

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

- Arrival of the Queen of Sheba George Frideric Handel
Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue in D Minor Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit

- “Here I Am, Lord” Daniel Schutte

*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: *Christ is alive. He is risen from the dead.*

People: The Holy One calls us to worship and praise.

Leader: *Sing praises to God, sing praises!*

People: Sing praises to God, who fills the world with forgiveness and grace.

*Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 12 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Compassionate and gentle God, you have created us in love to be your people.
You have called us in love to be your light.

You have promised us in love that you are our home.

But in this space of honesty, we confess we have often lost sight of
these divine gifts.

We have forgotten what it means to fully live as your people,
to shine as your light, and to trust in your ability to work in and through us.

Forgive us. Forgive us and send your Spirit anew:

your Spirit of renewal and transformation; your Spirit who upends our lives;
your Spirit that calls us back to you.

And then remake us in your image once again

so this congregation may move into your future with confidence and hope.

We pray these things in the name of the One who rose from the grave. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

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

Sacrament of Baptism

Unison Prayer

Holy God, remind us of the promises given in our own baptism and renew our trust in you.

Make us strong to obey your will and to serve you with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

“Festival Alleluia” Kenneth Jennings
*Alleluia, sings this congregation, alleluia! With cymbal and zither, sing alleluia!
The joyous crowd in harmony sings alleluia! To God, praise and glory, alleluia!*

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 47 Old Testament, page 490
Children age three through grade five are invited to come forward during the singing of the Gloria Patri.

*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.**

Sending Forth

Hymn 748 “Go with Us, Lord”
Children depart for Sunday School with their teachers.

Scripture Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:5–12 New Testament, page 170

Leader: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Shannon J. Kershner

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 662 “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

*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.

Commissioning of Stephen Ministers (*11:00*)

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

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” Philip James

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“If Ye Love Me” Philip Stopford
*If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,
and he will give you another comforter, even the Spirit of truth.*

*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*)

God of all creation, powerful Spirit, Savior of all,
 use our gifts to bring hope to a world that is in need of your grace. Amen.

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 432. “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude: The Queen’s Procession Oliphant Chuckerbutty

Baptism is the sign and seal of God’s grace and covenant in Christ. The baptism of children witnesses to the truth that God’s love claims people before they are able to respond in faith. The congregation, on behalf of the whole church, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized children in the Christian life.

In the unison prayer we also remember that we too were baptized and as children of God are part of the worldwide family of faith.

9:30 Alicia Katherine Berger, child of Richard and Marianne Berger
Baptisms Sloane Chloe Drake, child of Steve and Nikki Drake
 Carson Elaine Jarrett, child of Peter and Jennie Jarrett
 Lola June Jarrett, child of Peter and Jennie Jarrett
 Ava Grace Willis, child of Neil and Lilly Willis

11:00 Hudson Robert Armour, child of Robert and Stacy Armour
Baptisms Grace Madison Hetland, child of Eli Hetland and Clare Monroe
 McKenna Rose Masson, child of Mark and Shannon Masson
 Taryn Marie Masson, child of Mark and Shannon Masson

Stephen Ministry

Through one-to-one relationships that are confidential, Stephen Ministers extend the pastoral care of Fourth Church clergy staff by providing regular weekly or biweekly spiritual support for those who are facing one or more of life's many challenges or transitions.

Each Stephen Minister has completed fifty hours of intensive training and committed to two years of service. They also participate in peer supervision twice per month throughout their service. While they are not counselors or therapists, problem-solvers, casual visitors, or errand runners, they are individuals willing to care, support, listen, and pray.

New Stephen Ministers being commissioned at the 11:00 service

Rebecca Binks, Connie Chang, Cary Donham, Dawn Kulich,
and Colleen Mraz

Already serving as Stephen Ministers

Martha Brown, Rebecca Dixon, Jean Joslyn, Joy Anderson,
Robert Crouch, Sam Evans, Jon Galloway, Marsha Heizer, Julie
Montgomery, Robert Montgomery, Josie Phelps, Melanie Pierce, and
Mark Schimmelpfennig

Stephen Ministry Leaders

Paula Addington, Cathy Flaa, Jeannine Forrest, Ellen Schaller,
Carroll Smith, Barbara Timberlake, Roger Wilson, and Judy Watt
(*staff support*).

Stephen Ministry is for those who are experiencing loneliness; hospitalization; terminal illness; loss of spouse, child, close family member, or friend; unemployment; childbirth; separation or divorce; retirement changes; or being homebound. If you or someone you know might benefit from a Stephen Ministry relationship, please call the Stephen Ministry voicemail number—312.573.3365—where you can leave a confidential message.

Worship Leaders

9:30 Matt Helms, Mary Lenox, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Matt Helms, Lauren Cleary, Nanette Sawyer, Shannon J. Kershner

The Music Today

Morning Choir; Youth Choir (9:30); Children's Choir (11:00)

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Hsing Huei Huang, pianist

Marie Alatalo, pianist

Worship Notes

FOURTH CHURCH IS GRATEFUL TO PIANIST MARIE ALATALO for sharing her musical gifts during this morning's prelude. Dr. Alatalo is on the faculty of the Music Institute of Chicago, which offers music education for all ages and experience levels at various locations throughout Chicago, including at Fourth Church.

TODAY THE YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S CHOIRS honor three graduating seniors, Elizabeth Canfield, Alex Radtke, and Owen Meyer. They have sung in the Children's and Youth Choirs for the past fifteen years, and we thank them for sharing their musical talents.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts the base of the 1914 baptismal font.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is from Psalm 47. 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 of Dedication is adapted from www.ministrymatters.com.

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

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.

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