

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Sonata V in D Major Felix Mendelssohn
Andante—Andante con moto—Allegro maestoso

Introit

“Benedicamus Domine” (9:30) Jerry Estes
Bless the Lord, alleluia.

“Know That God Loves You” (11:00) Carson P. Cooman
*Know that God loves you. God’s command is this:
“Love one another as I have loved you.”*

*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: *Don’t you know? Haven’t you heard?*

People: God created all things and summons everyone by name.

Leader: *Don’t you know? Haven’t you heard?*

People: No one—nothing—can compare to God’s glory.

Leader: *Don’t you know? Haven’t you heard?*

People: The Lord is the everlasting God,
the creator of the ends of the earth.
God never grows tired or weary.

Leader: *Don’t you know? Haven’t you heard?*

People: Those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength forever and ever.

**Stand as you are able.*

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 327 “From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Faithful Shepherd, in seasons of struggle and distress
we forget your steadfast love.
We complain that you have not met our needs.
We question your care for us.
We rush to other saviors rather than waiting for your strength.
In your tender mercy, forgive us for charging you with neglect.
Forgive us for acting like we cannot trust your promises
of goodness, mercy, and justice.
Help us, by your Spirit, to hold fast to your promises of restoration.
We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 147:1–11 Old Testament, page 549

*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

Isaiah 40:21–31 Old Testament, page 628

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 744 “Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

*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.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Heilig” F. Mendelssohn

Holy, holy, holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth.

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.

*Offering 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 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 . . .*

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus (*sung*) The Hymnal, 565

**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, hosanna in the highest.

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

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 566

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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

“Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied” F. Mendelssohn
(Anthem text: *Psalm 98, Old Testament, page 698*)

Psalm 23 (recited in unison after all have received the cup)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul;
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Like the Israelites as they glanced up to the stars;
like the shepherds in Bethlehem’s field;
like the leper healed who returned to Jesus;
like the Jews and Gentiles of the early church,
we praise and glorify your name, O God.
You have given us more than we could have imagined.
For tidings of joy, for this nourishment for our faith,
for wholeness received, we thank you.
May we be living signs of your power to reconcile and to redeem.
We ask all things in the name of Christ. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 536. “Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Con Moto Maestoso from *Sonata No. 3*. F. Mendelssohn

Worship Leaders

9:30 Judith L. Watt, Roger Wilson, Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Judith L. Watt, Jennifer Ebie, Abbi Heimach-Snipes, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Morning Choir; Chancel Choir

Youth Choir (9:30)

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth (9:30)

Hsing-Huei Huang, pianist (9:30)

Grant Nill, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

THE CHANCEL CHOIR is joining with the Morning Choir today as they sing double-choir literature from the north and south balconies. The Chancel Choir, which sings during 8:00 a.m. worship, is open to any and all who enjoy singing.

FOURTH CHURCH OFFERS A VARIETY of worship opportunities on Sundays, 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 will also offer a service in the style of Taizé on Friday, February 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, as we do on the fourth Friday of each month.

THE BULLETIN COVER quote is from Abraham Joshua Heschel's book *Man's Quest for God*.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is based on Isaiah 40. 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. The Prayer after Communion is adapted from “Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication,” *Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion*. Year C, Vol. 2, p. 213.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt Pastoral Care

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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