

## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come . . . . . Johann Pachelbel; arr. Christine Worthing  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel . . . . . Cecilia McDowall  
In Advent . . . . . Felix Mendelssohn; arr. Robert Wallace  
People, Look East . . . . . Barbara Harbach  
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice. . . . . Michael Praetorius; arr. Aaron David Miller

### Introit

“All Around the World” (9:30) . . . . . Anonymous  
“This Is the Day” (9:30) . . . . . Anonymous  
“Rejoice in the Lord Always (9:30) . . . . . Everlyn Turner  
“Our King and Savior Now Draws Near” (11:00) . . . . . Iain Quinn

\*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: *O sing a new song! O sing to God, all the earth!*

People: **Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice.**

Leader: *Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!*

People: **Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy before God.**

Leader: *For God will come to bring righteousness and truth.*

*God will come to God’s people.*

People: **Let us worship God.**

### \*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 348 . . . . . “Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

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

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God of our salvation, in Christ you have done great things—our hearts are filled with joy. By your power you lifted us out of the desert of sin and brought us with joy and gladness into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us. But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what is already perfect; we try to add to what is already full; we try to earn what we already have. Forgive us for our foolishness. Help us to focus on your grace. Help us to live grateful lives in return. O God, you alone know our hearts; hear us as we come before you in silence . . .

*(Please hold silence.)*

Kyrie (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 551

Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem :: “The Eyes of All Wait upon Thee” . . . . . Jean Berger

*The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.*

*Thou openest thine hand and satisfies the desires of every living thing.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson :: Isaiah 35:1–10 . . . . . Old Testament, page 623

Psalter . . . . . Psalm 146:5–10

Leader: *Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!*

People: **I will praise the Lord as long as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

Leader: *Put not your trust in rulers,*

*in mortals in whom there is no help.*

People: **When they breathe their last, they return to earth,**

**and in that day their thoughts perish.**

Leader: *Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;*

People: **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;**

Leader: *who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.  
The Lord sets the captive free.*

People: **The Lord opens the eyes of the blind;  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

Leader: *The Lord cares for the stranger; the Lord sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.*

People: **The Lord shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!**

\*Gloria Patri (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 581  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:<sup>†</sup> as it was  
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Second Lesson :: Matthew 11:2–11 . . . . . New Testament, page 10

Sermon :: “Then” . . . . . Judith L. Watt

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 35 . . . . . “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

\*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.

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<sup>†</sup>Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

## 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.

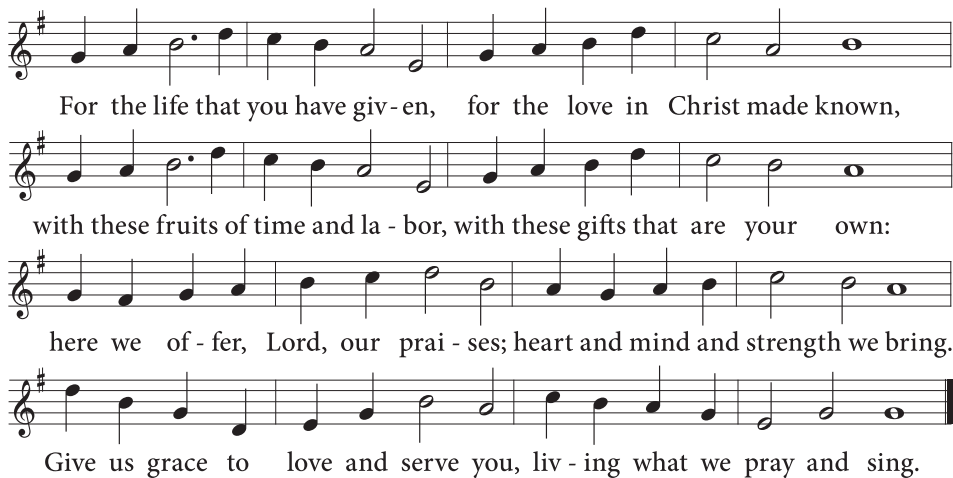
Prayer Response :: "Amen" ..... Eric DeLamarter

### Offering

Offertory Anthem :: "The Desert Shall Rejoice" ..... Malcolm Archer

*The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with praise and singing. For the ears of the deaf shall hear, and the eyes of the blind shall be opened. For the tongue of the dumb shall sing, and the lame will dance for joy. For the ground will become a pool, and the dry land will become springs of water. As the ransomed return to the Lord, they shall come back singing unto Zion with joy.*

### \*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*)

God of love and grace,  
you have poured out blessing upon blessing upon our lives.  
We offer ourselves again to you,  
knowing that we can trust you with all that we offer.  
Thank you for the One who has come into the world  
and whose promise is everlasting joy. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 357 ..... “The Days Are Surely Coming”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude # Toccata from *Symphony V* ..... Charles-Marie Widor

### Light Up a Life This Season

The “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout Advent. “Light Up a Life” provides opportunity to support congregational programs, mission, and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs.

“Light Up a Life” gifts can be made using the special offering envelopes found in the pew racks or by writing “Light Up a Life” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. You can also make your gift using Venmo (@Fourth-Church) or online (at [www.fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online)).

Whether you give through Venmo, online via our website, electronically via automatic debits to your bank or credit card, or through gifts of stock or make your contributions monthly, quarterly, or annually, we want you to take part in today’s offering of our gifts.

Thus we invite you to place in the offering plate an “I give” card that you will find in the pew racks.

## Worship Leaders

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Joseph L. Morrow (9:30), Lucy Forster-Smith (11:00), Shannon J. Kershner, Judith L. Watt

## Lighting the Advent Wreath

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9:30 Sandra Glenn, Sarah Younger, and Brian Satre

11:00 Don and Carol Allerton

## The Music Today

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Tower Brass; Morning Choir; Laura Perkett, oboist

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

## Worship Notes

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THIS MORNING'S POSTLUDE is played to celebrate the ministry of Judy Watt. The postlude at Judy's ordination was the "Toccatà" from Charles-Marie Widor's *Fifth Symphony*, so this music becomes a bookend to her years of service and ministry.

THIS MORNING WE WELCOME to Fourth Church the youth of Chicago Sinai Congregation, who are worshipping with us at 9:30 a.m. and spending time with our eighth-grade Confirmation class at 11:00 a.m.

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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

**Maggie Shreve** Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

**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.

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

**THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**

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