

Ash Wednesday



March 2, 2022

12:10 p.m.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Prelude

I Stand at the Threshold Johann Sebastian Bach; arr. E. Power Biggs
Adagio Samuel Barber; arr. William Strickland

Introit :: “Sign Us with Ashes” William P. Rowan

Sign us with ashes, merciful God, children of dust, as to dust we return.

Sign us with ashes, merciful God. Mark us and make us your own.

Surely, you alone can save us. You pay our price with precious blood.

Reaching through your great compassion, you lift up your people with love.

Call to Worship from Psalm 51:15–17

Leader: *O Lord, open my lips*

People: **and my mouth will declare your praise.**

Leader: *For you have no delight in sacrifice;*

People: **if I were to bring a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.**

Leader: *The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;*

People: **a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

Prayer for the Day

Hymn 165 (*congregation sings while masked*) “The Glory of These Forty Days”

The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise;

for Christ, by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law;

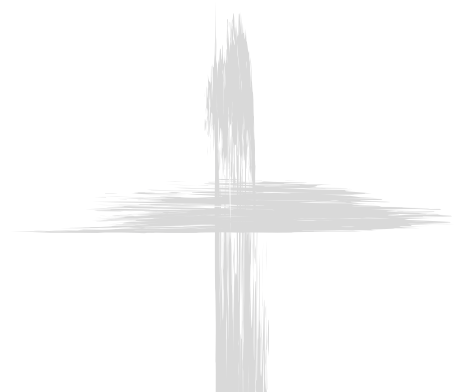
and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions’ might;

and John, the Bridegroom’s friend, became the herald of Messiah’s name.

Then grant that we like them be true, consumed in fast and prayer with you;

our spirits strengthen with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.



Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Solo :: “A Hymne to God the Father” Pelham Humfrey

*Wilt thou forgive that sin where I begun, which is my sin though it were done before?
Wilt thou forgive those sins, through which I run, and do run still, though still I do deplore?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.
Wilt thou forgive that sin by which I’ve won others to sin? And made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun a year or two but wallowed in a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.
I have a sin of fear, that when I’ve spun my last thread I shall perish on the shore,
but swear by thyself that at my death thy Sun shall shine as he shines now and heretofore;
and, having done that, thou hast done, I fear no more.*

Homily Shannon J. Kershner

Hymn 649 (*congregation sings while masked*) “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
’Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

An Invitation to Observe a Holy Lent

Psalter Psalm 51

Litany of Penitence (*silence is kept after each petition*)

Leader: *For failing to love others as you have loved us . . .*

God of grace,

People: forgive us.

Leader: *For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods . . .*

God of grace,

People: forgive us.

Leader: *For plundering the earth and abusing the planet . . .*

God of grace,

People: forgive us.

Leader: *For fearing those who are strange to us and ignoring those in need . . .*

God of grace,

People: forgive us.

Leader: *For losing heart and abandoning hope . . .*

God of grace,

People: forgive us.

Leader: *For all the ways we turn from you . . .*

God of grace,

People: forgive us.

Leader: *We offer our prayers in the name of the One who saves us, Jesus Christ.*

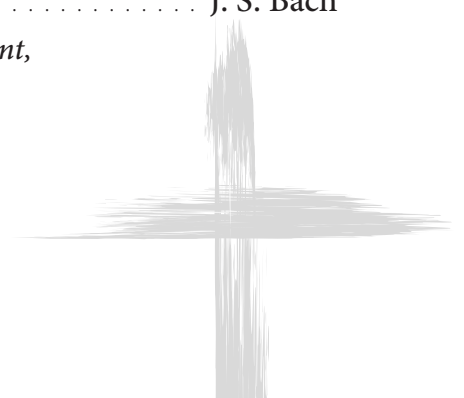
People: Amen.

The Imposition of Ashes

Offering

Offertory Solo :: “Bist du bei mir” J. S. Bach

*Thou art my joy. Be thou but near me, then shall my soul, in deep content,
move on to its eternal rest. Blest were my death, with thee beside me,
thy tender hand mine eyelids closing; my dying gaze to rest on thee.*



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*)

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.

The Communion

Prayer after Communion

Hymn 167 (*congregation sings while masked*) “Forty Days and Forty Nights”

Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.

Shall not we your sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with you to suffer pain?

