

*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

Silence . . . . .	Nancy Telfer
There Was a Time . . . . .	Cy Giacomini
Psaume 98 . . . . .	Peter Togni
Tabula Rasa . . . . .	Don McDonald

### Introit

“The Earth Is the Lord’s” (9:30) . . . . .	Iain Quinn
<i>The earth is the Lord’s for he made it; come, let us adore him. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.</i>	
“Sing Alleluia, Allelu!” (11:00) . . . . .	Andy Beck
<i>Sing alleluia, allelu! Celebrate with music, celebrate in song. Celebrate with singing; lift your voices loud and strong. Celebrate with cymbals; make a joyful sound. Celebrate with trumpets; let the instruments resound.</i>	

*Doxology ( <i>sung</i> ) . . . . .	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: *We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;*  
People: *with our mouths we will proclaim your faithfulness  
to all generations.*  
Leader: *We will declare that your steadfast love is established forever;*  
People: *that your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.*  
Leader: *Come, let us praise the Lord!*

### \*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 401 . . . . .	“Here in This Place”
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*\*Stand as you are able.*

## Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Eternal and merciful God,  
you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding,  
and you have set us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake.  
Yet we have strayed from your way;  
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
through what we have done and what we have left undone.  
As we remember the lavish gift of your grace  
in the waters of baptism, O God,  
we praise you and give you thanks that you forgive us yet again.  
Grant us now, we pray, the grace to die daily to sin  
and to rise daily to new life in Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you,  
and in whose name we pray. Amen.

## Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news:*

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

## Sacrament of Baptism (9:30)

### Unison Prayer (9:30)

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

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## Listening for the Word

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### Prayer for Illumination

#### Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 51:1–9 . . . . . Old Testament, page 492

#### Anthem

“Agneau de Dieu” . . . . . Rupert Lang

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.*

First Lesson

Isaiah 64:1–8. . . . . Old Testament, page 652  
Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*  
People: Thanks be to God.  
*Children age three through grade five are invited to come forward during the singing of the Gloria Patri.*

\*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.

Sending Forth

Hymn 748 . . . . . “Go with Us, Lord”  
*Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers.*

Second Lesson

Romans 3:9–20 . . . . . New Testament, page 144  
Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*  
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Depraved and Confused” . . . . . Matt Helms

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Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 312 . . . . . “Take Us As We Are, O God”

\*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) . . . . . from the Belhar Confession  
We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.  
This, God has done since the beginning of the world  
and will do to the end.  
We believe that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit  
has conquered the powers of sin and death,  
and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity,  
that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church  
to live in new obedience which can open new possibilities of life  
for society and the world.

## 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

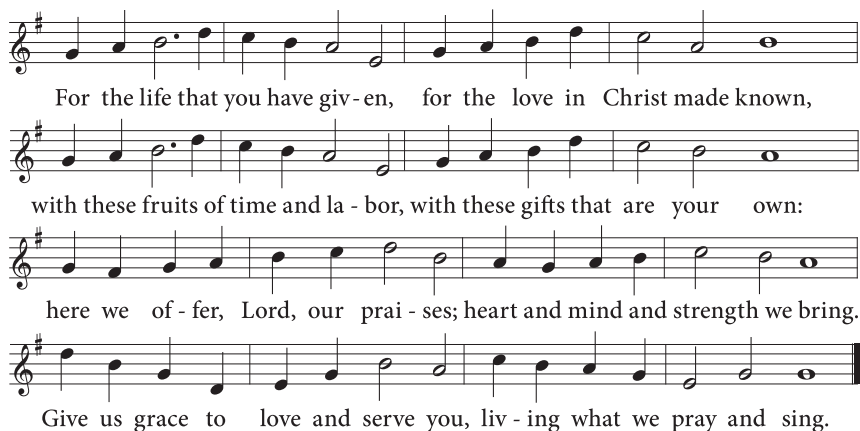
"O Lord, Hear Our Prayer" . . . . . Eric H. Thiman  
*O Lord, hear our prayer, and let our cry come before thee.*

### Offering

#### Offertory Anthem

"Gloria" . . . . . Tobin Stokes  
*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all of good will.  
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee.  
Thanks be to God for his great glory.*

### \*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*)

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment we give ourselves to you.  
Take us out to live as changed people because,  
after our experience of you, we cannot remain the same.  
Ask much of us, expect much from us,  
enable much by us, encourage many through us.  
We offer these efforts with boldness, knowing that your love is stronger  
than our impurities and imperfections. In Christ's name. Amen.

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# Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 307 . . . . . “God of Grace and God of Glory”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Grand Chorus. . . . . William Faulkes

“Let the little children come to me . . .  
for it is to such as these that the  
kingdom of heaven belongs.”  
*Matthew 19:14 (NRSV)*

## 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:

Anthony Ellis Spence, child of Patrick and Rebecca Spence

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# Worship Leaders

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9:30 Judith L. Watt, Linda Barker, Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Matt Helms

11:00 Nanette Sawyer, Beverly Washington, Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Matt Helms

# The Music Today

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The Morning Choir; The Canadian Chamber Choir

The Children’s Choir (11:00); The Handbell Choir (11:00)

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Briana Belding Peck, Director of the Handbell Choir (11:00)

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth (11:00)

Hsing-Huei Huang, Pianist (11:00)

# Worship Notes

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FOURTH CHURCH THANKS THE CANADIAN CHAMBER CHOIR for offering their musical gifts this morning. The choir, directed by Julia Davids, is made up of twenty-one members from across Canada and only performs music by Canadian composers.

AS WE MARK THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION this autumn, we continue our seven-part “Always Reforming” sermon series, which next week will focus on “Total Grace.” Each week we are also affirming our faith by using different creeds and statements of faith from the Reformed tradition. Today’s affirmation is from the South African Belhar Confession, the newest addition to our Book of Confessions.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is adapted from Psalm 89:1–2. 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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**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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