

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

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana* . . . . . Pietro Mascagni; arr. Charles Schuchat  
I Call to You, O Lord . . . . . Johann Sebastian Bach  
Prelude and Fugue in C Minor . . . . . J. S. Bach; arr. Ryohei Nakagawa

### Introit

“Lead Me in Your Truth” (9:30) . . . . . Daniel Barta  
*Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; on you I wait all the day.*  
“Bwana Asifiwe” (11:00) . . . . . Swahili folk song; arr. Mark Burrows  
*Praise the Lord in the heavens. Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good. Praise God’s name.*

\*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.

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: *On this holy day, we gather, not alone but as Christ’s body.*

People: **We gather as people who, when one suffers, we all suffer together.**

Leader: *On this day of wonder and hope, we gather, not in isolation but in community.*

People: **We gather as people who, when one is honored, we all rejoice together.**

Leader: *On this day of prayer and praise, of silence and song,  
we gather, with caring hearts and one spirit.*

People: **As those baptized in grace’s tears, we gather.**

### \*Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 624 . . . . . “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

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

## Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Your word reminds us that we are called  
to love our neighbors as ourselves.  
But we make far too many distinctions,  
treating one person with more dignity and respect than another.  
We gladly welcome those who look and act like we do  
but give a much less enthusiastic welcome to those who are unfamiliar.  
Forgive us for the moments when our faith has been empty,  
for the times that our works have not matched our words.  
Help us lean ever more towards your goodness,  
and help our lives reflect that goodness in concrete ways. Amen.

## Declaration of Pardon

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

## Concerns of the Church

Anthem :: “Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi” ..... Ron Nelson

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where  
there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is darkness, light; where there  
is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may seek not so much to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*

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## Listening for the Word

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## Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson :: Isaiah 25:6–10a ..... Old Testament, page 613

\*Gloria Patri (*sung*). ..... 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 :: 1 Corinthians 12:4–14, 26. . . . . New Testament, page 163

Sermon Series: Remembering Our Past, Inspiring Our Future

“The Body of Christ—the Beloved Community” . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 11 . . . . . “Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud”

\*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*). . . . . from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers  
in the one body of Christ, the church.  
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.  
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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†Or “to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.”

## 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.

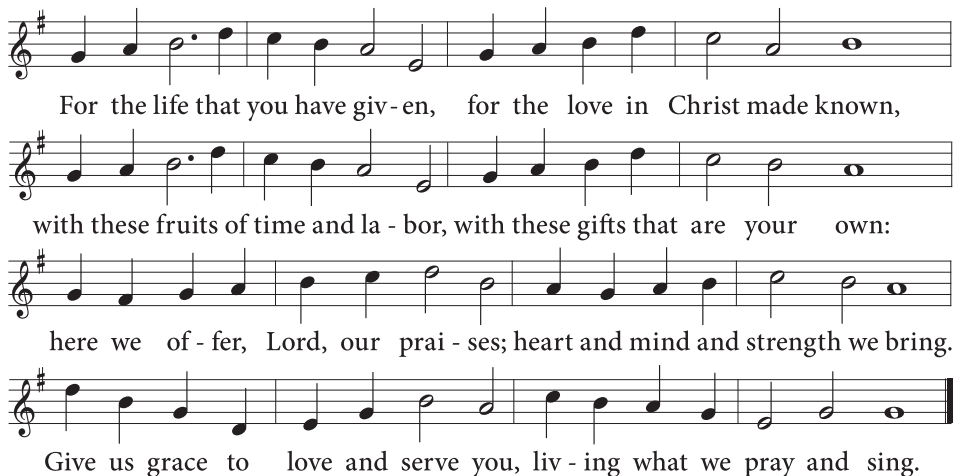
Prayer Response :: "Amen" ..... Dale Wood

## Offering

\*Offertory Anthem :: "Oh How Beautiful This Finely Woven Earth" ..... Greg Jasperse

*Oh how beautiful this finely woven earth. We are bound in threads of joy, threads of grief, of soul.  
Your tears fall from my eyes; my joy rings in your laughter. We are bound together. Give me your  
sorrow; I will stretch across to you over green pine and sparkling lake. How my heart beats with  
yours; you will feel how my heart beats with yours. I know your heart's journey: it is my own.*

## \*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 give you thanks, O Lord, with all our heart.  
You have provided everything we need in your steadfast love.  
Receive these offerings as our response to your great faithfulness,  
for the praise of Jesus' name. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 550 ..... “Give Praise to the Lord”

\*Benediction and Response

*Worshippers who wish to do so are invited to sing along with the choir during the Benediction responses.*

\*Postlude :: Basse Danse Bergeret ..... Tylman Susato; arr. Charles Schuchat

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### Worship in the Reformed Tradition

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As the headings in our bulletin remind us each week, the center of our worship is **the Word**—by which we mean both Scripture and the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. Our Scripture witnesses to God and God’s activity. When it 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. Overwhelmed by God’s majesty and glory, we **gather** together in **praise** offered through song and prayer.

In the face of that great goodness of God, we also see how we fall short of being who we were created to be and so we join in a **prayer of confession**.

We then proclaim the **forgiveness** that we know in Jesus Christ. We live our lives in this cycle of realizing where we fall short, being honest to God about that, and then recognizing that God always forgives us, even before the words are on our lips, and lets us start new.

As we listen for the Word of God, **Scripture** is read. The **sermon** is proclaimed. We respond to the Word with thanksgiving, joining in **song** and **affirming our faith**, using words from the Presbyterian Church (USA)’s *Book of Confessions*—whether it be the Apostles’ Creed, a Brief Statement of Faith, or one of the other professions of faith—or words taken directly from Scripture.

Following Jesus’ instruction to pray, in the **Prayers of the People** we bring human need before God in hope, trust, and thanksgiving for God’s faithfulness, concluding with the **Lord’s Prayer**. Our response of thanks-giving also includes the giving of our material goods, bringing to God the **offerings** of our work as symbols of our gratitude and our acknowledgment that everything we have comes from God. In prayer we **dedicate** these gifts and our lives to the work of the church and God’s mission.

God then **sends** us, like Isaiah, back out into the world in service. Our final **hymn** of grateful praise moves directly into a **charge and blessing** to take what we have heard, to take what we have learned, and to actively live it out in the world, looking for God’s work all around us.

## Worship Leaders

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9:30 Victoria G. Curtiss, Colleen Mraz, Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

11:00 Victoria G. Curtiss, Ken Walker, Judith L. Watt, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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

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

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

Matthew Comerford, Artistic Director of Tower Brass

Katy Sinclair, Associate Director of Music for Children and Youth

Hsing-Huei Huang, Pianist

## Worship Notes

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TODAY WE CONTINUE OUR SIX-WEEK SERMON SERIES, "Remembering Our Past, Inspiring Our Future." Each week we are exploring defining moments in the story of Fourth Presbyterian Church that continue to influence our ongoing commitment to participate in God's redemptive work.

THE BULLETIN COVER photo depicts Gerald Griffin's painting "The Ascension," which was commissioned by the Fourth Church Racial Equity Council and is based on passages from Acts and Revelation. Hanging in the Gignilliat Commons, "The Ascension" gives public witness that people of all races are made in the image of God and celebrated in God's multicultural, multiracial Beloved Community.

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**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 Prayer of Confession is adapted from Stephen Fearing ([www.liturgylink.net](http://www.liturgylink.net)). 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 Nathan Williams ([www.liturgylink.net](http://www.liturgylink.net)).

*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**

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