



Riverside Presbyterian
Church
April 11, 2021



A Service of Thanksgiving¹

Spring 2021

Third in a series of special worship services

Gathering

Prelude

Invention #1 in C Major by J.S. Bach

Heidi Musser, piano

Call to Worship

(People are invited to respond from their places of worship, while David Thornton is heard on their behalf.)

Mike Welf: In life and in death we belong to God.²

David Thornton: We are people of God.

Mike Welf: Let us gather to worship!

David Thornton: We are people who praise and glorify God.

Prayer of Thanks and Praise

Mike Welf: God, we give you thanks and praise because you heard the cry of your people saw their misery, and knew their suffering, and in due time, you delivered them from slavery.³

God, we give you thanks and praise because you gathered your people and brought them back from captivity and exile.⁴

God, we give you thanks and praise because you kept on loving your people and manifested your Wisdom in Christ Jesus.⁵

God, we give you thanks and praise because you exalted him so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the Glory of God.⁶ Thus, as people of God we say,

David Thornton: God, we give you thanks and praise.

Hymn

Anne Curin, keyboard/vocals Presbyterian

In the Midst of New Dimensions
Publishing. *Glory to God* (p. 315)

¹ Liturgy designed by Rev. Dr. Lis Valle-Ruiz.

² A Brief Statement of Faith. Presbyterian Church (USA), BOC-11.1

³ See Exodus 3 – 15.

⁴ See Isaiah 56 – 66.

⁵ See John 1, Proverbs 8, and Genesis 1.

⁶ See Philippians 2.

The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Sandy Zeles

Scripture Reading

Philippians 1: 3-11

Proclamation

Laura Mariko Cheifetz (she/her)

Response

Hymn

Presbyterian Publishing. *Glory to God* (p. 769)

For Everyone Born, vv. 1, 3-5

Nicholas Ward, vocals

Sally Sloane, piano

Offering

David Thornton

Musical Offering

Each Christian Has a Calling

David Gambrell, vocals/guitar

William McConnell, piano

Sending

Benediction

Postlude

Prelude #15 (Raindrop) by Frédéric Chopin

Heidi Musser, piano

Worship Leaders

Ruling Elder Mike Welf, Moderator of Chicago Presbytery, Commissioned Pastor, Homewood Fire Department, Clerk of Session, First Presbyterian, Chicago Heights.

Rev. Dr. David Thornton, Moderator-elect of Chicago Presbytery, Pastor at Sixth Grace Presbyterian, Chicago.

Ruling Elder Sandy Zeles, Immediate past Moderator of Chicago Presbytery, Ruling Elder at St. Luke Presbyterian, Downers Grove.

Rev. Laura Mariko Cheifetz, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Vocation, and Stewardship at Vanderbilt Divinity School

Musicians

Heidi Musser, piano. Member at Carter-Westminster Presbyterian, Skokie. Blind from birth, Heidi loves to share her gift of music to glorify God.

Anne Curin, keyboard/vocals. Organist at St. Luke Presbyterian, Downers Grove.

Nicholas Ward, vocals. Baritone member, Lyric Opera Chorus, Chicago.

Dr. Sally Sloane, piano. Minister of Music at Riverside Presbyterian Church, Riverside.

Rev. Dr. David Gambrell, guitar/vocals. Associate for Worship in the Office of Theology and Worship in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Louisville, Kentucky.

Dr. William McConnell, piano. Mission Engagement Advisor, Presbyterian Mission Agency, Louisville, Kentucky.

Planning Team

Rev. Dr. Lis Valle-Ruiz, designer of this liturgy. Assistant Professor of Homiletics, McCormick Theological Seminary.

Ruling Elder Sandy Zeles, Immediate past Moderator of Chicago Presbytery, Ruling Elder at St. Luke Presbyterian, Downers Grove.

Rev. C. Dale Jackson, Pastor, Riverside Presbyterian, Riverside.

Ruling Elder Kathy Stear, Clerk of Session, Friendship Presbyterian, Chicago.

Rev. Sue Krummel, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Chicago.

Dennis Cobb, Communication and Administrative Manager, Presbytery of Chicago.