

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Scherzetto Louis Vierne
Memorial L. Vierne
Celtic Farewell Linda R. Lamb

Introit

“Lift Thine Eyes” from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn
*Lift thine eyes to the mountains whence cometh help.
Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said thy foot shall not be moved. Thy keeper will never slumber.*

*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: *Praise be to God.*
All: Praise be to God for the gift of life.
Leader: *Praise be to God for the gift of hope.*
All: Praise be to God for the gift of love.
Leader: *Praise be to God for the gift of each other.*
All: Praise be to God.

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 1 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Generous God, we confess today that our hearts can become calloused.
And when that happens, we begin to shrug with indifference
at both small kindnesses and great needs.
When our hearts start to harden,
we can feel it takes too much energy to engage with the world around us
or with the people around us.
So we tune it all out. Forgive us.
Forgive us for toughening our hearts when you ask us to keep them tender.
Forgive us for trying to ignore the world when you call us to proclaim
your good news in it. Forgive us and turn us around again
so that we can remember who we are. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Anthem

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” African American spiritual
arr. M. Roger Holland II

*I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime. I’m gonna work so God
can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime. I’m gonna pray so God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime. I’m gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime.*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalm 29 Old Testament, page 477

*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

John 3:1–17 New Testament, page 88

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*
People: Thanks be to God.

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 7 “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

*Affirmation of Faith 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

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” Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Pie Jesu” from *Requiem* Andrew Lloyd Webber
Merciful Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them rest.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them rest everlasting.

*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*)

Gracious God, source of all blessings,
 you have been extravagant in your generosity and love
 for us and for this world.
 May we embody our thanks with our own extravagant generosity.
 May we offer our lives to you in acts of compassion for one another.
 May we walk gently upon the earth,
 ever mindful of your gifts of breath, love, and life itself. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 4 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Litanies Jehan Alain

Worship in the Reformed Tradition

As the headings in our bulletin remind us each week, the center of our worship is **the Word**—by which we mean both Scripture and the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. Our Scripture witnesses to God and God's activity. When it is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. It is this Living Word that is the center of everything we do in worship.

That worship follows the pattern we see in Isaiah 6 (page 597 of the Old Testament): adoration, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, and service. Overwhelmed by God's majesty and glory, we **gather together in praise** offered through song and prayer.

In the face of that great goodness of God, we also see how we fall short of being who we were created to be and so we join in a **prayer of confession**. We then proclaim the **forgiveness** that we know in Jesus Christ. We live our lives in this cycle of realizing where we fall short, being honest to God about that, and then recognizing that God always forgives us, even before the words are on our lips, and lets us start new.

As we listen for the Word of God, **Scripture** is read. The **sermon** is proclaimed. We respond to the Word with thanksgiving, joining in **song** and **affirming our faith**, using words from the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s *Book of Confessions*—whether it be the Apostles' Creed, a Brief Statement of Faith, or one of the other professions of faith—or words taken directly from Scripture.

Following Jesus' instruction to pray, in the **Prayers of the People** we bring human need before God in hope, trust, and thanksgiving for God's faithfulness, concluding with the **Lord's Prayer**. Our response of thanksgiving also includes the giving of our material goods, bringing to God the **offerings** of our work as symbols of our gratitude and our acknowledgment that everything we have comes from God. In prayer we **dedicate** these gifts and our lives to the work of the church and God's mission.

God then **sends** us, like Isaiah, back out into the world in service. Our final **hymn** of grateful praise moves directly into a **charge and blessing** to take what we have heard, to take what we have learned, and to actively live it out in the world, looking for God's work all around us.

Worship Leaders

9:30 Rocky Supinger, Don Allerton, Lucy Forster-Smith, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Rocky Supinger, Susan Boggie, Lucy Forster-Smith, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Women's Choir; Handbell Choir

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Briana Belding-Peck, Director of the Handbell Choir

Worship Notes

TODAY IS TRINITY SUNDAY, the day when the church celebrates the mystery of God as Three in One: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; one God who is Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter.

WE ARE GRATEFUL to the Handbell Choir for sharing their musical gifts with us during this past program year and to the Chicago Lights Dance Academy, directed by Cescily Washington, which this morning offers a liturgical dance interpreting the anthem "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me."

THE FOURTH CHURCH WOMEN'S CHOIR will be singing in worship through July 15; the Men's Choir will be singing from July 22 through September 2.

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR MISSION is presented by Ken Walker on behalf of Chicago Lights, the community outreach arm of Fourth Presbyterian Church.

THE BULLETIN COVER PHOTO depicts the Sanctuary roof cross with its trefoil, a common symbol for the Trinity and one that is echoed throughout Fourth Church (including in the Gratz Center). The vertical building at upper left is Mies' 900 N. Lake Shore Drive building; the angled building at right is the Hancock. The cover quote about the Trinity is from "Litany of the Spirit" by Michael Shaw and Paul Inwood, copyright © St. Thomas More Centre.

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. The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from *Before the Amen*, Eds: Maren Tirabassi and Maria Tirabassi.

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

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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