

April 7, 2012  
10:30 p.m.

# **Easter Vigil**

*Fourth Presbyterian Church*

## **SERVICE OF LIGHT**

### **GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTION**

Minister: Grace and peace from Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

### **LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL FLAME**

### **PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH**

Leader: The light of Christ.  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

## EASTER PROCLAMATION

Leader: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Exult, all creation around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!  
Sound the trumpet of salvation!

All: **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

Leader: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor,  
radiant in the brightness of your King!  
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!  
Darkness vanishes forever!

All: **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

Leader: Rejoice, O mother church! Exult in glory!  
The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy,  
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

All: **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly right that with full hearts and minds  
and voices we should praise you, the unseen God,  
the all-powerful creator, and your only Son,  
our Lord Jesus Christ. For Christ has ransomed us with his blood  
and paid for us the debt of Adam's sin.

All: **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

Leader: This is our Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers. This is the night when first you saved our forebears: you freed the people of Israel from their slavery and led them dry-shod through the sea. This is the night when Christians everywhere, washed clean from sin and freed from all defilement, are restored to grace and grow together in holiness. This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

All: **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

Leader: Lord God, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless your merciful love! To ransom a slave you gave away your Son. Most blessed of nights, chosen by God to see Christ rising from the dead! The power of this holy night dispels all evil, washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy; it casts out hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride. Night truly blessed, when heaven is wedded to earth, and we are reconciled with God! Therefore, gracious God, in the joy of this night, receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your church's solemn offering. May this Easter candle always dispel the darkness of this night! May the morning star which never sets find this flame still burning: Christ, that morning star, who came back from the dead and shed his peaceful light on all creation, your Son, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

All: **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

*Please extinguish your candles and pass them to the outer aisle.*

## SERVICE OF READINGS

READING	“The Story of Creation” – Genesis 1:1–2:4a	(page 1, O.T.)
*HYMN 244	“Let Us with a Gladsome Mind”	Tune: MONKLAND

*\*Stand as you are able.*

- READING** “The Flood”  
Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18; 8:6–18; 9:8–13 (page 5, O.T.)
- \*HYMN 191** “God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength” *Tune: WINCHESTER OLD*
- READING** “The Binding of Isaac” Genesis 22:1–18 (page 17, O.T.)
- \*HYMN 165** “When in the Night I Meditate” *Tune: ST. FLAVIAN*
- READING** “Israel’s Deliverance at the Red Sea”  
Exodus 14:10–31; 15:20–21 (page 58, O.T.)
- SOLO** “Ubi Caritas” *Jacques Berthier*  
Where charity and love dwell, God himself is there.
- READING** “Salvation Offered Freely to All”  
Isaiah 55:1–11 (page 644, O.T.)
- SOLO** “Seek the Lord” *Plainsong*
- READING** “A New Heart and a New Spirit”  
Ezekiel 36:24–28 (page 758, O.T.)
- \*HYMN 189** “As Deer Long for the Streams” *Tune: ROCKINGHAM*
- READING** “The Valley of the Dry Bones”  
Ezekiel 37:1–14 (page 759, O.T.)
- SOLO** “Dry Bones” (*All are invited to sing the refrain.*)  
Them bones, them bones, them dry bones, now hear the word of the Lord.
- \*RINGING OF BELLS** *Please move to the front of the Sanctuary.*
- \*HYMN 123** “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” *Tune: EASTER HYMN*
- PRAYER OF THE DAY**
- EPISTLE READING** Romans 6:3–11 (page 146, N.T.)

**\*PSALM 114**      *(All sing this refrain after each of the verses.)*

1. When Israel came out of Egypt,  
and Jacob from a foreign land,  
Judah became the Lord's holy people,  
and Israel the dominion of God.

**Refrain**

3. Sea, what makes you run away?  
O Jordan, why did you turn back?  
Why, mountains, do you skip like rams,  
and you, little hills, like young sheep?

**Refrain**

2. The sea looked and ran away.  
The Jordan River turned back,  
the mountains skipped like rams,  
and the little hills like young sheep.

**Refrain**

4. Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,  
at the coming of the God of Jacob,  
who turns the rock into a pool of water,  
the granite cliff into a fountain.

**Refrain**

**GOSPEL READING**    Mark 16:1-8

(page 51, N.T.)

**SERMON**            Is This the End?

JOHN W. VEST

**\*HYMN 113**        "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

*Tune:* LLANFAIR

## REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

### \*PROFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,  
do you turn from the ways of sin and  
renounce evil and its power in the world?

People: **I do.**

Minister: Who is your Lord and Savior?

People: **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Minister: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple,  
obeying his word and showing his love?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

**\*APOSTLES' CREED** *(unison)*

(The Hymnal, 14)

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Minister: As we prepare to come to the table of our Lord,  
let us not be strangers to one another,  
but brothers and sisters in Christ.  
May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION

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:

Minister: You are holy, O God of majesty . . .

. . . Great is the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**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**

**THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** (*unison*)

**Gracious God, you have made us one  
with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
We have recalled your mighty acts in holy history.  
We have seen your power in sending light  
to conquer darkness, water to give us life,  
and the bread of heaven to nourish us in love.  
Send us with your salvation and joy to all the world,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 104**

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

*Tune: HYMN TO JOY*

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
in the power of his resurrection. Alleluia!  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion  
of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **Christ is risen!**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **Christ is risen!**

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: **Christ is risen, indeed!  
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

Symphonie V  
Toccata

*Charles-Marie Widor*

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## WORSHIP LEADERS

<b>John W. Vest</b>	Associate Pastor
<b>Adam H. Fronczek</b>	Associate Pastor
<b>Cole Seaton</b>	Tenor Soloist
<b>John W. W. Sherer</b>	Organist and Director of Music
<b>Sarah Bennett</b>	Reader
<b>Kimberlee Frost</b>	Reader
<b>Kathi Rodak</b>	Reader
<b>Mark Schimmelpfennig</b>	Reader
<b>Maggie Shreve</b>	Reader

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### **The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago**

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)  
312.787.4570; Staff extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584