

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Rejoice, the Lord Is King. Healey Willan

Introit

“Come, My Light” Charles Callahan

Come, my light, and illumine my darkness.

Come, my life, and revive me from death.

*Come, my King; sit upon the throne of my heart and reign there,
for thou alone art my King and my Lord. Amen.*

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Call to Worship

Minister: *The dwelling place of God is with humanity.
The Human One comes among us in glory.*

People: **We will be God’s people,
acknowledging God’s presence with us.**

Minister: *Praise God in word and deed;
praise God in your attitudes and actions.*

People: **We meet God in the hungry and thirsty,
in the stranger and sufferer.**

Minister: *God is at work in you,
and God is served through your efforts.*

People: **We rejoice in opportunities to reach out
to sisters and brothers in need.**

*Hymn 147 “Blessing and Honor”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

O God of all, we confess that we avert our eyes
when we see homeless people on the streets;
we avoid going into neighborhoods
where most of the residents are poor;
we don't go to the prisons and befriend those behind bars;
we close our borders to strangers.
We carry prejudices about why people are in need
and deem some unworthy of our help.
Meanwhile, we assume we are worthy of your blessing.
Forgive our misjudgments, our inaction and lukewarm faith.
Move us to compassionate service for our neighbors and, thus, for you.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 95:1-7 Old Testament, page 520

Anthem

“O Be Joyful in the Lord” Charles Wood
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands; serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name, for the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting, and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

First Lesson

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24. Old Testament, page 756
Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*
People: Thanks be to God.

*Gloria Patri (*sung*) The Hymnal, 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Second Lesson

Matthew 25:31–46. New Testament, page 27

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

God’s Kind of Reign Victoria G. Curtiss

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 407 “When a Poor One”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

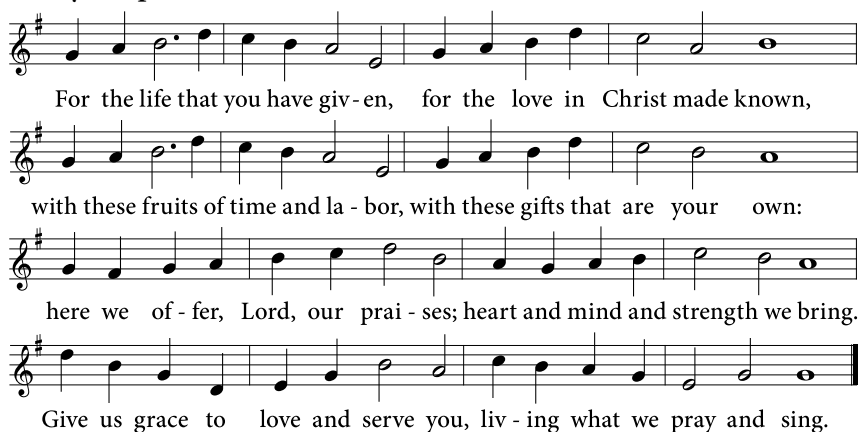
In life and death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.
We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children, healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

“Sheep May Safely Graze” Johann Sebastian Bach

*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.

Sealing the Word

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.**

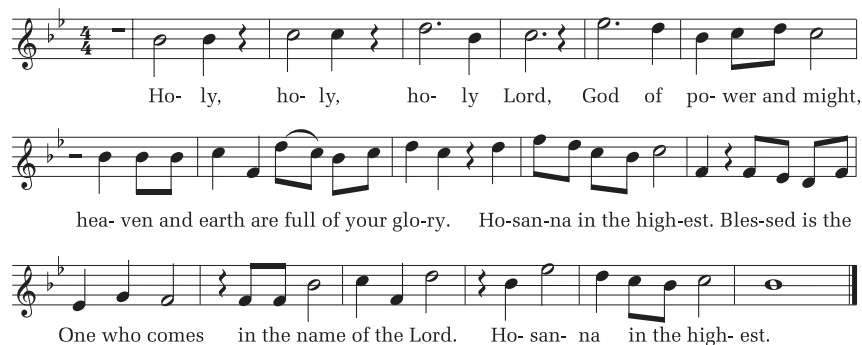
Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

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.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts” Plainsong

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world,
in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 514 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Choral Improvisation
on “Now Thank We All Our God” Sigfrid Karg-Elert

This morning, Communion is served by intinction.

The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive
the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice.
(Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.)

Worshippers 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.

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Jennifer Pickard, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

MJ Chen, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by Jennifer Pickard on behalf of the "Christmas Wishes" gift drive organized by Presbyterian Women, an organization for women here at Fourth Church.

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 efforts. "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.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to "For the Life that You Have Given" are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 by Hope Publishing Co. The music for "Holy, Holy, Holy" is by John Sherer © 1997.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission

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

Layton Williams Pastoral Resident

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

This worship bulletin is printed on recyclable paper that contains recycled post-consumer waste and is acid free. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014
www.fourthchurch.org | www.facebook.com/fourthchurch
312.787.4570 | Voicemail 312.787.2729 | Fax: 312.787.4584