

because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have been graced by your presence, God we give you thanks and pray that our lives may be renewed in the life and love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***HYMN 371** “Lift High the Cross” *Tune: CRUCIFER*

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Fugue in D Minor *Johann Pachelbel*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Sarah A. Johnson Pastoral Resident

Adam Fronczek Associate Pastor

The Vespers Choir

Thomas Gouwens Associate Organist

Fourth Church offers a variety of worship opportunities in addition to Sunday services. Morning Prayer is held in Stone Chapel as a time to remember those in need (9:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday). A Taizé service is held at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel on the fourth Friday of each month. The next service will be Friday, December 26.

Inquirers' Class offers an opportunity to explore Presbyterian history and beliefs. This one-session class is also a prerequisite for membership. Attend Monday, November 3 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, November 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; or Sunday, November 23 from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. For information about membership, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at the church at 312.981.4025 (cmacleod@fourthchurch.org).

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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vespers
6:30 p.m. Sunday October 26, 2008

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

PRELUDE Two Versets *Jean Langlais*

INVOCATION

***HYMN 343** “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”
Tune: BEECHER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, our God, we confess that we have not always lived for you. You have invited us into new life, yet we have closed our eyes and ears and hearts against that invitation. You have shown us the way to love, yet we have chosen the path of uncaring. You have called us to the ministry of reconciliation, yet often we find ourselves tempted to turn away from others. You have called us to generosity, but many times we would rather keep to ourselves. Enter our lives, God, once again. Release us from the bonds of self-centeredness. Create in us a renewed openness to your love, that we may share your love with others. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news!

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 90 (*sung*) (The Hymnal, 210)

**Stand as you are able.*

ANTHEM "O How Amiable" *Ralph Vaughan Williams*

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 22:34–46 (page 24, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION by Sarah Johnson
THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

*HYMN 391 "Take My Life" *Tune: HENDON*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

In life and death, we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God,
the Holy One of Israel, whom we alone worship
and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human,
fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to
the captives, teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children, healing the sick,
binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and
believe in the gospel. Unjustly condemned for
blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain and giving
his life for the sins of the world. God raised Jesus
from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us
from death to life eternal. With believers in every
time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or
in death can separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Rune of Hospitality"
Charles Huddleston Heaton

*DOXOLOGY (The Hymnal, 592)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

PRAYER

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 (*traditional*) (The Hymnal, page 16)

THE COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Because the broken bread has meant our healing,
because the outpoured cup has meant our life,**