

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past Healey Willan

Introit

“O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips” Richard Webster

O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.

*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.*

Praise ye the Lord. The Lord’s name be praised.

*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: *Blessed are you, Lord God,
you are the breath of life sustaining us each day;*

People: *you are with us in our journeying and in our resting;
our companion and teacher along the way.*

Leader: *You, Lord, are our hope and our strength;
your grace permeates everything and everywhere;*

People: *the sound of your handiwork resounds in all things;*

Leader: *your mystery’s breadth and depth exhaust our understanding.*

People: *You sustain us and fill our hearts with grateful thanks.*

*Hymn 610 “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

^{*}Stand as you are able. [†]Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Gracious God, forgive us when we turn away from you,
when we are distracted by our worldly cares,
when we are wrapped up in ourselves,
when we fail to share the good news.

Forgive us when we fail to hear your words,
when we are distracted by our own voice,
when we are unthinking about the things we do and say
and are unmoved by the cries of the suffering.

May the words of our mouths and the love stored in our hearts
stir us into action to care for the world and all its creatures. Amen.

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

Commissioning of the Chancel Choir (8:00)

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*sung*)

“Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect” (Psalm 19) The Hymnal, 61

Anthem

“I Will Arise” American folk hymn
arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

*I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms;
in the arms of my dear Savior, O, there are ten thousand charms.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount, I’m fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.
Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise.*

First Lesson

Mark 8:27–30 New Testament, page 41

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

*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.

Second Lesson

James 3:1–12 New Testament, page 216

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Taming the Tongue” Victoria G. Curtiss

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 693 “Though I May Speak”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from Philippians 2:5–11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Offering

Offertory Voluntary

Chant de Paix (Song of Peace) Jean Langlais

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

*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

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: *And also with you.*

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*

People: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Prayer

Leader: *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, God of 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.

Leader: . . . *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

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life” Richard DeLong

*Come, my way, my truth, my life; such a way as gives us breath,
such a truth as ends all strife, such a life as killeth death.*

*Come, my light, my feast, my strength; such a light as shows a feast,
such a feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes his guest.*

*Come, my joy, my love, my heart; such a joy as none can move,
such a love as none can part; such a heart as joys in love.*

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 722 “Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Toccata in F Major Dietrich Buxtehude

Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger, Peyton Randy Keller, Victoria G. Curtiss

The Music Today

Chancel Choir

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Justin Taylor, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

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.

TODAY'S COMMISSIONING OF THE CHANCEL CHOIR lifts up the musical gifts they offer in weekly worship leadership: Dala Aavik-Lucas, Linda Barker, Alan Bath, Dionne Braddy, Eugene Decker, Victoria Dudley, Craig Endicott, Chris Gernand, Thom Gouwens, Paul Hekman, Willa Hekman, Susan Hoffman, Donald Kubeczko, Frank Lucas, Carol Mycio, John Sherer, Ted Smith, Nicole Spirgen, Justin Taylor, Jill VanderVeen, Susan Van der Meulen, Leslie Wilson.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession are adapted from liturgy of the Church of Scotland www.churchofscotland.org.uk. 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

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident

Shawn Fiedler Ministerial Associate for Worship

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

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