

that always satisfies
and the cup that always quenches.
Nourished and renewed at this table,
give us grace to love one another,
to follow in the way of Jesus,
and to share in his risen life—
Christ, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

***HYMN 500** “Become to Us the Living Bread”
Tune: O FILII ET FILIAE

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Toccata in F Major *Dieterich Buxtehude*

WORSHIP LEADERS

John W. Vest Associate Pastor
Thomas Gouwens Associate Organist
Carol Carpenter Flutist
The Vespers Choir

For pastoral care; to notify the church of illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; to pass along a prayer request to be remembered in Morning Prayer; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact Ali Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, at 312.573.3360 (atrowbridge@fourthchurch.org).

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Sunday, April 27 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Monday, May 5 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; or Saturday, May 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at the church at 312.981.4025 (cmacleod@fourthchurch.org).

Parking is available Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$6.25 after 5:00 p.m.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; www.fourthchurch.org
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday April 20, 2008

A LIGHT IN THE CITY
FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
www.fourthchurch.org

PRELUDE Prelude and Fugue in E Minor *J. S. Bach*

INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God has made this day.
People: **Let us rejoice and be glad.**
Leader: The God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
raises us to new life daily.
People: **Thanks be to God!**
All: **Glory be to God our Creator,
to Jesus our risen Christ,
and to the Spirit our Comfort.
Amen.**

***HYMN 298** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” *Tune: IN BABILONE*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison) **Gracious God of reconciliation and love, we confess that we have not always been faithful stewards of the good news you have given us in Christ. Instead of grace and acceptance, we practice judgment and exclusion. Instead of balancing unity and diversity, we sow division and create barriers. We mistakenly think that salvation is only about what happens to individuals when they die and don’t listen to your call to live into the kingdom here and now. We are reticent to share our faith and complacent in our comfortable lives. Forgive us for our shortcomings, and renew in us passion and zeal for the kingdom work you call us to do in this world. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.
People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Stand as you are able.*

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16 (*responsively*) (page 478, O.T.)

FIRST LESSON Acts 7:55–60 (page 118, N.T.)

ANTHEM “This Joyful Eastertide” *Dutch melody*

SECOND LESSON John 14:1–14 (page 102, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION by John W. Vest
THE SOUL BOWL

***HYMN 420** “God of Grace and God of Glory”
Tune: CWM RHONDDA

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(*unison*) **We are not alone, we live in God’s world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God. We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen, our Judge and our Hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

(*United Church of Canada*)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”
Richard M. French

***DOXOLOGY** (The Hymnal, 592)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
(sung) heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One

who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

(*unison*) **God of Grace, your son Jesus Christ
is the way, the truth, and the life.
In this meal we have been joined with him
and with you.
We have shared in the bread**