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

# Gathering around the Word

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Gather us in, the lost and the lonely, the broken and breaking, the tired and the aching who long for the nourishment found at your feast.

People: Gather us in, the done and the doubting, the wishing and the wondering, the puzzled and pondering who long for the company found at your feast.

Leader: Gather us in, the proud and the pretentious, the sure and superior, the never inferior who long for the leveling found at your feast.

People: Gather us in from corner or limelight, from mansion or campsite, from fears and obsession, from tears and depression, from untold excesses, from treasured successes. Gather us in to be found at the feast.

All: Gather us in, O God. Gather us in.

\*Hymn 511 ..... "Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven"

<sup>\*</sup>Stand as you are able.

#### Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of forgiveness,

we pray for new life as we confess our old ways.

We hear your promise that the old passes away

and that you make all things new,

but we hear it amid our self-doubt.

We confess our desire for guarantees

when what you offer us is even greater hope.

When you call us to obedience, we set conditions.

When you call us to follow, we ask "Where?"

Forgive our reluctance to leave our false comforts

in order to walk in your newness of life.

Forgive our distrust, our anxiety, our fear. Amen.

#### 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

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In adoration, lo, the sacred host we hail; over ancient forms departing newer rites of grace prevail; faith for all defects supplying, where the feeble senses fail. To the everlasting Father, and the Son who reigns on high, with the Holy Ghost proceeding forth from each eternally, be salvation, honor, blessing, might, and endless majesty. Amen.

# Listening for the Word

# Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 49:1–2





# Responding to the Word

\*Hymn 515 ....."I Come with Joy"

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.

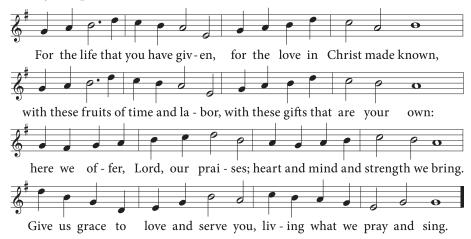
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

# Offering

### \*Offertory Response



# 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:

..... 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 Communion Communion Anthem " "Ave Verum" G. Fauré Hail, true body born of the virgin Mary, having truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for all, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed, be for us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in the trial of death. A sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus, O Jesus, Son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen. Prayer after Communion (unison) Loving God, thank you that you always desire to feed us, to nurture us, to make us whole. We pray that you remind us of this meal in the days to come. Remind us that we have been fed, that we have been forgiven, that you have called us by name, and that we are yours. May those reminders help us feed and nurture others with love and forgiveness and welcome. Amen. Bearing the World into the World \*Hymn 536 ...... "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen" \*Benediction and Response Postlude : Fugue for the Chromhorne. François Couperin

# Worship Leaders

Rocky Supinger, Sue Thompson, Judith L. Watt

### The Music Today

Women of the Morning Choir John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

#### Worship Notes

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 Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

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.

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts the one of the canopies atop the Sanctuary chandeliers.

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 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.

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 | www.facebook.com/fourthchurch 312.787.4570 | Voicemail: 312.787.2729 | Fax: 312.787.4584