**TIME OF PREPARATION**

“O Lord our God, grant us grace to desire thee with a whole heart, so that desiring thee we may seek and find thee; and so finding thee, may love thee; and loving thee, may hate those sins which separate us from thee, for the sake of Jesus Christ.”

— St. Anselm (1033-1109 AD)

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

Tim Fields

“Song of Peace”

Jean Langlais

Our worship begins with the Ministry of Music/Prelude.

Please use this as a time for silent prayer and preparation.

**WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS**

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

*SHARING GOD’S PEACE*

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: Y también contigo. And also with you.

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 95)

Leader: Come, let us sing to the Lord;

People: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Leader: Let us come into God’s presence with thanksgiving and songs of praise!

People: For the Lord is a great God, and we are the people of God’s pasture, the sheep of God’s hand.

Leader: All praise and honor be to God, Christ our Lord, Holy Spirit, now and forevermore.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN #263**

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

The Rev. Dr. Bush

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have been slow to acknowledge his rule, giving our allegiance to the powers of this world. We have failed to be governed by Christ’s example of justice, mercy and love. By your grace, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, ever obeying the commands of our Lord and Savior. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.
TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S PARDON
The Rev. Dr. Bush
Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #273 (please remain seated)
“He Is King of Kings”
Choir soloists sing verses; congregation sings chorus.
He is King of kings; he is Lord of lords.
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.

GOSPEL LESSON
Matthew 25:31-40 Barbara Griffin
Matthew 25:41-46 The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN
The Rev. Schoenewolf
Children of any age are welcome to come to the steps of the chancel for Moments with our Children. Those who have completed first grade or younger are invited to attend our Extended Session program for the remainder of our worship time in the Nursery Suite on the first floor.

* HYMN #274 “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”
PICARDY

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON
Ephesians 1:15-23 The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON
“A Theology of Process”
The Rev. Dr. Bush

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER
The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
The Lord’s Prayer can be found on pg. 35 (English), on pg. 40 (Español) or on pg. 45 (한국어) in the Glory to God hymnal.

OFFERING INVITATION
Presbyterian Women’s Thank Offering
We offer our gifts in response to God’s love, and the grace of Jesus Christ, which we seek to make known through the ministries of this congregation.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM
“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” Craig Courtney

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ, our head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion’s help forever and our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
Come with all your loving kindness, hear your people as they pray;
And your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.

Grant, we pray, to all your faithful all the gifts they ask to gain;
What they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain;
And here after in your glory evermore with you to reign.

Praise and honor to Creator, praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one.
One in might and one in glory while unending ages run!
Doxology at the Presentation #607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all creatures here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication

Leader: El Señor está con ustedes. The Lord be with you.
People: Y también contigo. And also with you.
Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones. Lift up your hearts.
People: Lo tenemos levantado al Señor. We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: Es justo dar gracias y alabanzas a Dios. It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Leader: Holy God, use us and these gifts to do as you commanded: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, and honor your presence in all people. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Recessional Hymn #267

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Charge & Benediction

Postlude

Trumpet Tune on “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” Richard Proulx

Our worship concludes with the postlude. For the benefit of those who wish to listen to the postlude, please refrain from visiting with your neighbors until you have left the sanctuary, or until the postlude has concluded.
Please remember to turn off cell phones during worship. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

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♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
           The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
           Carla Depperman
           Barbara Griffin
           Jan Pressman
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/
           Music Director
           Gabriel T. D’Abruzzo, Music Associate
ELPC Chancel Choir
Acolyte: David Bellin
Beadle: Lenore Williams
Crucifer: Josh Bellin
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us in the McKelvy Room for our Fellowship Time. All are welcome!

If you would like to make a food or monetary donation in support of our Fellowship Time, please call Pamela Kimmel (412.441.3800 x118).

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers today are in loving memory of Dr. Paul C. Williams on his birthday, from the Williams, Fabilli and Motley families.

♦ WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

8:45 am ........ Journey. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.
Dec 3 — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy.

11 am .......... Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service.
First Sunday in Advent
Dec 3 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Extended Session
After the Moments with the Children during the 11 am Sanctuary service, a children’s ministry is offered with songs, Bible or mission stories, prayer, sharing and creative activities. A simple snack is served.

In an effort to best know and care for your child, we ask that all families fill out a green Extended Session “Ticket” and that your child bring it with him/her to Extended Session every week.

* Young Children’s Ministry for infants and toddlers (up to age 3) — First Floor Nursery. Every Sunday.
* Pre-school age children (through grade 1) — Room 151.

♦ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Labyrinth Prayer Walk
A 35-foot floor mat with curved paths leading inward; an ancient tool for walking and seated meditation.

   Mondays, 7 am to 1 pm
   Wednesdays, 9 am to 9 pm

Taizé Sung Prayer
Chants and periods of meditative silence modeled after the Taizé community in France.