Then if Satan on us press, flesh or spirit to assail,
victor in the wilderness, grant that we not faint nor fail!

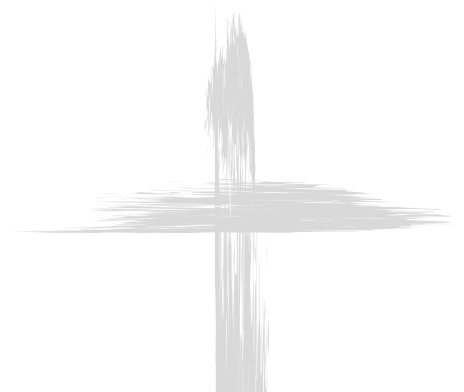
So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.

Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by your side,
that with you we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.

Charge and Benediction

—Depart in silence—

WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE LORD’S SUPPER during worship today.
Those worshiping in the Sanctuary who did not receive individually
prepackaged Communion elements upon entering the Sanctuary can
request those elements from an usher prior to Communion; after the
service, please drop off the recyclable cup and packaging at the exit.



We are grateful to be worshipping with you on this solemn day on the church calendar. If you would like to join us again this evening, we will be worshipping at 7:30 p.m., both in person and livestreamed on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvdieos). ✱ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church. ✱ We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



In this Lenten season of self-reflection and nurturing our spiritual growth, we invite you to use our daily **Lenten devotions as a resource for prayer and reflection.** To receive those meditations daily via email, **simply subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions** ✱ Also available for your reflection during the season is our **Lenten “Rhythm and Word” video series.** These brief worship experiences, which weave together scripture, prayer, and music, are released on **our YouTube channel** (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. To **receive them by email**, sign up online at www.bit.ly/rhythmwordemail ✱ A **Sacred Pause time of meditation** is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing ✱ On Wednesdays we gather at 9:30 a.m. for **Morning Prayer via Zoom** and at 10:00 a.m. for **in-person Morning Prayer** in Buchanan Chapel. The chapel is also open for **opportunity to walk the labyrinth** between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays. For Zoom details or information about walking the labyrinth, email Rocky Supinger (rsupinger@fourthchurch.org). ✱ On Sundays we gather for worship in a **10:00 a.m. service** in the Sanctuary (*livestreamed at www.bit.ly/fpcvideos*) and a **4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four service** in Buchanan Chapel.



For resources and additional ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, see our **weekly email newsletter** (if you do not already receive it, you can subscribe at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc) and watch our **website** (www.fourthchurch.org). ✱ Online events are posted on our **church calendar**, accessible from the home page of our website and at www.fourthchurch.org/calendar



The front section of the Sanctuary is for those practicing social distancing. ✱ The **congregation is invited to sing while masked.** ✱ On the Fourth Church campus, **everyone is required to wear a mask.** Anyone not wearing a mask fully covering their nose and mouth will be asked to leave, as we know some people make the decision to worship with us in person based on the knowledge everyone will be fully masked. While we have not yet lifted our mask mandate, please know we are hard at work determining what our life together will look like around masks, in-person programs, and more as we continue to live out our commitment to value the health and safety of all.

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Carol Carpenter, Soloist

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

Worship Notes

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE HYMN FOLLOWING TODAY'S HOMILY, "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound," is sung more than 10 million times each year, making it one of the most popular Christian hymns. The text was written in 1772 by John Newton (1725–1807), who grew up without any religious conviction and became a ship's captain involved in the Atlantic trade of enslaved people. In 1748, during a storm at sea, he called out to God for help and, in this moment of redemption, had a spiritual conversion. In 1764 he was ordained an Anglican priest and wrote the text of "Amazing Grace" to illustrate a sermon on New Year's Day 1773. In 1835 the text became associated with tune "New Britain," with which it is most frequently sung today.

WE ARE RECEIVING THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and Elam Davies Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a "One Great Hour of Sharing" gift, you can designate "One Great Hour of Sharing" (OGHS) when giving at fourthchurch.org/give-online or by writing that designation on the memo line of a check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

DAILY LENTEN DEVOTIONS are available via email (*sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions or send email addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org*), online (www.fourthchurch.org/devotions), and via Facebook (www.facebook.com/fourthchurch) and Twitter (@FourthChicago).

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry and Worship

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Caring Ministries
and Spiritual Formation

Maggie Shreve Parish Associate for Jail Ministry

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus



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