

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

I Thank Thee, Dear Lord. Dieterich Buxtehude

Introit

“Now Let Us Come before Him” Johann Sebastian Bach

*Now let us come before him, with songs and prayers adore him,
who to our life from heaven all needed strength hath given.*

*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 275 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Lord, you come to us, but we do not recognize you;
you call, but we do not follow;
you command, but we do not obey;
you bless us, but we do not thank you.
Please forgive and help us.
Lord, you accept us, but we do not accept others;
you forgive us, but we do not forgive those who wrong us;
you love us, but we do not love our neighbors.
You showed us how to carry out your mission,
but we do not give up our comfortable lives.
Please forgive and help us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news.*

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

*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

Minute for Discipleship

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*sung*)

"I Long for Your Commandments" (Psalm 119) The Hymnal, 64

Anthem

"Praise Him" J. S. Bach

*Praise him, the great creator, for his goodness,
for his bounty showered upon us throughout the year.
Praise him, snow and wind and rain; praise him, buds and blossoms fair;
fruits and fields of golden grain; beasts of earth and birds of air.
Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore him, praise him angels in the height.
Sun and moon rejoice before him, praise him all ye stars of light.*

First Lesson

Philippians 2:1-11. New Testament, page 186

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

2 Corinthians 5:11-21. New Testament, page 170

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Ecclesia Reformata, Semper Reformanda . . .” Matt Helms

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 320 “The Church of Christ in Every Age”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from the Confession of 1967

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares the labor of healing the enmities which separate us from God and each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles by faithful obedience to his call. Every church order must be open to reformation as may be required to make it a more effective instrument of the mission of reconciliation.

Offering

Offertory Solo

“Give Me Jesus” African American spiritual
arr. Harry T. Burleigh

*O when I come to die, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus. You may have all this world; give me Jesus.
Dark midnight was my cry; give me Jesus.*

*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.

Sealing the Word

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

“Jesu, Joy of All Desiring” J. S. Bach

*Jesu, joy of all desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright;
drawn by thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned, with the fire of life impassioned.
Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying, round thy throne.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of grace, you renew us at your table
with the bread of life and cup of salvation.
May this food strengthen us in love
and help us to serve you and your people.
We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 39 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

*Benediction and Response

*Recessional (*please remain standing*)

Scotland the Brave. Scottish melody

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress. arr. Friedrich Wilhelm Marpurg

CELEBRATING THE LORD’S SUPPER

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.

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.

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss, Margaret Laing, Matt Helms

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir; Laura Kubelka, soloist; George Sims, bagpiper

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Grant Nill, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP is presented by Craig Endicott on behalf of "Called to Be a Church Alive," the 2018 Annual Appeal for Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Lights.

TODAY IS REFORMATION SUNDAY, a day when we recall the rich heritage of the Protestant tradition. The Presbyterian Church (USA) grew out of the Reformation of the sixteenth century under leaders such as John Calvin and John Knox. It was 500 years ago this week, on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther posted his ninety-five theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany, the watershed event sparking the Reformation. Luther later authored the hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," sung in today's service and featured in the Postlude. Reformation Sunday is also a day when we remember and give thanks for Reformation leaders and all others who have kept the faith.

AS WE MARK THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION this autumn, we continue our seven-part "Always Reforming" sermon series. 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 Confession of 1967.

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. All rights reserved.

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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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