

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

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Allegro Moderato from *Trio Sonata in E-flat Major* . . . Johann Sebastian Bach

### Introit

“Sing to the Lord of Harvest” . . . . . German chorale  
arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel

*Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise;  
with joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.  
By him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;  
sing to the Lord of harvest a song of happy love.*

\*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.**

\*Invocation

\*Hymn 663 . . . . . “Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun”

### Litany of Confession

Leader: *O God, we come to you now in spirit and in truth  
with a desire to be honest with you and with ourselves.  
When we find ourselves watching others,  
being critical of their discipleship,  
making judgments, and setting our own rules,*

People: **have mercy on us.**

Leader: *When we live for the sake of appearance,  
more concerned with how our faith looks to others  
than how our faith transforms our lives,*

People: **have mercy on us.**

Leader: *When we spend all our time on things that do not matter  
rather than acting with courage in walking your way,*

People: **have mercy on us.**

Leader: *Creative One,  
challenge everything in our lives that is not authentic,  
so we may move forward in truth.  
Bring us to your grace and renew our souls.*

People: **Amen.**

### Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*

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

### Concerns of the Church

#### Anthem

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God” . . . . . Healey Willan  
arr. Henry V. Gerike

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free Spirit.*

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

#### First Lesson

Deuteronomy 30:15–20. . . . . Old Testament, page 179

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

\*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.

Second Lesson

Psalm 139 . . . . . Old Testament, page 545  
Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*  
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

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Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 28 . . . . . “You Are Before Me, Lord”

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

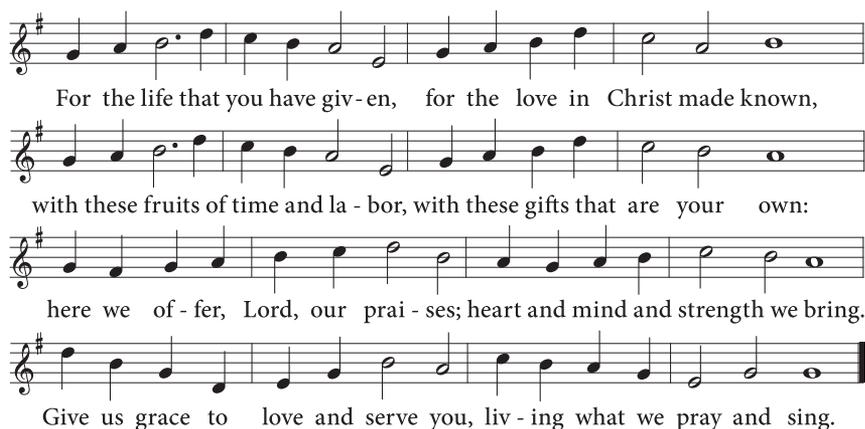
I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from 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.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

“Rondeau” . . . . . Henry Purcell

## \*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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## Sealing the Word

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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: *Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe . . .  
. . . we join our voices with all the saints, singing:*

Sanctus (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 552

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Minister: *It is with gratitude, praise, and hearts lifted high . . .  
. . . Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.  
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

Communion Anthem

“O God, Thou Faithful God” . . . . . German chorale  
arr. T. Hoelty-Nickel

*O God, thou faithful God, thou fountain ever flowing,  
who good and perfect gifts in mercy art bestowing,  
give me a healthy frame, and may I have within  
a conscience free from blame, a soul unhurt by sin.  
Grant thou me strength to do with ready heart and willing  
whatever thou shalt command; my calling here fulfilling,  
to do it when I ought, with all my might; and bless  
the work I thus have wrought, for thou must give success.  
If dangers gather round, still keep me calm and fearless;  
help me to bear the cross when life is dark and cheerless;  
and let me win my foe with words and actions kind.  
When counsel I would know, good counsel let me find.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

We thank you, O God, that through Word and Sacrament you have given us your Son, who is the true bread from heaven and food of eternal life. So strengthen us in your service that our daily living may show our thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 450 . . . . . “Be Thou My Vision”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Carillon . . . . . Herbert Murrill

## Worship Leader

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Shannon J. Kershner, Roberta Dawson

## The Music Today

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Men of the Morning Choir

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

## Worship Notes

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FOURTH CHURCH EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the Men's Choir for their musical leadership during morning worship this summer. The Chancel Choir—which welcomes all singers—will resume rehearsals on Thursday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary Choir Loft. Anyone interested in joining a Fourth Church choir is encouraged to contact John Sherer (312.981.3592; [jsherer@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jsherer@fourthchurch.org)).

FOURTH CHURCH OFFERS A VARIETY of worship opportunities on Sunday, including an 8:00 a.m. Communion service and a jazz service with Communion at 4:00 p.m. Each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., Morning Prayer is held in Buchanan Chapel as a time to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need. We also offer a monthly fourth-Friday prayer service in the style of Taizé, which meets next month on September 23 at 7:30 p.m.

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. Great Thanksgiving is adapted from liturgy by Teri Peterson of the Presbyterian Church of Palatine, IL ([www.liturgylink.net/category/communion](http://www.liturgylink.net/category/communion)).

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**Shannon J. Kershner** Pastor

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

**Matt Helms** Associate Pastor  
for Children and Family Ministry

**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

**Abbi Heimach-Snipes** Pastoral Resident

**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

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**THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**  
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