

MORNING WORSHIP

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

PRELUDE

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

Johann Sebastian Bach

Savior of the Nations, Come

J. S. Bach

Savior of the Nations, Come

Max Reger

Benedictus (Blessed Is the One Who Comes)

M. Reger

INTROIT

“Matin Responsory for Advent”

Eric J. Milnes

I look from afar, and lo, I see the power of God coming and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say, “Tell us, art thou he that should reign over thy people Israel?” High and low, rich and poor, one with another, go ye out to meet him and say, “Hear, O thou shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep; tell us, art thou he that should come?” Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Minister: In a quiet time of hope, the prophet Isaiah called out to the Lord, “O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil.”

People: **We light candles on the Advent wreath to remind us of a time of waiting and watching, a time of hope, a time to bring the light of Christ into the world.**

Minister: The light is for us all—to heal and to challenge, to break down injustice and to build up love.

People: **In the face of the uncertainties of our world, God is coming to make all things new.**

Minister: A voice cries out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

People: **Soon the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.**

*HYMN 5

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Tune: PICARDY

**Stand as you are able.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(unison)*

Eternal God, through long generations
you prepared a way for the coming of your Son,
and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths.
Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ
to rule our thoughts and claim our love,
as Lord of lords and King of kings,
to whom be glory always. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

God of the future, you are coming in power
to bring all nations under your rule.
We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,
for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.
We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors,
abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Grant us wisdom to welcome your way
and to seek things that will endure
when Christ comes to judge the world.
Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER Psalm 25:1–10 *(responsively)* (page 475, O.T.)

***GLORIA PATRI** (The Hymnal, 579)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 21:25–36 (page 80, N.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

JOHN M. BUCHANAN

The Business of Waiting, Watching, and Hoping
“For you I wait all day long.” Psalm 25:5 (NRSV)

***HYMN 9** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *Tune: VENI EMMANUEL*

***APOSTLES' CREED** (unison)

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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Gott ist unser Zuversicht" *Johann Pachelbel*

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change; though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam; though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice; the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

***OFFERTORY 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.

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THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

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

COMMUNION ANTHEM "Come, O Long-Awaited Savior" *Felix Mendelssohn*

Come, O long-awaited Savior, born to set thy people free; let us find our rest in thee. Thou our strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, true desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone and lead us to thy glorious throne. Born to free thy captive people, born a child and yet a King, born to reign over us forever, now thy glorious kingdom bring.

PSALM 23 (*recited in unison after all have received the cup*)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Eternal God, as you led your people in ages past,
you direct our journey into the future.
We give you thanks that you came to us in Jesus Christ,
and we eagerly await his coming again,
so that his rule may be complete
and your righteousness reign over all the world.
Then we will feast at his royal banquet
and sing his praises with the choirs of heaven.
By your Spirit, open our eyes to the generosity of your hand
and nurture our souls in all spiritual gifts.
Fill us with gratitude overflowing so that
we may share life and love in praise to you,
God of all the ages, in the gracious name of Jesus Christ,
your Son, by the power of your Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

***HYMN 1**

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Tune: STUTTGART

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Fugue in G Major (“Gigue”)

Johann Sebastian Bach

The Lord's Supper at Fourth Presbyterian Church

All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. The congregation is served in the pews by elders and deacons.

Worshipers take the bread and grape juice from the plate held by their neighbor and then they take the plate and serve the neighbor on their other side. Empty glasses are placed in the ringed holes in the pew racks.

WORSHIP LEADERS

9:30 a.m. Adam Fronczek, Alice M. Trowbridge, John M. Buchanan

11:00 a.m. Adam Fronczek, Alice M. Trowbridge, John M. Buchanan

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

9:30 a.m. The Grissom Family

11:00 a.m. The Shorney Family

THE MUSIC TODAY

9:30 a.m. The Chancel Choir; the Morning Choir

11:00 a.m. The Chancel Choir; the Morning Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

WORSHIP NOTES

The “Light Up a Life” offering is being received throughout November and December. This year-end giving campaign supports congregational programs, mission, and community outreach, including Chicago Lights programs; and denominational 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.

The Advent banners, in the form of wings, convey the idea of Advent stillness and of waiting in the presence of angels. They were designed and painted by Eliza Linley of Berkeley, California.

John Buchanan’s Advent sermons will be based on favorite Advent hymns and Christmas carols.

December 6: “Come, thou long-expected Jesus; . . . from our fears and sins release us.” (*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*)

December 13: “O Come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine Advent here. . . . Rejoice, rejoice!” (*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*)

December 20: “What I can I give him: give my heart.” (*In the Bleak Midwinter*)

December 24: “Come to Bethlehem and see.” (*Angels We Have Heard on High*)

PASTORAL STAFF

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission

Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for
Adult Education and Worship

Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Linda C. Loving, Minister for Evangelism

Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for
Congregational Life

Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care

John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

John H. Boyle, Parish Associate

Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader, Pastoral Resident

Sarah A. Johnson, Pastoral Resident

Joann H. Lee, Pastoral Resident

David A. Donovan, Associate Pastor Emeritus

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