

Proclaiming Christ | Delighting in His Grace | Sharing in His Mission

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

*The Triune God calls his church to worship him*

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*Asking God to attend and bless the worship of his people*

## \*HYMN

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Brent Milligan, David Crowder,  
St. Francis of Assisi, William Henry Draper

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing.

O praise him, alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam, O praise him, O praise him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav’n along.

O praise him, alleluia! Thou rising moon in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening find a voice, O praise him, O praise him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless and worship him in humbleness.

O praise him, alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit three in One, O praise him, O praise him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 6:6–13

Seth Kreider  
page 571, pew Bible

## \*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Acknowledging our sins before our Holy God and seeking his forgiveness in Christ*

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty, eternal God and Father, we confess and acknowledge that we were conceived and born in sin, and are therefore inclined to all evil and slow to all good; that we transgress your holy commandments without ceasing, and ever more corrupt ourselves. But we are sorry for the same, and beseech your grace and help. Have mercy upon us, most gracious and merciful God and Father, through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant to us and increase in us your Holy Spirit, that we may recognize our sin and unrighteousness from the bottom of our hearts, attain true repentance and sorrow for them, die to them wholly, and please you by a new godly life. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*The Lord’s declaration of our freedom from the guilt of sin and punishment of God’s Law*

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SENIOR PASTOR Dr. Todd M. Smedley

PASTORS Rev. Corey Gray | Rev. Ron Meyer | Rev. Thomas Myrick | Dr. Robert Norris

\*HYMNS OF PREPARATION

“You Are My King (Amazing Love)”

Billy Foote

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken,  
I'm accepted, you were condemned;  
I'm alive and well, your Spirit is within me  
Because you died and rose again.  
Amazing love, how can it be  
That You my King would die for me?  
Amazing love, I know it's true  
It's my joy to honor you; in all I do I honor you.  
You are my King, you are my King;  
Jesus, you are my King; Jesus you are my King.

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“Lord I Need You”

Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson,  
Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher

Lord I come I confess, bowing here I find my rest.  
And without you I fall apart; you're the one that guides my heart.

*Lord I need you, oh, I need you. Ev'ry hour I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need you.*

Where sin runs deep your grace is more, where grace is found is where you are.  
And where you are Lord I am free, holiness is Christ in me.

So teach my song to rise to you, when temptation comes my way.  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on you, Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

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NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 4:1–20

page 839, pew Bible

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

*Asking God's Spirit to illumine our hearts and minds for the understanding and application of his Word*

SERMON

“Jesus, Why Do You Teach in Parables?”  
*15th in a series on the Gospel of Mark*

Rev. Thomas Myrick

\*HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision”

Brooke Norsworthy, Eleanor Henrietta Hull,  
Grant Norsworthy, Mary Elizabeth Byrne

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art—  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.  
Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son,  
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.  
Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

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## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### \*DECLARATION OF FAITH—THE 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 Spirit, 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 at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### INVITATION TO TABLE

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### SHARING OF THE SUPPER

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

### “Benediction”

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

May the peace of God, our heav'nly Father,  
And the grace of Christ, the risen Son,  
And the fellowship of God the Spirit  
Keep our hearts and minds within his love.  
And to him be praise for his glorious reign;  
From the depths of earth to the heights of heaven  
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain—  
Christ eternal, the King of Kings.

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### \*BENEDICTION

*Pronouncing God's blessing on his people*

### POSTLUDE

*\*Congregation standing as able*

*If you are gluten sensitive, please ask for a gluten-free wafer when taking communion.*

If you have an offering, please leave it in the plate at the back of the Sanctuary.

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*The Sanctuary flowers are a ministry of the Flower Committee.*

Hearing enhancement units are available in the Narthex. Ask an usher for assistance.

Deacons provide assistance and prayer support to those in our congregation facing difficult circumstances.  
Contact an individual deacon directly or call the deacons' phone line at 301-320-3600, x223.

The morning worship service can be heard Sundays at 11:00 a.m. on WAVA 105.1 FM or streamed at wava.com.

*We welcome children in our worship service this evening.*

*Parents attending evening worship may bring their children age infant through pre-K to Room 110 to be supervised by childcare workers.*

*As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."*

## NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

### MORNING SERVICE

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

"New Identity"

Genesis 35:1-29

Dr. Todd M. Smedley

### EVENING SERVICE

6:00 p.m.

"A Lamp, A Harvest, A Mighty Tree"

Mark 4:21-34

Rev. Thomas Myrick

*Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
will be celebrated.*

## STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

General Giving

Annual Budget                      \$ 4,864,876

Year to Date Received        \$ 2,785,401

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5500 River Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816

301-320-3600 | 4thpres.org

*Fourth Presbyterian Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.*