

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Aria Michael Burkhardt

Morning Songs Gwyneth Walker

1. Welcome, Day!

2. In This Still Room (Are Angel Voices)

Introit

“Alleluia, amen.” Richard Rogers

*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: *May God be among us throughout this day.*

People: **Praise be to God!**

Leader: *May Christ be beside us throughout this day.*

People: **Praise be to Jesus our Lord!**

Leader: *May the Spirit be within us throughout the day.*

People: **Praise be to the Spirit!**

Leader: *May we, as God’s people, be one in faith and live in God’s light.*

People: **Praise and glory forever. Amen.**

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 338. “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

*Stand as you are able. †Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Eternal and gracious God, we confess before you and our brothers and sisters that we have stumbled in our faith. We have made you small when your call is vast; we have loved with a meager love when you ask for generous care for all; we have sought our own gain and been poor stewards of this earth’s riches. Create in us clean, generous, whole lives, and open our hearts to your grace, O God, that your bounty would flow through us for this, your world; through Christ. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“We Shall Walk through the Valley” American folk hymn
arr. Tim Sharp

We shall walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we shall walk through the valley in peace, and if Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace. We shall meet our brother in the valley of peace, we shall meet our sister in peace, and if Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace. There will be no sorrowing there, and if Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 30 Old Testament, page 478

*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

Acts of the Apostles 9:36–43 New Testament, page 120

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

† Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

Sermon Series: A Spirit Revolution

“Untold Lives” Lucy Forster-Smith

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 339 “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

*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

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” Reed Miller

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“May Now Thy Spirit” Joseph Schuetky

*May now thy Spirit, O Father, descend upon us,
in glad adoration we praise and worship thee, alleluia.
Holy, holy, Lord almighty, restore unto all people thy peace and love.*

*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*)

With all that we have and all that we are,
we give you thanks and praise, most holy God.
Make us instruments of your love for this world;
and may the bounty of these gifts extend your care
to every corner of this immense world, which you love so very much;
through Christ we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 346. “For the Healing of the Nations”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Morning Songs Gwyneth Walker

3. Go Forth with Joy!

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, Marsha Heizer, Jeff Doane, Lucy Forster-Smith

11:00 Rocky Supinger, Judy Kerch, Jeff Doane, Lucy Forster-Smith

The Music Today

Women's Choir

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

Worship Notes

THIS SUMMER'S SERMON SERIES on the Acts of the Apostles, "A Spirit Revolution" invites us to widen our imaginations about what God might do through us as individuals and as a church.

THE TEXTILE BANNERS AND PULPIT PARAMENT, "Unweavings," created by fiber artist Laurie Wohl, were commissioned by Fourth Church for use during the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, the longest season of the church year (the season between Epiphany and Lent and between Pentecost and Advent). Through their combination of scripture texts and images, these banners celebrate and elevate the perception of the sacred in the "ordinary" as we make our faith journey day to day. A brochure with more information about the banners is available in the literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org/arts/liturgical.html

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts a tulip in the Michigan Avenue courtyard after a rainstorm. The cover quote is from St. Teresa of Avila's writings "May Today There Be Peace Within."

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.

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John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

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