

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

---

## Gathering around the Word

---

Prelude :: A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth . . . . . Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit :: “Even Now, Says the Lord” . . . . . 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.<sup>†</sup> Amen.

\*Invocation

\*Hymn 503 . . . . . “Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation”

### Litany of Confession

Leader: *God of grace, we confess that we have elevated the things of this world above you.  
We have made idols of possessions and people and used your name for causes  
that are not consistent with you and your purposes. God of Grace,*

People: **forgive us.**

Leader: *We have permitted our schedules to come first and have not taken the time  
to worship you. We have not always honored those who guided us in life.  
We have participated in systems that take life instead of give it. God of Grace,*

People: **forgive us.**

Leader: *We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships.  
We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours,  
and we have misrepresented others’ intentions. God of Grace,*

People: **forgive us.**

Leader: *Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we fall short of your glory.  
Speak to us in the silence, O Lord,  
that we may learn to live together for your will alone . . .  
(Please hold silence.)*

---

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

## Extinguishing the Third Lenten Candle

Kyrie ..... The Hymnal, 551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

### 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 :: “Wondrous Love” ..... American folk hymn; arr. Alice Parker

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul. When I was sinking down, O my soul, beneath God’s righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul. To God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb who is the great “I am.” While millions join them, I will sing. And when from death I’m free I’ll sing on and joyful be, and through eternity I’ll sing on.*

---

## Listening for the Word

---

### Prayer for Illumination

Psalter ..... Psalm 63:1–8



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

*Gloria Patri ( <i>sung</i> ) . . . . .	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 :: Matthew 22:1–14 . . . . .	New Testament, page 23
Sermon . . . . .	Shannon J. Kershner

---

## Responding to the Word

---

### Silent Reflection

*Throughout the season of Lent we are practicing silence as a way to grow closer to God and one another.*

*Affirmation of Faith ( <i>unison</i> ) . . . . .	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.

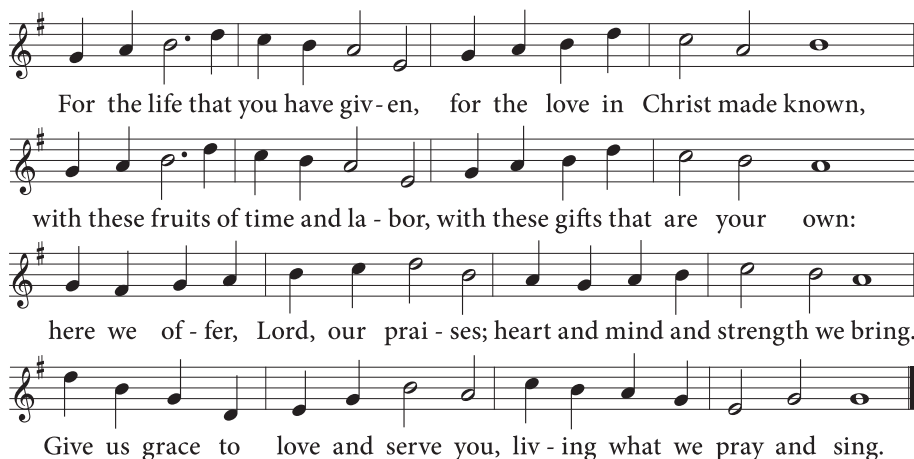
### Offering

Offertory Voluntary :: O Darkest Woe! Ye Tears that Flow! . . . . .	Johannes Brahms
---	-----------------

---

<sup>†</sup>Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.” | 5

## \*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, 552

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.

Leader: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) ..... The Hymnal, 553  
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*) ..... The Hymnal, page 35

The Communion

Communion Anthem :: “Jesu, Dulcis Memoria” ..... Tomás Luis de Victoria  
*Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills the breast,  
but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of all hope, you come into our ordinary lives and set a table among us,  
filling our plates with the bread of life and our cups with salvation.  
Send us out, O God, with tenderheartedness  
to touch an ordinary everyday world with the promise of your holiness. Amen.

---

Bearing the Word into the World

---

\*Hymn 343 ..... “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude :: Toccata in B Minor ..... Eugène Gigout

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

---

Rocky Supinger, Shannon J. Kershner

## Extinguishing the Lenten Candle

---

Marsha Heizer

## The Music Today

---

Chancel Choir

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Justin Taylor, Organ Scholar

## Worship Notes

---

THE SEASON OF LENT calls Christians to embrace the faith journey by reflecting upon and deepening their relationship with God and by acting upon their Christian beliefs. During this season, we are invited to thoughtfully take up the gifts of faith—worship, study, prayer, and service—in preparation for Holy Week and Christ’s journey to the cross.

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 LENTEN ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING SUPPORTS Chicago Lights Tutoring and Social Service Center; Fourth Church Meals and Shower Ministries; and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People Programs. To make a gift, use the envelopes in the pew racks or write “Lenten Offering” on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. Gifts can also be made online at [www.fourthchurch.org/give-online](http://www.fourthchurch.org/give-online)

---

**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 M. Fiedler** Ministerial Associate for Worship

**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

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 After Communion is adapted from *Liturgical Year, The Worship of God: Supplemental Resource 7*.

*This worship bulletin is printed on acid-free paper. 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](http://www.fourthchurch.org) | [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)

312.787.4570 | Voicemail: 312.787.2729 | Fax: 312.787.4584

---