

*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

Benedictus . . . . . Max Reger

### Introit

“Louez le Seigneur!” . . . . . Cameroon melody  
arr. Ralph M. Johnson

*Praise the Lord! Praise God’s holy name, 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.

### \*Invocation

\*Hymn 689 . . . . . “When the Morning Stars Together”

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Great God, your mercy is forever sure. Forgive us for doubting your mercy. And forgive us for living as though your mercy is sure for some and not for others. Forgive our desire to make you into our own image, to explain you on our own terms. Fill us again with awe over what we know of you and how you have acted in our lives. But also fill us with awe over what remains mysterious and unknowable about you, the Creator of our lives, the lover of our souls. Amen.

### Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news.*

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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\*Stand as you are able.

## \*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

*We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”*

## Concerns of the Church

### Anthem

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” . . . . . Irish melody  
arr. Ewald V. Nolte

*The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.  
Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.  
And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.*

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

#### Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 105:1–6, 37–45 . . . . . Old Testament, page 525

\*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

Exodus 16:2–15 . . . . . Old Testament, page 60

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

“The Sovereignty of God? The Sovereignty of God!” . . . . Judith L. Watt

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 702 . . . . . “Christ Be Beside Me”

\*Affirmation of Faith . . . . . from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good  
and makes everyone equally in God's image,  
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.  
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments,  
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,  
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,  
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah  
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.  
Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel  
from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,  
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,  
God is faithful still.

Commissioning of the Chancel Choir and Ushers

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

Tierce en Taille . . . . . François Couperin

\*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 up 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 . . .*

*. . . forever singing to the glory of your name:*

Sanctus (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 572

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.

Minister: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 573

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

"Ave Verum Corpus" . . . . . Geoff Weaver

*Hail, true body born of the virgin Mary, who truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross  
for us all, whose pierced side overflowed with water and blood, be for us a foretaste  
in the time of death.*

## Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Holy God, thank you for leading us to this place,  
for feeding us at your table,  
for giving us strength for the days to come.  
Thank you for the gift of bread and cup  
and their reminder that your mercy is forever sure.  
In your holy name we pray. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 719 ..... “Come, Labor On”

\*Benediction and Response

### Postlude

Fugue in C Major (“Jig”) ..... Dietrich Buxtehude

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### CHANCEL CHOIR COMMISSIONING

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*Today's commissioning of the Chancel Choir lifts up the musical gifts they offer in weekly worship leadership.*

Dala Aavik-Lucas, Linda Barker, Alan Bath, Dionne Braddix,  
Brett Cochrane, Eugene Decker, Victoria Dudley, Craig Endicott,  
Chris Gernand, Thom Gouwens, Paul Hekman, Willa Hekman,  
Susan Hoffman, Donald Kubeczko, Vivian Lee, Frank Lucas,  
Carol Mycio, Grant Nill, Heather Saliny, John Sherer, Ted Smith,  
Nicole Spirgen, Jill VanderVeen, Susan Van der Meulen, Leslie Wilson

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### USHER COMMISSIONING

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*Today's commissioning of Fourth Church ushers is an affirmation of their dedicated service to our church, its members, and those who are among us as visitors.*

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### 8:00 A.M USHERS

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Barb Blue, Greg Geuther, Debbie Johnson, Michael Kazanjian,  
Jim Kendzel, Dennis Porick, Julia Roberts

## Worship Leaders

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Matt Helms, Larry Thomas, Judith L. Watt

## The Music Today

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The Chancel Choir; Amy Anderson, violin

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Grant Nill, Organ Scholar

## Worship Notes

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**THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE**, which follows the Declaration of Pardon, is a response to God's forgiveness. This exchange of signs and words of unity and of Christ's peace is an ancient greeting of siblings in Christ. This is a time when we extend to one another what we ourselves have received from God in Christ. You may shake hands and say "The peace of Christ be with you" or simply "Peace be with you," the greeting of Jesus Christ to his disciples after his resurrection. By exchanging the Peace of Christ with one another, we witness to God's reconciling love.

**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. Worshipers 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.

**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; musicis by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

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**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

**Alex Wirth** Minister for Evangelism

**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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