

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Selections from *Mass for the Convents* Francois Couperin

Introit

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone” John Darwall
arr. Theodore Hoelty-Nickel

*Christ is our cornerstone, on him alone we build;
with his true saints alone the courts of heaven are filled.
On his great love our hopes we place, of present grace and joys above.*

*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: *Bless the Lord, O people sing!*
People: Let the sound of praise ring out.
Leader: *Come and hear what God has done,*
People: our God, in whom we live and move and have our being.
Let us praise God’s glorious name.

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 694 “Great God of Every Blessing”

Prayer of Confession

Leader: *Loving God, we do not always keep your commandments:
we fail to love you with our whole heart,
and we do not love our neighbors as ourselves.
Our conscience is not clear.
Wash us in the water of life that we may live again,
freed from past patterns and burdens.
Hear us now as we make silent confession . . .*
(Please hold silence.)

People: Through the grace and mercy of Jesus,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

**Stand as you are able.*

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

Anthem

“We Shall Walk through the Valley in Peace” . . . African American spiritual
arr. William Appling

*We shall walk through the valley of the shadow of death;
we shall walk through the valley in peace!
And if Jesus himself shall be our leader
we shall walk through the valley in peace!
There will be no sorrowing there,
and if Jesus himself shall be our leader,
we shall walk through the valley in peace!*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 66:5–12, 16–20 Old Testament, page 500

*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

1 Peter 3:8–12 New Testament, page 220

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Blessed to Be a Blessing” Victoria G. Curtiss

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 231 “Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from Philippians 2:5–11

Christ Jesus,
 though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
 but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form
 he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death—
 even death on a cross.
 Therefore God also highly exalted him
 and gave him the name that is above every name,
 so that at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
 and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
 Jesus Christ is Lord! 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

“O Lord, My Trust Is in Thy Mercy” Eric DeLamarter

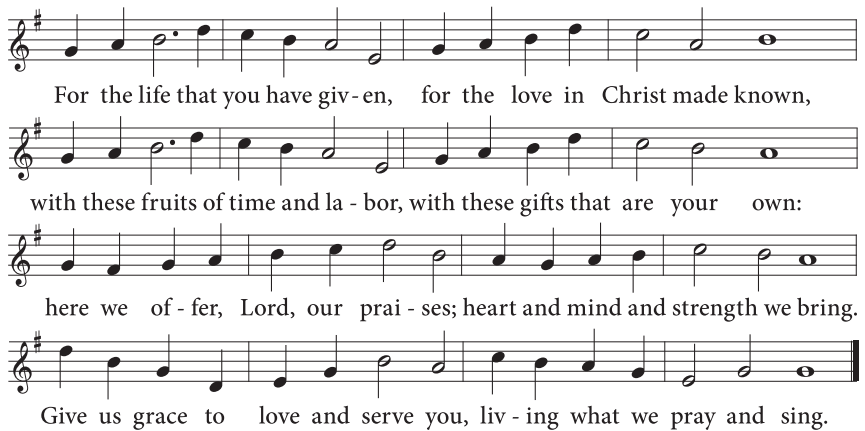
*O Lord, my trust is in thy mercy, and my heart is joyful in thy salvation,
for thou hast heard my prayer.*

Offertory Anthem

“Thy Holy Wings” Swedish folk song
arr. Aaron David Miller

*Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me
and let me rest securely through good and ill in thee.
O, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place,
and let my every moment be lived within thy grace.
O, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast
where I will find sweet comfort and peace within thy nest.
O, close thy wings around me and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn and need thy tender care.
O, wash me in the waters of Noah’s cleansing flood;
give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good.
O, take into thy keeping thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber, enfold one and all.*

*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*)

God of all mercies,
we give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all people.
In gratitude we offer you our lives in service
and our money for ministry.
May our gifts bring you glory. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 822 “When We Are Living”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Rigaudon André Campra

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.

Being baptized at the 9:30 worship service:

Nolan Nicholas Cullen, child of Timothy and Paige Cullen
Grace Granville Kurtis, child of Scott Kurtis and Laura Granville
Winston Charles Royer, child of Randall and Fiona Royer
Asher Blake Willis, child of Neil and Lilly Willis

Being baptized at the 11:00 worship service:

Benjamin Louis Fanelli, child of Michael and Jennifer Fanelli
Byron Connor Siebenaler, child of Keith and Taira Siebenaler

Worship Leaders

9:30 Judith L. Watt, Marsha Heizer, Joan Bahnfleth, Rocky Supinger
Victoria G. Curtiss

11:00 Judith L. Watt, Pam Block, Ann Murray, Rocky Supinger
Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

The Men's Choir

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

Worship Notes

THE FOURTH CHURCH MEN'S CHOIR is singing in worship through July 16;
the Women's Choir will be singing from July 23 through September 3.

THE BANNERS DISPLAYED IN THE SANCTUARY are based on seven statements
attributed to Jesus Christ in the Gospel according to John in which Jesus declares
"I am . . . the Resurrection and the Life; the Bread of Life; the Light of the World;
the Gate; the Good Shepherd; the Way, the Truth, and the Life; and the Vine."
The banners were designed and created by Associate Pastor Victoria G. Curtiss.
In the literature racks is a brochure explaining them, with accompanying prayers.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts ivy and shadows on the Michigan Avenue
façade of Fourth 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 Hope Publishing Co.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor
Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission
Matt Helms Associate Pastor
for Children and Family Ministry
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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