

## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Sanctuary ..... Gwyneth Walker

1. Reverence
2. All Nature Sings
3. A Refuge, Peace

A Song without Words ..... Craig Phillips

### Introit

“The Best of Rooms” (9:30) ..... Gerald Near

*Christ, he requires still, wheresoever he comes to feed or lodge,  
to have the best of rooms: give him the choice;  
grant him the nobler part of all the house: the best of all's the heart.*

“I Will Praise You, O Lord” (11:00) ..... Mark Patterson

*I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart. In every song I sing I will praise you,  
O Lord, with all my heart. In the things that I do, in the words that I say, I will praise  
you, O Lord, with all my heart. I will serve you, O Lord, with all my heart. Lord,  
I will sing of your goodness and grace. Lord, I will tell of your glory. Lord, I will  
love you and serve you more each day. With all my heart, O Lord, I give you praise.*

\*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: *All powerful God,*

People: **light us up with courage.**

Leader: *Understanding God,*

People: **light us up with knowledge.**

Leader: *Awe-inspiring God,*

People: **light us up with praise.**

All: **Let us worship God together!**

### \*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 409 ..... “God Is Here!”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Eternal God, you brought us into the world with unending love.  
In our highs and lows, you have stood by our side  
and provided the guidance we need to navigate a modern world.  
Yet we confess that we turn from your ways;  
we are often so deep in our worries that we forget to follow your teachings.  
Forgive us and help us to remember the love that you have for all of creation.  
(Please hold silence.)

Declaration of Pardon

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

Exchange of Peace

Leader: *Friends, the peace of Christ be with you.*  
People: And also with you.  
*We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”*

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

Anthem

“Prayer for Transfiguration Day” . . . . . John Weaver  
*O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Christ, your Son, you have confirmed  
the mystery of the faith by the testimony of the apostles. In the voice that came  
from the bright cloud you proclaimed him to be your Son and told us to heed  
his teachings. O God, make us heirs with Christ, in his glory forevermore,  
alleluia. Amen.*

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Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*sung*)

“The Mighty God with Power Speaks” (Psalm 50). . . . . The Hymnal, 13

First Lesson

Exodus 24:12-18 . . . . . Old Testament, page 68

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

Mark 9:2-9. . . . . New Testament, page 41

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Reflections

Confirmation Youth (9:30)

Graduating Seniors (11:00)

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Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 193. . . . . “Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

\*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.

# 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

“Amen” ..... Edward Margetson

## Offering

### Offertory Anthem

“Chanticleer” ..... Richard Dirksen

*All this night shrill chanticleer, day's proclaiming trumpeter, claps his wings and loudly cries, mortals, wake and rise! See a wonder heaven is under; from the earth is risen a sun, shines all night though day be done. Wake, O earth, wake everything! Wake and hear the joy I bring; for all this night heaven and every twinkling light, all amazing, still stand gazing; angels, powers, and all that be, wake, and joy this sun to see. Hail, O Son, O blessed light, sent into the world by night! Let thy rays and heavenly powers shine in these dark souls of ours; for most duly thou art truly God and man we do confess. Hail, O Son of righteousness!*

### \*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*)

Dear God, receive this offering. Guide those who use it so that it may help bring fullness to their lives, meet their needs, and bring all of us closer to you.

Almighty God, accept these gifts and use them to bring help and fulfillment to all people. Guide the people who have made these sacrifices to you to help shape the world as you intended. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 12..... “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God ..... Robert Wetzler

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# 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:**

Sienna Adeline Blanco, child of Oscar and Lauren Blanco  
George Bruce Hamill, child of Jason and Jessica Hamill

## Worship Leaders

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Rocky Supinger, Shannon J. Kershner, Fourth Church Youth

## The Music Today

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Morning Choir; Allegra Montanari, cellist

Children's Choir (11:00)

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

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

Hsing-Huei Huang, pianist (11:00)

## Worship Notes

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IN THE REFORMED TRADITION, the Exchange of Peace follows the Declaration of Pardon and 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 to one another, we witness to God's reconciling love.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts the Fourth Church steeple as photographed from the Hancock after a large snowfall five years ago this week. (The white background is the roof of the Sanctuary.)

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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

**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

**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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