

## MORNING WORSHIP

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

**PRELUDE**                      Creator of the Stars of Night                      *John Barr*

**INTROIT**                      “Our King and Savior Draws Near”                      *Iain Quinn*  
Our King and savior draws near; come let us adore him.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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

### \*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: In expectation of her child,  
Mary sang out for joy:  
“My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor upon  
the lowliness of his servant.”

People: **“Surely, from now on all generations  
will call us blessed; for the Mighty One  
has done great things for us,  
and holy is God’s name.”**

Leader: The third candle on the Advent wreath stands  
for joy. It reminds us to be thankful that God’s  
presence is becoming brighter in our world.

People: **The light reminds us that God’s child  
is coming to bring joy to the world.**

Leader: 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 2**                      “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”    *Tune: HYFRYDOL*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)**

God of all mercy, in the hubbub of the world  
and in the darkness of these days,  
we have failed to see your glory and  
to hear and heed your call of service.  
Stuck on ourselves, we have turned our backs  
on the needs of others and stood by silently  
as taunts and insults have been heaped  
upon those most vulnerable in our midst.  
We worry and fret and look  
with hopeless eyes upon your world,  
forgetting the love you sent into the world.  
Evading his cross and the sacrifices it inspires,  
we have excused ourselves  
and not corrected our ways.  
Forgive us, God of hope, and strengthen us,  
that in your forgiveness we may more faithfully  
do your will of justice and peace in 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 146 (responsively)

(page 549, O.T.)

ANTHEM

## “Hark, the Glad Sound!”

Mary Goetze

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long. Let every heart prepare a throne and every voice a song. Let love attend the Prince of Peace, the Savior promised long. Hark, the glad sound! He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure; and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor. Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, your welcome shall proclaim, and heaven's eternal arches ring with your beloved name. Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes! Let every heart prepare a throne and every voice a song.

**FIRST LESSON**      Isaiah 35:4–7, 10      (page 623, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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

**SECOND LESSON**      Luke 1:46–55      (page 53, N.T.)

**SERMON**      When Hopes Deceive      JOHN H. BOYLE

\***HYMN 84**      “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”      *Tune: RATHBUN*

\***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.

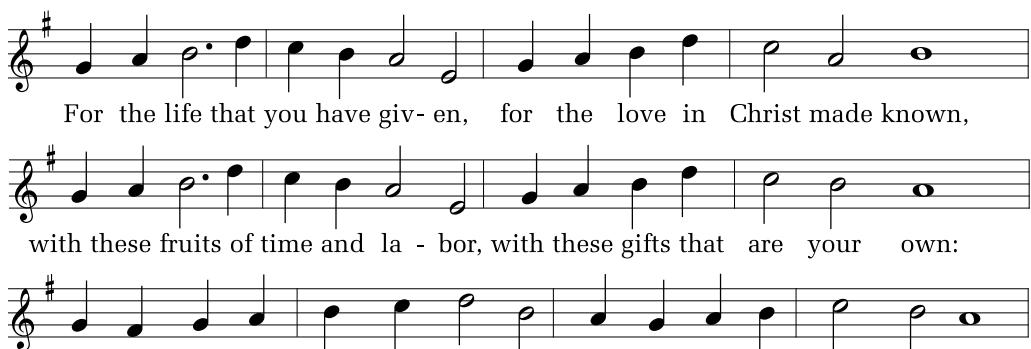
## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY SOLO** “He Shall Feed His Flock” from *Messiah*

*George Frideric Handel*

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, and he shall gather  
the lambs with his arm and carry them in his bosom and  
gently lead those that are with young. Come unto him, all  
ye that labor, that are heavy laden, and he will give you rest.  
Take his yoke upon you and learn of him, for he is meek  
and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

## \*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,  
heav- en 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

“To Thee, O Lord, Have I Lifted Up My Soul”

*Gerald Near*

To thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul; O God,  
in thee have I put my trust. Let me never be ashamed,  
nor let my enemies laugh at me. Show me thy ways,  
O Lord, and teach me thy paths.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

With these simple gifts from your table, O Lord,  
you have reminded and reassured us  
that we are not ultimately alone in the world,  
that life can have meaning and purpose  
even when hopes deceive and fears annoy,  
and that in alliance with one another and  
with affection toward one another,  
life is redeemable and endurable.  
For this blessing we give you thanks,  
and with this blessing we will seek to bless others,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### \*HYMN 8

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”     *Tune: TRURO*

## BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

### POSTLUDE

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry     *Bruce Neswick*

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Joyce Shin, Calum I. MacLeod, John H. Boyle

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Josie Phelps

## **THE MUSIC TODAY**

The Chancel Choir; Erin Snell, soloist

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist and Handbell Director

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

**The “Light Up a Life” offering** is being received throughout 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.

**This morning, Communion is served by intinction.** The congregation will come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they will then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers will return to their pews by the side aisles. The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is not just for Presbyterians or “members of the church.” All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ.

## **PASTORAL STAFF**

**John M. Buchanan**, Pastor  
**Calum I. MacLeod**,

Executive Associate Pastor

**Victoria G. Curtiss**, Associate Pastor  
for Mission

**Adam H. Fronczeck**, Associate Pastor  
for Adult Education and Worship

**Donna Gray**, Minister for Children  
and Families

**Sarah A. Johnson**, Minister for  
Congregational Care

**Linda C. Loving**, Minister for Evangelism  
**Joyce Shin**, Associate Pastor for

Congregational Life

**John W. Vest**, Associate Pastor for  
Youth Ministry

**John H. Boyle**, Parish Associate

**Thomas C. Rook**, Parish Associate

**Kerri N. Allen**, Pastoral Resident

**Matthew J. Helms**, Pastoral Resident

**David A. Donovan**, Associate Pastor Emeritus

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