   Wednesdays, 7 pm

Prayer Room (Room 135, in Highland Ave hallway)
Come to sit and pray in silence. Come to experience the quiet in the midst of the wonderful busyness that is ELPC.

   Open everyday

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this morning and ask you to register your name in our Friendship Book.

To learn more about our programs, church activities and volunteer services, we invite you to:

Stay after today’s service for our Fellowship Time in the McKelvy Room. Identify yourself as a newcomer, and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have about ELPC.

Pick up a copy of our newsletter, the Reaching Out, either in the Narthex or at the Hospitality Desk near the Highland Avenue doors.

Attend an Inquirers’ Class on Sundays, Dec 3 and 10 to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more info or to register for future classes (GloriaK@coh.net).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.
Church Events and Announcements
November 26, 2017 • 25th Sunday after Pentecost

TODAY AT ELPC

Presbyterian Women’s Thank Offering
Presbyterian Women will honor the women of ELPC by receiving Presbyterian Women’s Thank Offering this morning. All loose change and bills placed in the offering plates this morning will go to the Thank Offering in support of its programs helping women and children throughout the world.

Hanging of the Greens
In preparation for the Advent season, volunteers are invited to stay after worship today to help us decorate our Sanctuary with the trees, wreaths, and garlands that symbolize the good news of Christ’s promised presence.

The Great Exchange
Folks of all ages are invited to join us in the Social Hall for The Great Exchange today at Noon. We will share a simple lunch and explore some fun and intriguing discussion questions centered around the topic of traditions.

Examine ELPC’s Architecture
Join our tour guide following today’s 11 am worship service for a closer look at the history, Gothic architecture, stained glass, and symbolism of the Sanctuary and Chapel. Please gather at the front of the Sanctuary after worship.

Advent Devotionals
The Christian Education Committee is pleased to offer Advent devotionals to help you reflect on God’s love for us in Christ. They are available at the Journey service, outside the Sanctuary, and on the 2nd floor table. Devotionals include:

♦ Pop-Up Advent Calendar — Each day of Advent, children can open a new window and reflect on a part of the special story about God’s love
♦ Living the Gospel Life — Pocket-size devotional for teens and adults offers reflections, scripture passages, and a daily challenge
♦ Oh Holy Night — Takes families on a prayer journey offering a prayer, reflection, and activity for each day
♦ Glory to God in the Highest — Booklet for adults explores how God’s glory was revealed through the birth of Christ our Savior.

For those of you preferring a paperless devotional, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary offers an online devotional written by students in their Doctor of Ministry program. You can read them online (www.pts.edu), sign up for daily emails, listen on the web, follow along on Facebook and Twitter, or download a free app for your phone.

Stewardship Pledges
Please remember to submit your 2018 stewardship pledge! Extra pledge cards are available in the pews, Narthex and East Transept doors. Thank you for your generosity!

The Chapel Market
The Chapel Market will be closed on Monday, Nov 27. As the weather gets colder, donations of men’s, women’s, children’s and infant’s winter coats and boots are needed, as are winter clothing for children and men. Beginning Dec 7, and continuing the first Thursday monthly, The Chapel Market will be open evening hours (5–7:30 pm), and will continue to be open every Monday morning (10 am–Noon). For more info or to volunteer, please contact Linda and Harold Deiss (deisshl@consolidated.net).

Faith, Science, and Our Spiritual Life Discussion — Nov 30
Join us on Thursday, Nov 30 from 6:30-8 pm as we discuss the intersection between the science of our universe and our understanding of the Divine. We will read, watch videos, and try to make meaning of this precious moment which we share. You are welcome whether you have read and studied these questions before! (Note: there will be no Discussion on Dec 28, but this monthly offering will resume on Jan 25.)

TRAIL Event: First Friday @ Shadracks — Dec 1
The next TRAIL young adult event First Friday @ Shadracks will be held on Friday, Dec 1 when we will meet at ELPC at 7 pm to leave for Butler for the world’s largest drive-through, fully synchronized, LED Christmas light and music show of its kind. RSVP to Wil to save your seat in the van.

Inquirers’ Classes — Dec 3 and 10
If you are interested in becoming a member or friend of ELPC, or learning more about Presbyterian theology, please attend an Inquirers’ Class on Sundays, Dec 3 or 10 from 12:15-2 pm. Lunch is provided. Contact Linda Grant Knopp to register or for more info (GloriaK@coh.net).

Support the Annual Christmas Giving Tree — Dec 3 and 10
Every year, the Deacons organize the Christmas Giving Tree to benefit children and families.

The Giving Tree will be set up in the McKelvy Room, East Transept Hall and/or Narthex on Sundays, Dec 3 and 10, as well as on Wednesday, Dec 6. Stop by and select a gift tag. Deacons will be on hand to help you record your name and phone number with the information from your tag.

