

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Concerto in B Minor Johann Gottfried Walther
Allegro—Adagio—Allegro

Ostinato in A Minor Jason W. Krug

Introit :: “Know That God Loves You” Carson P. Cooman
Know that God loves you. God’s command is this: “Love one another as I have loved you.”

*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: *Cry out with joy to God the Creator, all the earth!*

People: God’s holy name be praised.

Leader: *Sing a new song to Christ, who is the light of the world.*

People: Christ’s holy name be praised.

Leader: *Praise to the Spirit of the Living God,
whose presence is a fire burning in our souls!*

People: The Spirit’s holy name be praised.

Leader: *Open our hearts and minds in the beauty of God’s sanctuary!*

People: God’s holy name be praised. Let us worship God!

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 341 “O God, Show Mercy to Us”

*Stand as you are able. †Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious and loving God, we open our hearts to you this day in confession.
We hold before you times when we have harbored anger toward others;
moments when we have stumbled in our trust in your guiding presence;
days and hours when we assume we can get it right without your infusing love.
God, forgive us.

Gracious and loving God, in our collective life in this congregation,
and as we travel the pilgrim’s way through this world,
we are quick to hold fast to all that shores up our certainty.
Yet you, O Spirit, ask that we trust the giving way,
the unexpected way, the way that disrupts the powers that be.
God, forgive our arrogance and limited assumptions.
Give us trust in your bountiful way.

Open the windows of our souls, that we would be renewed, revived, awakened
to the ways we can live out your holy imprint on us; through Christ. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem :: “Jubilate Deo” Orlando di Lasso
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into God’s presence with singing.
Know that the Lord is God.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson :: Genesis 45:3–11, 15 Old Testament, page 40
Psalter (*sung*) :: “Commit Your Way to God the Lord” (Psalm 37) The Hymnal, 706

*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 :: Luke 6:27–38 New Testament, page 60

Sermon :: “Cloaked with Grace” Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 649 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

*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.

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.

†Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

Prayer Response :: “Amen” Heinrich Isaak

Minute for Discipleship

Offering

Offertory Anthem :: “Ecce Quam Bonum” Richard Proulx

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is when friends live together in unity.

Such unity is fragrant as the precious oil poured upon the head

and falling down over the head of Aaron, down to the collar of his robes.

Such unity is plentiful as the dew of Mount Hermon, descending upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord bestows his blessing and life forevermore.

*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*)

Generous and faithful God, you give us so very much—

hands ready to serve, hearts brimming with love, the world in all of its holy majesty.

We are grateful to be called children of God, and so we are.

Give us hope in your ever-living promises

of abiding presence, awakening peace, and merciful care,

made known in your Son, Jesus Christ, whose name we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 346 “For the Healing of the Nations”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude # Fanfare Nicolas Jacques Lemmens

Beginning Our Lenten Journey

Join us for the Season of Lent, a time of growing in faith through prayer, spiritual practices, and self-reflection.

Ash Wednesday | March 6, 2019

▶ *Ash Wednesday Worship • 12:10 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.*

To begin our Lenten journey, Shannon Kershner will preach at two services, both with Communion and the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes.

▶ *Ashes on the Way • 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.*

The imposition of ashes will also be available in the Narthex and outside the Sanctuary throughout the day. This is offered for those in our community who are unable to be with us for worship but who find the ashes to be a meaningful way to mark the beginning of this season of repentance and reflection.

Lenten Devotions *(Daily, beginning on Ash Wednesday)*

A resource for prayer and reflection, the Lenten devotions will be available through five different means:

- Email (subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)
- Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch)
- Twitter (@FourthChicago)
- Online at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions
- In print (in the literature racks)

www.fourthchurch.org/lent-easter

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss, Jeff Weber, Regan Burke, Joseph L. Morrow, Lucy Forster-Smith
Victoria G. Curtiss, Kathryn Burkhardt, Elinor Hite, Joseph L. Morrow, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Morning Choir; Handbell Choir
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist
Briana Belding-Peck, Director of the Handbell Choir

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP is presented by Kat Evans and Sam Evans on behalf of Stephen Ministry.

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 Resurrection and the Life; the Bread of Life; the Light of the World; the Gate; the Good Shepherd; the Way, the Truth, and the Life; and the Vine." The banners were designed and created by Associate Pastor Victoria G. Curtiss.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts snow delicately balanced on a coiled vine just outside the cloisters on Michigan Avenue. The cover quote is from Madeline L'Engle's book *Bright Evening Star: Mystery of the Incarnation*.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission
Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry
Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt Pastoral Care

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism
Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults
Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident
Shawn M. Fiedler Ministerial Associate for Worship
John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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.

This worship bulletin is printed on acid-free paper. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.

The Fourth Church logo (*front cover*) is based on the Great East Window in the Sanctuary.

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