

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude :: Allegro Moderato from *Trio Sonata in E-flat Major*. Johann Sebastian Bach

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, 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: *O God, who called all life into being,*

People: **the earth, sea, and sky are yours.**

Leader: *Your presence is all around us;*

People: **every atom is full of your energy.**

Leader: *Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth and who have gone before us.*

People: **We live in gratitude for the great cloud of witnesses who accompany us.**

Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 463 “How Firm a Foundation”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
even in the midst of creation's glory
we see sin's shadow and feel death's darkness.

It is around us in the earth, sea, and sky, in the abuse of matter.

It is beside us in the broken, the hungry, the poor,
and in our betrayal of one another.

O Trinity of Love, forgive us, heal us, renew us,
that we may be makers of peace; through Christ. 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 ♯ "Laudamus te" from *Gloria* Antonio Vivaldi

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, and we glorify you, O God.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 80:1–2, 8–19



*Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 583



Scripture Lesson :: Hebrews 11:29–12:2 New Testament, page 212

Sermon Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 39 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*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.

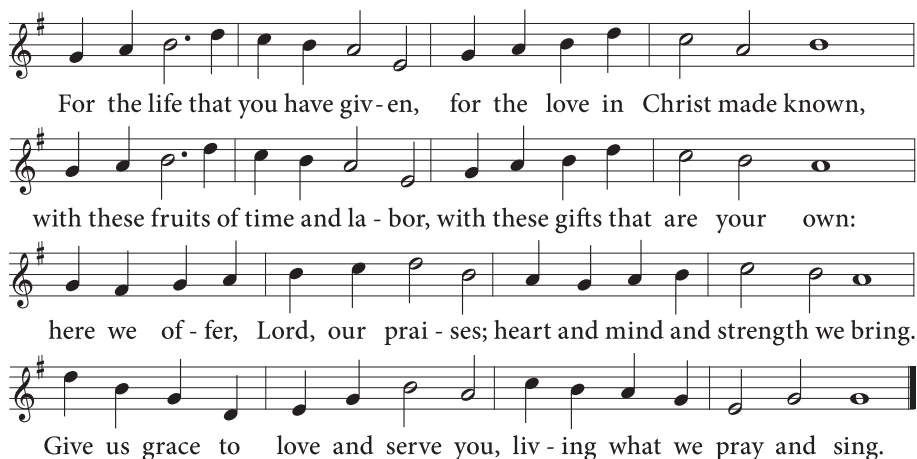
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary :: Rondeau Henry Purcell

*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 :: "Search Me, O God" Edward J. Hopkins; arr. Ken Berg

Search me, O God, and know my heart today; try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.

See if there be some wicked way in me; cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

I praise you, Lord, for cleansing me from sin; fulfill your word and make me pure within.

Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame; grant my desire to call upon your name.

O Holy Spirit, revival comes from you! Send a revival, my own heart renew.

Your word declares you will supply our need; for blessings now, O Lord, I humbly plead.

Lord, take my life, for I would live for you; fill my poor heart with your great love so true.

Take all my will, my passion, self, and pride; I now surrender; Lord, in me abide.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Generous and self-giving God, we are so grateful for the gifts of the earth, for bread broken and cup poured forth. We also give thanks for the cloud of witnesses who surround this table and accompany us through our faith journey. We give thanks for Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who runs the race with us and goes before us to bring justice and mercy to this very world. Make us attentive and keep us awake to your grace and love, O God. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 361 "O Christ, the Great Foundation"

*Benediction and Response

Postlude :: Carillon-Sortie Henri Mulet

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss, Marsha Heizer, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Women of the Morning Choir

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

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.

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: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The Prayer of Confession is adapted from the *Iona Abbey Worship Book* (p. 104). 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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