Wrapped gifts, with tags securely attached, are due back in the church office no later than Noon on Sunday, Dec 17. If you would like to participate by donating money, please make the check out to “ELPC Giving Tree” and deliver it to the church office.
As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

David Carl’s father Alfred,
Carol Chontos’ father David, Kathy Kiewra,
Pam Kimmel’s niece Jen, Lee Lewand, Mike Maiolo,
Gail Noden, Dominic Odim’s brother,
Henry Petrilli’s father Larry, Sel Whitaker, and Pat Valoon.

Our condolences to the family of
Reggie Plato on his passing.
His service will be on Tuesday,
Nov 28 at 11 am in the ELPC Sanctuary.

Congratulations to John Buckley and Emily Rosenthal
on the birth of their granddaughter Karon Grace.

Committee Meetings This Week
Officer Nominating.......................Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Rm 250)
Peace..........................................Thursday, 5:30 pm (Rm 250)

Youth Ministry Event: DG2! — Dec 3 and 28
Students in grades 4-12 are invited to join Doing Good Together (DG2)—a partnership between ELPC and Rodef Shalom—to work on service projects in our community on Sunday, Dec 3 from Noon-2:30 pm, and also on Thursday, Dec 28 from 3-8 pm. A permission slip is required. Contact Sara Hackett for more info.

PW Bible Study — Dec 4 and 5
Join Presbyterian Women on Monday, Dec 4 at 7 pm, and/or Tuesday, Dec 5 at 10 am for their Bible study titled In Community with God’s Messengers. Tuesday’s session will be followed by a potluck lunch. All are welcome!

LGBTQ Ministry — Dec 10
All LGBTQ folks and allies are invited to be part of the LGBTQ Ministry. The next Spiritual Gathering will be held on Sunday, Dec 10 after the 11 am worship service when we will be doing a soup potluck and telling stories. See Wil for details or to attend. All people are welcome!

The Pageant of Peace — Dec 10
All people are invited to enjoy our annual Christmas Pageant in the Sanctuary on Sunday, Dec 10 at 10 am, as the children and middle school youth of ELPC reenact the story of the birth of Jesus. This year’s pageant will be authored by Ashley Birt.

There will be a rehearsal on Saturday, Dec 9 at 9:30 am, followed by a brief Christmas party for participants. All children and youth in grade 8 and under are invited to participate. Youth in grades 6-8 are asked to attend Church School on Sunday, Dec 3, or let Sara Hackett know that you will be participating.

Church Tours — Dec 10 and 24
† Trinity Chapel on Dec 10
† Sanctuary and Chapel on Dec 24
Please gather in the front of the Sanctuary after the 11 am worship service to join the tour group. All are welcome!

In Our Community

Human Rights Festival and Write-a-thon — Dec 6
Join Amnesty International Pittsburgh on Wednesday, Dec 6 for their 31st annual Write-a-thon and Human Rights Festival from 6-9 pm at Calvary Episcopal Church. Stop in and stay as long as you can to write letters, talk to activists and receive information about local groups working on local, national and international issues. Free refreshments. A Candlelight Ceremony and City Council Proclamation at 7:30 pm will also be part of the event.

Belle Voci Performs with River City Brass — Dec 7
On Thursday, Dec 7 at 7:30 pm, Belle Voci of Pittsburgh will perform with River City Brass in a spectacular holiday concert at Carnegie Music Hall (Oakland). Purchase tickets by calling 412.434.7222.

Christmas in East Liberty — Dec 15
Join us as our Cathedral Concerts series continues with a joyous performance in the ELPC Sanctuary on Friday, Dec 15 at 7:30 pm. The Brass Roots returns for another festive concert with the ELPC Chancel Choir and Dr. Edward Alan Moore at the organ. A freewill offering will be received.

Advent Mini-Retreat — Dec 17
The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to participate in an Advent Mini-Retreat on Sunday, Dec 17 after the 11 am worship service. A light lunch will be served. Come reflect upon the amazing gift of incarnation and treat yourself to a real celebration of Christmas!

Adult Sunday School Classes
Dec 3 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Contemporaries (Harambe Rm) — “Advent Through the Eyes of Those Who Waited: Mary’s Call in the Annunciation” facilitated by Mary Alice Lightle

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) — Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3–9; Mark 13:24–37 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Chapel) — “Christmas Stories: Re-learning the Gospel with Matthew and Luke” led by Dr. Tucker Ferda

Soul Food (3rd floor Music Rm) — A beginning discussion of chapter six of Everything Belongs by Richard Rohr, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Shirley Fair, and Michelle Bard

Church School Updates
There will be no Church School classes on Sundays, Dec 10, 24 or 31, so that we all can enjoy the Christmas Pageant and take a holiday break. Classes will resume on Winter Rally Day, Sunday, Jan 7.