

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Jacob's Ladder. African American spiritual
arr. H. Robert Wilson
- Simple Gifts Shaker melody
arr. René Clausen
- Brightest and Best. Shawn Kirchner

Introit

- "This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made" (9:30)
- "Rejoice in the Lord, Always" (9:30)
- "Get on Board" (11:00) African American spiritual
arr. Earlene Rentz

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 606

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

Leader: *God, you have brought us to this life and this day.*
People: *You have brought us to this place and to each other.*
Leader: *You have sought us out and found us.*
People: *You have run to us and welcomed us home.*
Leader: *Open our hearts as we worship you this day.*
People: *Help us to be your people in the world.*

**Stand as you are able.*

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 415 “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

Prayer of Lenten Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways.
We have wasted our inheritance. You gave us the earth for our home,
but we squander earth’s resources. You gave us neighbors to love,
but we pursue selfish ambitions. You gave us the commandments
that lead to human flourishing, but we forsake your law and your love.
Forgive us. Draw our wandering hearts back to you, that we might
find freedom in your love. Amen.

Extinguishing the Third Lenten Candle

Kyrie (*sung*) The Hymnal, 576

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“O Radiant Dawn” James MacMillan
*O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.
Isaiah had prophesied, “The people who walked in darkness have seen the
great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.”*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 32 Old Testament, page 479

*Gloria Patri (*sung*) The Hymnal, 581

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.

Scripture Lesson

Luke 15:11-32 New Testament, page 73

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 771 “What Is the World Like”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) Apostles’ Creed

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

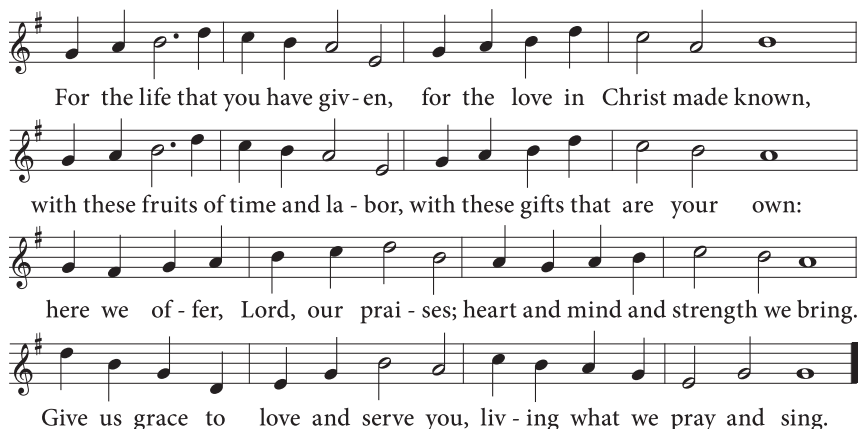
“Kyrie” Morgan Simmons
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Offertory Anthem

“Thou, O God, Art Praised in Sion” Malcolm Boyle

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion, and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem. Thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come. Blessed is the one whom thou chooseth and receivest unto thee. They shall dwell in thy courts and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of thy house, e'en of thy holy temple. Thou wilt keep them in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on thee. Thou wilt keep them in perfect peace because they trust in thee. Trust ye in the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength. Let the people praise thee, O God; yea, let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, and God shall give us his blessing.

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

O God, all that we have comes from you.
Receive this offering and with it the offering of our lives.
We return to you what you have so graciously given.
Use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 22 “God of the Sparrow”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Fantasy in E-flat Camille Saint-Saëns
II. Allegro di molto con fuoco

Join us as we answer the Lenten call to thoughtfully take up the gifts of faith—worship, study, prayer, and service—in preparation for Holy Week and Christ’s journey to the cross.

A Lenten Contemplative Retreat

“Deep Calls to Deep”

Friday, March 11–Saturday, March 12

The Well in La Grange Park

Refresh and renew your spiritual connection with God using spiritual practices of the church. Take part in worship, guided meditation, journaling, praying with images and psalms, or simply enjoying nature and solitude.

A Lenten Offering

“One Great Hour of Sharing”

This offering is being received throughout Lent. Gifts support Chicago Lights Tutoring and Elam Davies Social Service Center as well as the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a “One Great Hour of Sharing” gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks or write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Shown above: The cross in Buchanan Chapel

Worship Leaders

Hardy H. Kim, Victoria G. Curtiss, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Morning Choir; The Alma College Choir

The Cherub Choir (9:30); The Children's Choir (11:00)

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Hsing-Huei Huang, pianist

Worship Notes

EACH SUNDAY DURING LENT we are extinguishing a candle at the front of the Sanctuary. Just as we lit candles on the Advent wreath to symbolize the light coming into the world through the birth of Christ, so now our extinguishing of candles points to the Lenten progression from light to darkness as we make our way to Good Friday and the crucifixion.

SINGING DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING is the Alma College Choir, directed by Will Nichols. Alma College, which is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA), is a four-year liberal arts college located in Alma, Michigan.

THE BULLETIN COVER PHOTO depicts the warmth of a beckoning light outside one of the church entrances in the Michigan Avenue courtyard during a snowstorm. The cover quote is from Henri Nouwen's book *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*.

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 Hope Publishing Co.

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Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission

Matt Helms Associate Pastor
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Hardy H. Kim Associate Pastor for Evangelism

Rocky Supinger Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Nanette Sawyer Minister for Congregational Life

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

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.

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