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

Gathering around the Word

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O Sons and Daughters of the King! arr. Wilbur Held

Introit

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: This is the good news: the grave is empty; Christ is risen.

People: Hallelujah!

Leader: This is the good news: the light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness can never put it out.

People: Hallelujah!

Leader: This is the good news: once we were no people;

now we are God's people.

People: Hallelujah!

Leader: Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace

we now share with each other.

People: Hallelujah!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Almighty God, through the rising of your Son from the grave you broke the power of death and condemned death itself to die.

Though numbed by death and aware of our complicity in it,

we are here hesitantly but gladly

to confirm the rumor that you are alive.

We celebrate this great triumph, even as we confess

that it is not yet the model for our living.

Make it so, O God, and make us new. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

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

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (responsively)

Psalm 63 Old Testament, page 498

*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 20:19-31 New Testament, page 108

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

Responding to the Word

*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.

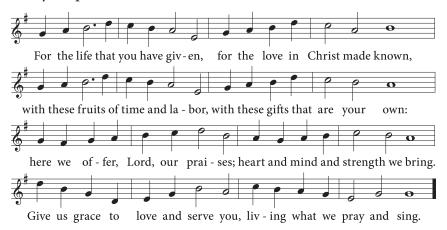
Offering

Offertory Solo

"This We Pray"..... Jay Althouse

When at dawn the glow of morning light brings a new and wondrous day, then we see your Spirit everywhere; help us know you, Lord, this we pray. When at night a songbird sings a tune from a hill so far away, then we hear your spirit everywhere. Help us know you, Lord, this we pray. Lord, show us now your strength and understanding, your power and compassion and your might. And may your love impart kindness in our heart, that we may always do what's true and right. When the wind is whistling through the trees and the sky is dark and gray, then we feel your spirit everywhere. Help us know you, Lord, this we pray.

*Offertory Response



Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: *The Lord be with you*. People: And also with you. Minister: *Lift up your hearts*.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Prayer

Minister: It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .

... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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.

Minister: . . . 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)

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

"Most Glorious Lord of Life" William H. Harris

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy triumph over death and sin, and having harrowed hell didst bring away captivity thence captive, us to win. This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin, and grant that we for whom thou didst die, being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin, may live forever in felicity; and that thy love we weighing worthily may likewise love thee for the same again, and for thy sake, that all like dear didst but with love may one another entertain. So let us love, dear love, like as we ought. Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

Prayer after Communion (unison)

At your table we are all made one, O God. We thank you for sharing your life with us, for beckoning us on toward an eternal kind of life. Lead us from this table into the world you so love, to renew as we have been renewed. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

Postlude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! Healey Willan

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Jim Kendzel, Rocky Supinger

The Music Today

The Chancel Choir; Cole Seaton, soloist John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

THE EASTER BANNERS and the pulpit paraments were made by Nancy Chinn and Eliza Linley and depict the joy of the Resurrection.

As the bulletin headings remind us, the center of our worship is the Word—by which we mean both Scripture, and also the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. When Scripture 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: adoration, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, and service. We listen for the Word of God. We respond in song, affirmation of our faith, prayer, and the giving of our gifts and dedication of our lives, and then God sends us back into the world to live out our faith, looking for God's work all around us.

THE BULLETIN COVER depicts a panel in one of the painted ceiling canvases over the south aisle.

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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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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