

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

O Darkest Woe! Ye Tears That Flow! Johannes Brahms

Introit

“Even Now, Says the Lord, Return to Me” Richard Proulx
Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart, for I am gracious and merciful.

*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: *Out of Christ’s fullness we have all received grace upon grace.*

People: God is our eternal hope, patient and full of mercy,
generous to all who call upon God’s name.

Leader: *Christ is the fountain of life and holiness, source of all comfort.*

People: Christ is our life and our resurrection,
our peace and reconciliation.

Leader: *Let us worship God.*

*Hymn 821 “My Life Flows On”

Lenten Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Almighty and merciful God, we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed.

We have not loved you with all our heart.

We have not loved others as you love us.

We are truly sorry.

In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,
that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways.

Hear us, O Christ, in the hush of our silence,
that you may hear those confessions we speak only to you.

(Please hold silence.)

Extinguishing the Third Lenten Candle

Kyrie Franz Schubert
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Anthem

“Hide Not Thou Thy Face from Us, O Lord” Richard Farrant
*Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,
and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure;
for we confess our sins unto thee and hide not our unrighteousness.
For thy mercy’s sake, deliver us from all our sins.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*sung*)

“Incline Your Ear, O Lord, to Me” (Psalm 86) The Hymnal, 844

*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

Mark 12:13-17 New Testament, page 46
Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“You Can’t Catch Me” Victoria G. Curtiss

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 688 “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified,

suffering the depths of human pain

and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,

vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

delivering us from death to life eternal.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

Prelude on “O Darkest Woe! Ye Tears That Flow!” Ethel Smyth

*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, 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

“Call to Remembrance, O Lord” R. Farrant
Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving-kindness, which have been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offenses of my youth, but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

O God, you have so greatly loved us,
 long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us.
 Give us grace, that in everything
 we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works
 a continual thank-offering to you;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 697 “Take My Life”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Fugue on “O Darkest Woe! Ye Tears That Flow!” Ethel Smyth

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.

Worship Leaders

Lucy Forster-Smith, Roberta Dawson, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

Chancel Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Grant Nill, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

EACH SUNDAY DURING LENT we are extinguishing a candle at the front of the Sanctuary. Just as we lit candles on the Advent wreath to symbolize the light coming into the world through the birth of Christ, so now our extinguishing of candles points to the Lenten progression from light to the shadows of Good Friday and the crucifixion.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING is being received throughout Lent. Gifts to this offering support Chicago Lights Tutoring and Elam Davies Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a “One Great Hour of Sharing” gift, you can use the envelopes in the pew racks; write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church; or make a gift online at www.bit.ly/FPCgiving

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 Lenten Prayer of Confession is adapted from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*. 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

This worship bulletin is printed on recyclable paper that contains recycled post-consumer waste and is acid free. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.

THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014

www.fourthchurch.org | www.facebook.com/fourthchurch

312.787.4570 | Voicemail 312.787.2729 | Fax: 312.787.4584