

vespers

6:30 p.m. Sunday April 19, 2009

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

PRELUDE O Sons and Daughters of the King *Wilbur Held*

INVOCATION

***HYMN 104** “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

Tune: HYMN TO JOY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.
Although Christ is among us as our life and light,
we are a people divided against ourselves as
we cling to the values of a broken world.
The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the
land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies
that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and
nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of
imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.
God, have mercy upon us; heal us and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of
your reconciling love in Christ. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Hear and believe the good news!

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 133 (*responsively*) (page 543, O.T.)

**Stand as you are able.*

FIRST LESSON Acts 4:32–35 (page 114, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM “Most Glorious Lord of Life” *William H. Harris*

SECOND LESSON John 20:19–31 (page 108, N.T.)

COMMUNION MEDITATION by Jocelyn C. Cadwallader
POETRY OR NOVELS?

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

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*)

**In life and in 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 alone we worship
and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human,
fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching the good news to the poor and release
to the captives, teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children, healing the sick and
binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and
believe 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 this
Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us
from death to life eternal. With believers from
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.**

(from A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Sing Alleluia Forth”

Eric H. Thiman

*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: It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .

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

Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho- ly Lord, God of po- wer and might,
hea- ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bles-sed is the
One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san- na in the high- est.

Music: John W.W. Sherer; © 1997. Used by permission.

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 life, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. God of light, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

***HYMN 507** "I Come with Joy" *Tune: DOVE OF PEACE*

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!
Healey Willan

WORSHIP LEADERS

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader Pastoral Resident
Sarah A. Johnson Pastoral Resident
The Vespers Choir
Thomas E. Gouwens Associate Organist

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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