

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

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## Gathering around the Word

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Prelude ♫ Carillon . . . . . Leo Sowerby

Introit ♫ “O Bless the Lord, My Soul” . . . . . Aaron Williams; arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel  
*O bless the Lord, my soul. Let all within me join and aid my tongue  
to bless God’s name whose favors are divine.*

\*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!

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: *Holy One, as first light brings the sun’s warm rays, accept our sacrifice of praise.*

People: Before you, Lord, the proud shall never gain a place,  
nor evil live to see your face.

Leader: *Your steadfast love shall welcome all who seek your house and on you call.*

People: For you shall bless the righteousness, as through this day your name we bless.

\*Hymn 301 . . . . . “Let Us Build a House”

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Forgive me, Captain of My Heart,  
whenever I do not consent to your being in charge  
or let you lead the daily dealings of my heart.  
Too often I try to hold onto my own control  
instead of surrendering to what I know is right.  
Bend my strong independence so I move in directions of your wise choosing.  
Help me recognize whenever I overly love things,  
throw my weight around, use people, defame another’s character, or oppress others.  
Transform us so we accept the wisdom of your divine authority  
throughout our lives. Amen.

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*\*Stand as you are able.*

## 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

Antem ☩ “Peace at the Last” . . . . . Bradley Ellingboe

*O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes,  
and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over and the work is done.*

*Then, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last. Amen.*

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## Listening for the Word

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## Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson . . . . . Galatians 6:1–10

Leader: *My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression,  
you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness.  
Take care that you yourselves are not tempted.*

People: **Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.**

Leader: *For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves.*

People: **All must test their own work; then that work,  
rather than their neighbor’s work, will become a cause for pride.**

Leader: *For all must carry their own loads.*

People: **Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.**

Leader: *Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow.*

People: **If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh;  
but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.**

Leader: *So let us not grow weary in doing what is right,  
for we will reap at harvest time if we do not give up.*

People: **So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all,  
and especially for those of the family of faith.**

\*Acclamation (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 583



Second Lesson :: 1 Kings 21:1–11, 15–20 . . . . . Old Testament, page 313

Sermon :: “Don’t Grow Weary” . . . . . Victoria G. Curtiss

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 350 . . . . . “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

\*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) . . . . . Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39

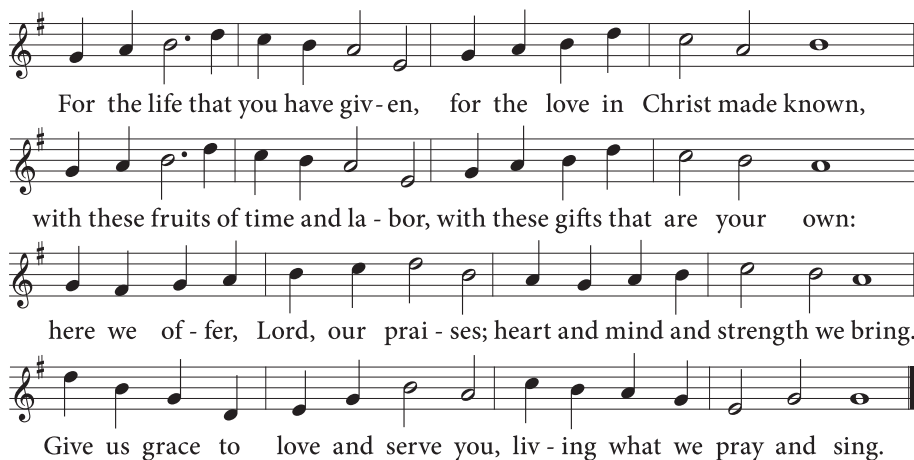
We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus;  
for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God,  
who are called according to God’s purpose.

We are convinced that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary :: God’s Time Is Best . . . . . Johann Sebastian 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.

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## Sealing the Word

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### 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 :: "Lamb of God" . . . . Nikolaus Decius; arr. F. Melius Christiansen

*Lamb of God most holy, who on the cross didst suffer,*

*patient still and lowly, thyself to scorn didst offer,*

*our sins by thee were taken, or hope had us forsaken.*

*Have mercy on us, O Jesu!*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of grace,

you renew us at your table with the bread of life.

May this food strengthen us in love

and help us to serve you in each other.

We pray in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 338 . . . . . "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude :: American Hymn. . . . . Richard Keys Biggs

## Worship Leaders

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Rocky Supinger, Deborah Oberschelp, Victoria G. Curtiss

## The Music Today

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Men of the Morning Choir

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

## Worship Notes

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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.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts a trio of ceiling canvases over the south aisle.

The cover quote is from David Brooks's book *The Second Mountain*.

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**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

**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is based on Psalm 5. 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.

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**THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**

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