

## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Aria . . . . .	Alice Jordan
Soliloquy . . . . .	David Conte
“Keep Your Lamps” . . . . .	African song arr. Benjamin A. Tucker
Cantilene . . . . .	Lynn Trapp

### Introit

“Siyahamba” . . . . .	South African freedom song arr. Anders Nyberg
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*We are marching in the light of God.  
We are dancing in the light of God.  
We are singing in the light of God.*

*Doxology ( <i>sung</i> ) . . . . .	The Hymnal, 606
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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.<sup>†</sup> Amen.

### \*Litany for Reformation Sunday

Leader: *We have met to confess and acknowledge one God alone,*

People: to whom alone we must cleave  
whom alone we must serve,  
whom only we must worship,  
and in whom alone we put our trust.

Leader: *We have met to feast on the Living Word, Jesus Christ,*

People: who took on human flesh to become one with us,  
and from whom our salvation springs and depends.

Leader: *We have met to listen for the song of the Holy Spirit,*

People: who opens minds and bends stubborn hearts,  
who has led the church throughout all ages, in all realms and tongues.

Leader: *We have met to proclaim that we are the Church Reformed,*

People: always willing to be reformed,  
and always willing to be changed for the purposes of God.

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\*Stand as you are able. <sup>†</sup>Or “Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.”

\*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 275. . . . . “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Eternal God, you have called us into covenant,  
yet our commitment is shallow and our love is weak.  
We place lesser concerns high on our list of priorities  
and give you whatever time and energy are left.  
Forgive our sin, O God, and turn us again toward your purposes.  
Reform our lives by renewing our dedication to you.  
By your Holy Spirit, give us a new sense of our calling,  
a new zeal in our faithfulness,  
a new compassion toward neighbors in need,  
and a new appreciation for your love in Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
May we always be open to the reforming and refreshing wind  
of your Spirit. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“Eternal Father” . . . . . Gustav Holst  
*Eternal Father, who didst create, in whom we live, and to whose bosom move;  
to all be thy name known, which is love, till its loud praises sound at heaven’s high gate.  
Perfect thy kingdom in our passing state, that here on earth thou mayst as well approve  
our homage as thou ownest theirs above whose joy we echo and in pain await.  
Grant body and soul each day their daily bread, and should in spite of grace fresh use  
begin, even as our anger soon is past and dead, be thy remembrance mortal of our sin.  
By thee in paths of peace thy sheep be led and in the vale of terror comforted, alleluia.*

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Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 34:1–8, 19–22. . . . . Old Testament, page 480

\*Gloria Patri (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 581  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:<sup>†</sup>  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Mark 10:46–52. . . . . New Testament, page 44  
Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*  
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

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Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 450 . . . . . “Be Thou My Vision”  
\*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

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<sup>†</sup>Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

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” ..... Dale Wood

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Amazing Grace” ..... Traditional American tune  
arr. Eriks Ešēnvalds

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me,  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.  
Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.  
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.*

\*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.

**\*Litany of Dedication of Our Offerings and 2019 Pledge Commitments**

Leader: *The Creator of all life and love  
has given our earth bountiful blessings.*

People: **God created humanity  
to share in the wonder of these blessings  
and to steward them for the purposes of God.**

Leader: *All thanks be to God,  
Giver and Receiver of all that is good.*

People: **We return to God portions of what God has given us:  
our time, the fruits of our labors, our commitment.**

Leader: *May the giving from the fullness of our lives  
be acceptable in God's sight.*

People: **May the gifts we bring show  
that God's rule is at hand—both now and to come.**

Leader: *We dedicate our offering and our promise  
toward the ministry God has given us.*

People: **Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

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**Bearing the Word into the World**

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**\*Hymn 550** . . . . . “Give Praise to the Lord”

**\*Benediction and Response**

*Worshipers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir  
during the Benediction responses.*

**\*Recessional** (*please remain standing*)

Highland Cathedral . . . . . Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb

**Postlude**

Reformation . . . . . Wilhelm Rudnik

## Worship Leaders

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9:30 Nanette Sawyer, Michael Tax, Joseph L. Morrow, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Nanette Sawyer, Greg Kershner, Joseph L. Morrow, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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The Morning Choir; the Handbell Choir; the Drum Circle

Sarah van der Ploeg and Carla Janzen, soloists; Laura Perkett, oboist

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Briana Belding-Peck, Director of the Handbell Choir

John Doty, Director of the Drum Circle | George Sims, Bagpiper

## Worship Notes

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TODAY IS REFORMATION SUNDAY, a day when we recall the rich heritage of the Protestant tradition. The Presbyterian Church (USA) grew out of the Reformation of the sixteenth century under leaders such as John Calvin and John Knox. It was on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther posted his ninety-five theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany, the watershed event sparking the Reformation. Luther later authored today's opening hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." Reformation Sunday is also a day when we remember and give thanks for Reformation leaders and all others who have kept the faith. Our paraments and stoles today are red to symbolize the Holy Spirit's work in reforming the church.

THE BULLETIN COVER SHOWS A ROSE that appears on all six sides of the Sanctuary chandeliers and throughout the architecture of the church. It is similar to what is known as "Luther's Rose," a seal that depicts a cross on a heart to symbolize faith in the Crucified, which grows from the heart. That heart is in the midst of a white rose to symbolize the joy, comfort, and peace that comes to us through faith.

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**SOURCES AND CREDITS:** The Litany for Reformation Sunday, by Shawn Fiedler, is based on the Scots Confession. 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

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**THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO**

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