

*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

- Deep River . . . . . African American spiritual  
arr. Hart Morris
- Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands . . . . . Johann Sebastian Bach
- Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing . . . . . Healey Willan
- Sonata in C Major . . . . . Domenico Zipoli
- A Joyous Fanfare . . . . . Fred Gramann

### Introit

- "Alleluia, the Stone Which the Builders Rejected" . . . . . Richard Proulx  
*Alleluia, the stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. Alleluia.*

- \*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: *Goodness is stronger than evil.*  
People: Love is stronger than hate.  
Leader: *Light is stronger than darkness.*  
People: Life is stronger than death.  
Leader: *Victory is ours through Jesus, who loved us and loves us still.*  
People: Let us worship our Easter God!

### \*Prayer of Praise

- \*Hymn 248 . . . . . "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

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*\*Stand as you are able.*

## Presentation of Bibles to Fourth Graders

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

God, you have made known to us the ways of life.  
Yet too often we put other things above you.  
We turn away from the ways of life and fall back into old habits,  
destructive routines, numb living.  
Forgive us and guide us back into your presence  
that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.

### Declaration of Pardon

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

### Concerns of the Church

#### Anthem

“Quia Vidisti Me, Thoma” . . . . . Luca Marenzio  
*Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed.*  
*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.*

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

#### Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 16 . . . . . Old Testament, page 469

\*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

John 20:19–31a . . . . . New Testament, page 108

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 239 . . . . . “Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!”

\*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

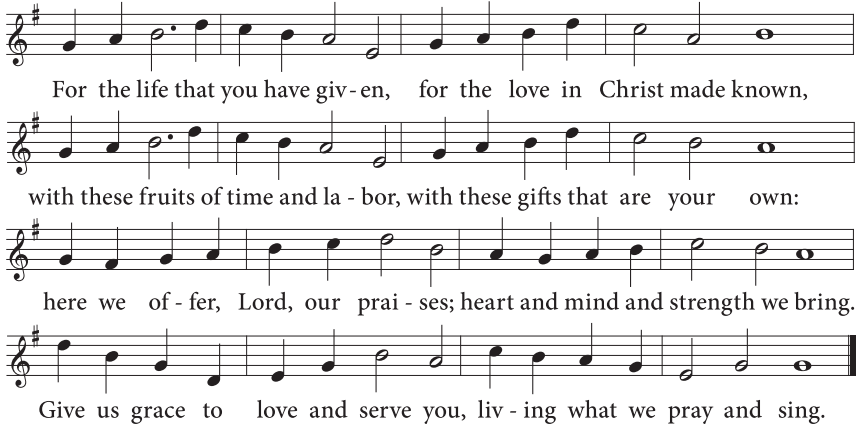
“Alleluia, Amen” . . . . . Carl Wiltse

### Offertory Anthem

“Stetit Jesus” . . . . . Jacob Handl

*There came Jesus and appeared in the midst of his disciples, and he said to them,  
“Peace be with you.” Alleluia. “Behold, the wounds in my hands and in my feet.  
Lo, I am indeed your Lord.” Alleluia. Joyous were they who saw and believed  
Christ is risen. Alleluia.*

\*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*)

We've heard, O God, that you love a cheerful giver,  
 so we offer you our lives and our resources with joy.  
 We dedicate our time, our money, and our skills  
 to continue spreading the good news to your world.  
 May all that we have and all that we are  
 be used in the service of your justice and mercy. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 233 ..... “The Day of Resurrection!”

\*Benediction and Response

*Worshippers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir during the Benediction responses.*

Postlude

Voluntary in C Major ..... Hermann Schroeder

## **Presentation of Bibles to Fourth Graders of Fourth Presbyterian Church**

The following children have been participating in the 2016–2017 fourth-grade Sunday School program at Fourth Church.

Fourth graders receive Bibles from the congregation today as the congregation lives out its baptismal pledge to support the children and youth of the church. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue on their faith journey.

Archer Balfour	Linnea Nam
Baron Balfour	Nate Nichols
Rebecca Mae Besecker	Andrew Phelps
Jackson Bossert	Sofia Picciola
Charles Jacob Brickman	Monte Qu
Aidan Castette	Henry Thomas Zwingli Ramsey
Kelsey Castette	Anderson Lee Ruppel
Jacob Thomas Cunningham	Harper Rzepczynski
Z. C. Findler	Flynn Roper Scoggin
Luke William Foster	Elizabeth Grace Sharp
Esmé Fuller	Charlotte Siddall
Kate Grissom	Clara Spence
Miles Nathan Grusin	Harrison John Stracks
Oliver Paul Grusin	Vera Tax
Sam Haley	Katherine Terzian
Lewis Lofgren	Jane von der Sitt
Robby McDonell	Eleanore Wallace
Andrew Richard McMillan	Zachary Weissman
Evan W. Meints	

## Worship Leaders

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Judith L. Watt, Matt Helms, Jerry Johnson, Hardy H. Kim, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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The Morning Choir; The Handbell Choir; Carol Carpenter, flutist

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Briana Belding-Peck, Director of the Handbell Choir

## Worship Notes

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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 will next be held this Friday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts spring daffodils outside the cloister on Michigan Avenue. The cover quote is from Thomas Troeger's hymn "These Things Did Thomas Count as Real" (Hymn 256 in the pew hymnals). As the hymnal explains the words, "This twentieth-century text provides a helpful corrective to a long history of negative attitudes toward Thomas for failing to believe the other disciples' report that Christ had risen. Thomas' fact-seeking 'skeptical mind' sounds remarkably modern and makes him a more sympathetic figure."

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship was written by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The Prayer of Confession is adapted from *Feasting on the Word, Liturgies for Year A, Vol. 1*. 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. The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from *Before the Amen: Creative Resources for Worship*.

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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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