

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

I Call to Thee Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit :: “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia” Tanzanian melody

Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.

For our redeemer burst from the tomb, even from death, dispelling its gloom.

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy. Death’s fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia! Jesus is alive, alleluia! Christ has arisen to set us free.

Alleluia, to him praises be. Jesus is living! Let us all sing; he reigns triumphant, heavenly King.

*Doxology (sung) The Hymnal, 609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Invocation

*Hymn 399 “God Welcomes All”

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will; we have broken your law;

we have rebelled against your love.

We have not loved our neighbors,

and we have refused to hear the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Anthem :: “Alleluia” Randall Thompson

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 133



*Easter Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 589

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Now the Lord is risen indeed.

Scripture Lessons

1 Corinthians 12:12–31 New Testament, page 163

Micah 6:8 Old Testament, page 816

Sermon :: “Being Church” Victoria G. Curtiss

Part of the “Big Questions” sermon series

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 317 “In Christ There Is No East or West”

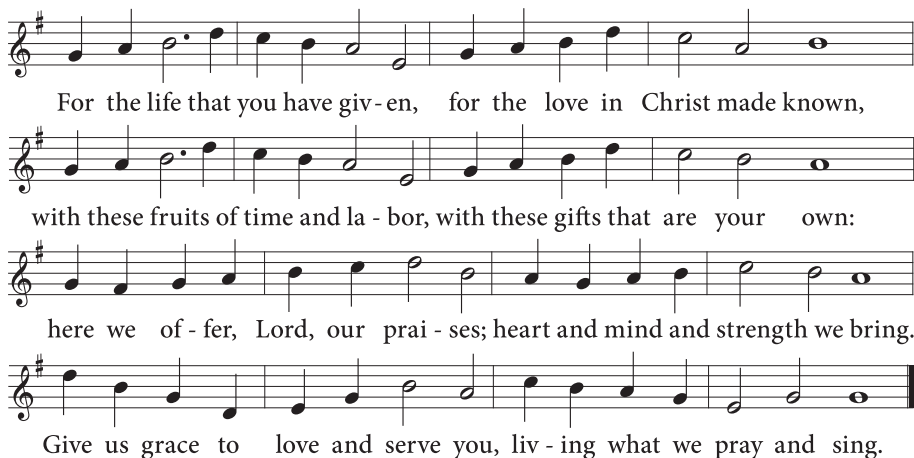
*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

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.

Offering

Offertory Solo ♫ “Endlich wird mein joch” from *Cantata* 56. J. S. Bach

*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

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer

Leader: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . . forever singing to the glory of your name:*

Sanctus (*sung*) The Hymnal, 552

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.

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

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord’s Prayer (*unison*) The Hymnal, page 35

The Communion

Communion Anthem :: “Christ, Our Paschal Lamb” John Sheppard

*Christ, our Paschal Lamb, is offered up for us, once for all, when he bore our sins on his
body upon the cross, for he is the very Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world.
Therefore, let us keep a joyful and holy feast with the Lord.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Loving God, you have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup
and made us one with Christ.

Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 316 “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude ♪ The Royal Banners James Mansfield

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.

The Lord’s Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is not just for Presbyterians or “members of the church.” All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ.

Worship Leaders

Lucy Forster-Smith, David Marshall, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

Chancel Choir; Sean Stanton, soloist

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Justin Taylor, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

DURING THE SEASON OF EASTER (lasting seven weeks, spanning the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday), we will make great use of the word *Alleluia*. Having fasted from the word Alleluia during the Season of Lent, our Doxology and Easter Acclamation (holding the place of the Gloria Patri) gives God thanksgiving for the gift of eternal life found in Christ's resurrection.

OUR "BIG QUESTIONS" SERMON SERIES, which continues today, invites us to explore the questions, topics, and biblical stories that members and friends have told us they would like to hear addressed from the pulpit. Today's question is "How can we be church with differing political views?"

FOURTH CHURCH IS GRATEFUL TO THE CHANCEL CHOIR and Organ Scholar Justin Taylor for offering their musical gifts during this past season. The Men's Choir will sing from May 26 through July 14, followed by the Women's Choir from July 21 through September 1. Today is Justin Taylor's final Sunday with us.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts one of the 7-foot-tall carved wooden angels atop the piers in the Sanctuary.

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.

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