

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

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

In Memoriam Joseph Bonnet
Elegy Charles Hubert H. Parry

Introit

“Lift Thine Eyes” from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn
Lift thine eyes to the mountains whence cometh help.
Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said thy foot shall not be moved. Thy keeper will never slumber.

*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: *Sing to the Lord a new song!*
People: *Sing to the Lord all the earth!*
Leader: *Sing to the Lord, and bless God’s name.*
People: *We give glory and honor and praise to God.*
Leader: *God calls us together to worship!*

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 641 “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

**Stand as you are able.*

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Holy Spirit, we confess that we have created boundaries.
We have drawn lines on the world you created without borders.
We have worked to close doors that you have opened.
Forgive us.
Forgive us for creating insiders and outsiders.
Forgive us for not recognizing that you are the God of all
and that we are only a small part.
Give us a portion of your Spirit,
that we might choose embrace over exclusion, and love over fear.
We pray in the name of Christ, who is the bridge,
the open door, and the way in the wilderness. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe this good news:*

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“Pie Jesu” from *Requiem*. Andrew Lloyd Webber
Holy Jesus, grant thy servants endless rest and everlasting peace.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 96 Old Testament, page 520

*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

Luke 7:1–10 New Testament, page 61

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 435 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

*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 (*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

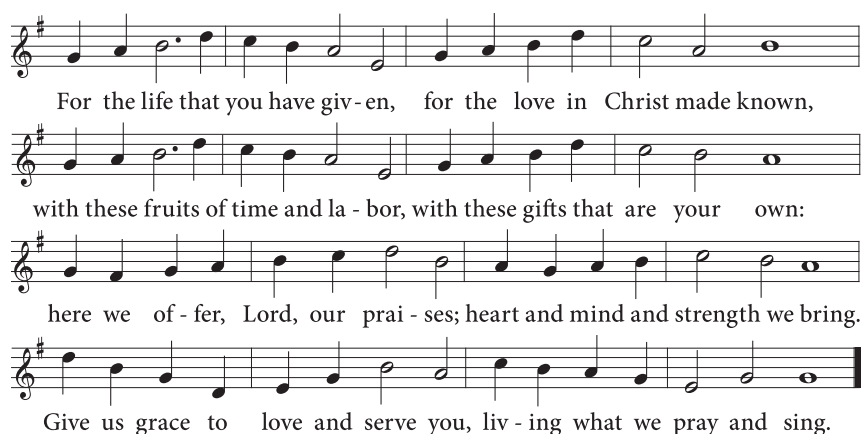
“Amen” Morgan Simmons

Offertory Anthem

“Love Divine” Howard Goodall

*Love divine, all loves excelling joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation enter every trembling heart.
Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast
let us all in thee inherit, let us find that second rest;
take away our power of sinning Alpha and Omega be,
end of faith as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, 'til in heaven we take our place,
'til we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!*

*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*)

We come with gratitude,
as well as our gifts, loving God.
As we offer them to you,
we pray all might know of your presence in their lives
and that these offerings may bring them your hope,
your grace, and your peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 8 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude

The Joy of the Redeemed Clarence Dickenson

Worship in the Reformed Tradition

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.

Worship Leaders

Victoria G. Curtiss, Arlene Faulk, Hardy H. Kim, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

The Women’s Choir
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Worship Notes

THE WOMEN’S CHOIR is providing musical leadership during worship through July 17. The Women’s Choir consists of women from the three adult choirs at Fourth Church; the Chancel Choir, Morning Choir, and Choral Society.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts a stained-glass window in the Narthex. The cover quote is from Alan Brehm’s sermon “Believing and Seeing.”

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 96) and the Prayer of Confession are adapted from <http://rev-o-lution.org>. The Prayer of Dedication is taken from <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>. 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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Victoria G. Curtiss Associate Pastor for Mission
Matt Helms Associate Pastor
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Hardy H. Kim Associate Pastor for Evangelism
Rocky Supinger Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

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Nanette Sawyer Minister for Congregational Life
Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults
Layton Williams Pastoral Resident
John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

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