
February 17, 2010

7:30 p.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY



PRELUDE Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God *Johann Gottfried Walther*
 Man's Days Are Like the Grass *Daniel Pinkham*
 All People Must Pass Away *Johann Sebastian Bach*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: God sent Christ into the world, not to condemn the world,
 but that the world might be saved through him.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Minister: God is our refuge and strength, a 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 the waters roar and foam, though the mountains
 tremble with its tumult.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*unison*)

**Gracious God, out of your love and mercy
you breathed into dust the breath of life,
creating us to serve you and neighbors.
Call forth our prayers and acts of tenderness,
and strengthen us to face our mortality,
that we may reach with confidence for your mercy;
in Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

***HYMN 81** "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

PSALTER Psalm 51:1–17 (*responsively*) (page 492, O.T.)

ANTHEM "Remember" *Larry Harris*

Remember now that from dust you came and to dust
you shall return. Remember that short are your days
upon the earth. Come back to the Lord with all your heart.
Leave the past in ashes and turn to God with prayer and fasting.
For God is slow to anger and ready to forgive.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 58:1–12

(page 647, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION by Victoria G. Curtiss

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

***HYMN 83** “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

Tune: DEO GRACIAS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Create in Me a Clean Heart” *Dan Locklair*

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

LITANY OF PENANCE

Minister: Let us pray.

People: **Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole community of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

Minister: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Minister: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,

People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than we are,
People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Our negligence in prayer and worship,
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
People: **we confess to you, O God.**

Minister: Accept our repentance, O God,
for the wrongs we have done.
For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister: For all false judgments,
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt
toward those who differ from us,
People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister: For our waste and pollution of your creation and
our lack of concern for those who come after us,
People: **accept our repentance, O God.**

Minister: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.
People: **Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION AND 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.**

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
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 compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ
you reconciled your people to yourself.
Following his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts and
serve one another in holy love,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*HYMN 85

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Tune: WONDROUS LOVE

BLESSING AND CHARGE

Minister: May the God of peace make you holy in every way,
and keep your whole being—spirit, soul, and body—
free from every fault, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen.**

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who wish are invited to come to either the front or back of the sanctuary to receive ashes either on the back of the hand or on the forehead. Ashes serve as a sign of human mortality and penitence and as a reminder that only by God's grace in Jesus Christ are we given eternal life. Ashes are imposed with the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).

DEPART IN SILENCE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor

Adam Fronczek Associate Pastor

John W. W. Sherer Organist and Director of Music

Thomas Gouwens Associate Organist

The Chancel Choir

Throughout Lent, Fourth Church receives the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, which supports the work of Chicago Lights, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Gifts can be made using the envelopes found in the pew racks or by writing "One Great Hour of Sharing" on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Daily Lenten devotions are available by email (send addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org), online at www.fourthchurch.org, and in printed booklets in the literature racks.

Fourth Church offers a variety of worship opportunities in addition to Sunday morning services. An afternoon Communion service is held each Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Each weekday morning, Morning Prayer is held in Stone Chapel as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and 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. on the fourth Friday of each month. To learn more about Fourth Church, contact Linda Loving, Minister for Evangelism at 312.981.3399 (lloving@fourthchurch.org) or visit www.fourthchurch.org.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

John M. Buchanan, Pastor

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