

MORNING WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE

In Thee Is Joy
Christ Came to the Jordan River
Shall We Gather at the River

*Johann Sebastian Bach
J. S. Bach
John Ferguson*

INTROIT

“When Jesus Came to Jordan”

Hal H. Hopson

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John, he did not come for pardon, but as his Father’s Son. He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins, to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins. Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows we make. This very day invade us, and every bondage break. Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most: to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.

*DOXOLOGY AND INVOCATION

(The Hymnal, 592)

*HYMN 210

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Tune: ST. ANNE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**God of all mercy, give us grace to make a fresh start today.
We know we have not loved you with our whole heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
As we hope to be forgiven, teach us also to forgive,
and lead us forward in a new life
where neither grudges nor resentment have a part;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Minister: Friends, believe the good news.

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

UNISON PRAYER

**Holy God, remind us of the promises given
in our own baptism and renew our trust in you.
Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PSALTER

Psalm 29 (*responsively*)

(page 477, O.T.)

ANTHEM

“Tribus miraculis”

Orlandus Lassus

This holy day we celebrate, adorned by three miracles.

Today a star led the Magi to the manger.

Today wine was made from water for the nuptials.

Today Christ was baptized by John that he might save us all.

Alleluia.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:5–9

(page 630, O.T.)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI

(The Hymnal, 579)

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 3:13–17

(page 3, N.T.)

SERMON

Baptismal Surprise

CALUM I. MACLEOD

“Jesus came . . . to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.”

Matthew 3:13 (NRSV)

*HYMN 409

“Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”

Tune: ABERYSTWYTH

*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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

“Amen”

John Rutter

OFFERING

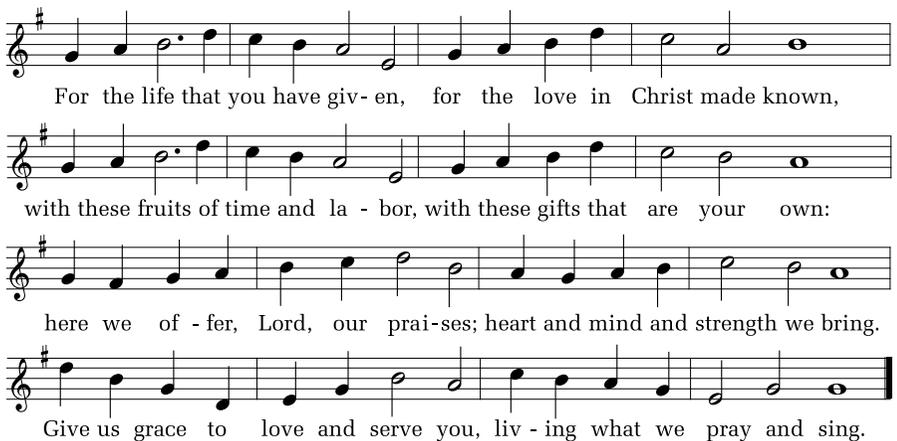
OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Father in Heaven”

David Hurd

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan, proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit, grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND 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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***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

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.**

All: **God of our hearts and minds,
we give you thanks and praise for your goodness to us
and dedicate to you our thoughts,
our words, our gifts, our deeds,
the working of our hands, the thinking of our minds,
the loving of our hearts.
Shield us this day, keep us from offense,
and surround us with your love, now and for evermore.
Amen.**

***HYMN 291**

“O God of Earth and Altar”

Tune: LLANGLOFFAN

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

All Who Believe and Are Baptized

Richard Proulx

“Let the little children come to me . . .
for it is to such as these that the
kingdom of heaven belongs.”

Matthew 19:14 (NRSV)

Baptism

at Fourth Presbyterian Church

On the second Sunday of each month, Fourth Church includes the Sacrament of Baptism in morning worship. Baptism is the sign and seal of God's grace and covenant in Christ. As *The Book of Order* of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) explains, baptism signifies the faithfulness of God, the washing away of sin, rebirth, putting on the fresh garment of Christ, and adoption into the covenant family of the church.

The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God's love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The congregation, on behalf of the whole church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life, and it is for this reason that the congregation makes such a promise during the service. In the unison prayer we also remember that we too were baptized and as children of God are part of the worldwide family of faith.

Those being baptized at the 9:30 worship service are

Evan Richard Brewster, son of Philip and Susan Brewster

Mia Grace Tournis, daughter of James and Elizabeth Tournis

Those being baptized at the 11:00 worship service are

Leland Marshall Coppler, son of Courtlan and Alison Coppler

Charles David Macallan Nelson, son of David Nelson and Sheryl Hudson

Graham Patrick Ross, son of Sean and Kerry Ross

Finn J Stogsdill, son of Jeff and Alison Stogsdill

WORSHIP LEADERS

9:30 a.m. John W. Vest, Victoria G. Curtiss, Calum I. MacLeod
11:00 a.m. Hardy H. Kim, Victoria G. Curtiss, Calum I. MacLeod

THE MUSIC TODAY

9:30 a.m. The Morning Choir
11:00 a.m. The Morning Choir

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

WORSHIP NOTES

Fourth Church offers a variety of worship opportunities in addition to Sunday morning services. A jazz service with Communion is held each Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Each weekday morning, Morning Prayer is held in the Sanctuary 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, and Friday; 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday). A Taizé service is held most months at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Friday; the next Taizé service will be on January 24.

The bulletin cover photo depicts Fourth Church during the blizzard of February 1–2, 2011. The cover quote is from “A New Creed” from the United Church of Canada.

PASTORAL STAFF

Calum I. MacLeod, Executive Associate Pastor and Head of Staff
Victoria G. Curtiss, Associate Pastor for Mission
Adam H. Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship
Matt Helms, Minister for Children and Families
Hardy H. Kim, Associate Pastor for Evangelism
Joyce Shin, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life
John W. Vest, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry
Judith L. Watt, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
Edwin Estevez, Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan, Pastor Emeritus

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The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

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