The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive
the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice.
(Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket
of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

Worship Leaders

Judith L .Watt, Margaret Laing, Matt Helms

The Music Today

Women of the Morning Choir
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, we are experiencing the Exchange of Peace as an experiment for engaging more deeply worship in the Reformed Tradition. The Exchange of Peace follows the Declaration of Pardon and is a response to God’s forgiveness. This exchange of signs and words of unity and of Christ’s peace is an ancient greeting of siblings in Christ. This is a time when we extend to one another what we ourselves have received from God in Christ. You may shake hands and say “The peace of Christ be with you” or simply “Peace be with you,” the greeting of Jesus Christ to his disciples after his resurrection. By exchanging the Peace of Christ to one another, we witness to God’s reconciling love.

THE BANNERS DISPLAYED IN THE SANCTUARY are based on seven statements attributed to Jesus Christ in the Gospel according to John in which Jesus declares “I am . . .” The banners were designed and created by Associate Pastor Victoria G. Curtiss. In the literature racks is a brochure explaining them, with accompanying prayers.

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. All rights reserved.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor	Judith L. Watt Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission	Nanette Sawyer Minister for Congregational Life
Matt Helms Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry	Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults
Rocky Supinger Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry	Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident
	John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus
