**TIME OF PREPARATION**  
“Patience may be defined as that quality of life which makes suffering creative; and impatience as that whereby suffering becomes a destructive force.”

— **Robert Llewelyn**

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**  
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ  
“Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645”  
J. S. Bach

**WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS**  
The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

**SHARING GOD’S PEACE**  
The Rev. Dr. Bush

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY**  
Annabelle Javier and Jason Wilburn  
Matteo and Sebastian Wilburn

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**
I give you thanks for the richness of my hours: for family and friends, for people with whom I work and play, for those who fill this world with music and art, for those whose needs remind me of my blessings and whose skills make me grateful for differences. Keep us in your embrace, O God, until the daylight comes in the morning. Amen.

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**DECEMBER 15, 2019 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Johann Sebastian Bach’s (1685-1750) well-known arrangement of Sleepers, Wake! is from the Schübler Chorales, a set of six chorale preludes written a few years before his death. It is an arrangement of the tenor aria in his Cantata 140.**

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**PROCESSIONAL HYMN #104**  
**VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN**  
“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

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* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.
CALL TO CONFESSION
The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
The Rev. Callahan

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS
The Rev. Callahan
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!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON
Isaiah 35:3-10 Samantha Coggins

GOSPEL LESSON
Matthew 10:2-6, 11-15 The Rev. Terri Pennybaker

ANTHEM
“Carol of the Bells” Mykola Leontovych
Lyrics: Peter J. Wilhousky

Be patient, beloved ones, and let your heart be strong, for the coming of the Lord is near. (James 5:7-8)

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY:
The Dutch painter Jan Vermeer died in Delft (1675), the Sioux Chief Sitting Bull was killed in South Dakota (1890), and a plane carrying bandleader Glenn Miller disappeared over the English Channel (1944); it is also the date that the U.S. Bill of Rights became effective (1791), Thomas Edison filed a patent for the phonograph (1877), and the movie Gone With the Wind premiered (1939).

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Children of any age are welcome to come forward 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 #819
“In This Our Joyous Time” Finlandia

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON
James 5:7-12 The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON
“Active Patience” The Rev. Dr. Bush

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS & FRIENDS
Members: Alonzo Cotton, Brent House, Alexandra Lynn, Amy Stabingas, Sharla Yates-Seif
Friends: Alissa Panichella, James Panichella, Julia Resciniti, Timothy Resciniti, Jo Resciniti

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HYMN #819
“Be Still, My Soul” Finlandia

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON
James 5:7-12 The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON
“Active Patience” The Rev. Dr. Bush

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
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
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
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**

“This Christmastide (Jessye’s Carol)”  
Donald Fraser

*Text: Jane McCulloch*

Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.  
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.  
Holly, ivy, mistletoe, and the gently falling snow.  
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.  
From a simple ox's stall came the greatest gift of all.  
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.  
Children sing of peace and joy at the birth of one small boy.  
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.  
Let the bells ring loud and clear, ring out now for all to hear.  
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.  
Trumpets sound and voices raise in an endless stream of praise.  
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.  
Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.  
Peace and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

*Doxology at the Presentation*

**Old Hundredth**

Let us run with patience the race that is set before us.  
(Hebrews 12:1)

They also serve who only stand and wait.  
(John Milton)

Wayne L. Wold’s festive setting of Sleeper’s *Wake* provides a more contemporary contrast to the setting by Bach heard during the prelude this morning. This is the third, and final, movement in a suite based on the tune *Wachet auf*. Wold is college organist at Hood College in Frederick, MD.

British-born composer Donald Fraser composed *This Christmastide* for soprano Jessye Norman (1945-2019) and it is often referred to simply as Jessye’s Carol. The text is by British author Jane McCulloch.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication*

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes.  
People: Y también contigo.  
Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones.  
People: Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.  
Leader: Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.  
People: Es justo dar gracias y alabanzas a Dios.

Leader: Merciful God, you come into our midst, choosing to become one of us. Break our resistance to life with you; show us the path toward just relations; and use these gifts and offerings as instruments of your lasting peace. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

*Recessional Hymn #106*

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”  
Bereden Väg För Herran  
The Rev. Dr. Bush

*Charge & Benediction*

“Wachet auf – Finale”  
Wayne L. Wold

*Postlude*
As part of ELPC’s mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on Facebook and archived at www.ELPC.church. This notice is to inform you that by being in attendance, you give permission for incidences where you appear within the video. Should you have any questions, please see one of our pastors.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
Samantha Coggins
The Rev. Terri Pennybaker
Annabelle Javier and Jason Wilburn
Matteo and Sebastian Wilburn

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Jessye’s Carol Ensemble:
Jacob Berger, Peter Bianchi
Carly Noel Black
Adrianna Cleveland
David Jennings-Smith
Michael Painter, Mary Randolph
Denise Sheffey-Powell

Acolyte: Amiyah Parker
Beadle: Mark Statler
Crucifer: Mike Hellman
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Join us in the Fellowship Room after worship for a reception to welcome our new members and friends, sponsored by Membership & Outreach Committee.

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase flowers for our worship service, please contact Norma (412.441.3800 x111).

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP — 4th Sunday in Advent

8:45 am........Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.
Dec 22 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.

11 am........Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Dec 22 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

Extended Session
After the Moments with our 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 NAMETAG that your child wears to Extended Session every week.
* Young Children’s Ministry for infants and toddlers (up to age 3) — First Floor Nursery. Every Sunday.
* Preschool age children (through grade 1) — Room 110B.

♦ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Labyrinth Prayer Walk
A 38-foot floor mat with curved paths leading inward; an ancient tool for walking and seated meditation.
Mondays, 9 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 (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.
Available 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 also:

Stay after today’s service for our Fellowship Time in the Fellowship 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 to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more info or to register for future classes (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x122).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.
Church Events and Announcements
December 15, 2019 • 3rd Sunday of Advent

TODAY AT ELPC

Support the Giving Tree
Wrapped gifts, with tags attached, are due by noon today. If you would like to participate by donating money, make your check out to ELPC Giving Tree and deliver it to the church office or Pastor Patrice.

ELPC to Receive The Christmas Joy Offering
The only perfect gift ever given was the one we received in Jesus Christ, and The Christmas Joy Offering celebrates the coming of Jesus Christ, the “perfect gift” from a gracious God. We will receive the Christmas Joy Offering this morning at all worship services.

Heretics, Doubters & Other Saints
The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to our Heretics, Doubters, and Other Saints gathering. This time, we’ll explore what do/don’t we think/believe about Christmas. Join us in the 2nd floor Parlor from Noon-3 pm today for an open conversation where all ideas and questions will be welcome! Lunch will be provided.

Today’s Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)
Every Sunday, a DOD (Deacon-on-Duty) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our worship services.
The Journey service DOD is Elaine Phillips.
The Sanctuary service DOD is Linda Harrington.

Taizé Procession to the Manger — Dec 18
Join us on Wednesday, Dec 18 at 7 pm for a special Taizé Procession to the Manger.

Blue Christmas Service — Dec 21
To offer comfort and healing in a time of darkness, the ELPC Deacons will host the 3rd annual Blue Christmas Service in the Chapel on Saturday, Dec 21 at 6:30 pm. The service will help people hold onto the nativity message of hope. Come and be lifted up. Light refreshments will be served after the service.

Tour of Sanctuary and Chapel — Dec 22
Join guide Tom Morton on Sunday, Dec 22 after the Sanctuary worship service for an in-depth tour of the Sanctuary and Chapel. All are welcome to join the tour!

Sing in our All-Ages Christmas Eve Choir — Rehearse Dec 22
An all-ages choir will sing a simple anthem at our Christmas Eve Friends and Family service on Tuesday, Dec 24 at 5 pm, under the direction of Dr. Ed Moore. We will rehearse after Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Dec 22 for 30 –45 minutes. Persons of all ages and experience levels are welcome, but children and youth must be accompanied by an adult. RSVP to Dr. Ed (EdM@coh.net). The musical selection along with a recording will be sent to all singers in advance.

No Taizé Sung Prayer Service — Dec 25 and Jan 1
Please note we will not have a Taizé sung prayer service on Wednesdays, Dec 25 and Jan 1.

DG2! @ EECM — Dec 26
Youth in grades 4–12 from ELPC and Rodef Shalom will gather to make and serve dinner to the residents at EECM at the Doing Good Together (DG2!) event on Sunday, Dec 26 from 3-8 pm. We will meet at ELPC, travel to Rodef Shalom to cook, and then go to EECM to serve dinner. Permission slip and RSVP required. Please contact Sara Hackett for more info (SaraH@coh.net).

LGBTQ Ministry — Jan 12
All are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC’s LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, Jan 12 at 12:30 pm to share lunch and fellowship. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. For more details or to attend, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118). God created you. God loves you. Be yourself.

Chapel Market
The Chapel Market is in need of men’s and boy’s (sizes 5-6) winter clothing. Leave donations at the Highland Lobby.

Tour of Sanctuary and Chapel — Dec 22
Join guide Tom Morton on Sunday, Dec 22 after the Sanctuary worship service for an in-depth tour of the Sanctuary and Chapel. All are welcome to join the tour!
As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:
Kathy Callahan’s friend Shane,
David Carl’s friend’s son Morgan,
Martha DeMarzi’s friend,
Molly Dimond-Stephany’s sister-in-law,
Agnes Green, Cathie Hajdu,
Lee Lewand,
Polly McQueen’s brother Clay,
Carolyn Russ’ friend Norman,
Heather Schoenewolf’s niece Rose, and Pat Valoon.

Our condolences to Todd Farwell on his mother’s passing.
Our condolences to the family of Julianne McAdoo on her passing.
A memorial service will be held on
Wednesday, Dec 18 at 2 pm in the Sanctuary.

Committee Meeting This Week

Nominating.............................. Today, 12:15 pm (Highland Rm)

Enneagram Retreat Day — Jan 18
Join the Spiritual Life Committee on Saturday, Jan 18 from 9 am-4 pm for
A Day Retreat on the Enneagram. Lunch will be provided. There is no fee for the retreat; but we do ask that you let
the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan or Norma know if you plan to attend
(412.441.3800 x111).

Play Café — Jan 18
Families with kids of all ages are invited to come together for a time of fellowship and fun on Saturday, Jan 18 from 4-6 pm. At 4:30 pm, Kindermusik educator Christa Beck will lead a family music class where children and their caring grownups can move, play, sing and breathe together. Following music class, there will be a time of free play with stations for kids of all ages, and snacks for all. Just bring yourselves and a snack or appetizer to share. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Pastor Heather Schoenewolf (HeatherS@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x121).

Club 116 Meals Needed for 2020
Thank you to all who provided meals for our Wednesday night Club 116 this fall! The sign-up sheet for 2020 is now open and we would be grateful for more of you to share your time and talents with our youth. It can be a one-time sign up (or more if you want) on one Wednesday evening for a meal that feeds about 40-50. Stay and serve it to the youth, or drop it off if you are busy that evening. Whatever works for you! For more details, contact Kelli Booher (KelliB@coh.net), or sign up after today’s service in the Highland Ave hallway.

In our Community

PASUP December Plastic-Free Potluck — Today!
The PASUP December Plastic-Free Potluck will be held today from 5-7 pm at Temple Sinai (5505 Forbes Ave at Murdoch St, Squirrel Hill). Join them for informal conversation, networking and good food. Bring a plastic or other waste container to find out if it is recyclable. Bring food to share using no or minimal plastic in preparation and serving; save and bring any single-use plastic (SUP) that you did use to the event. Vegetarian and vegan dishes are encouraged (no pork or shellfish allowed due to the venue). This event is free, although small donations to help cover expenses would be appreciated. Please RSVP at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080848A5A728ABF49, but don’t hesitate to come even if you did not sign up in advance!

New Jail Ministry
ELPC is joining several other churches in supplying magazines, paperback books, dictionaries, Bibles, calendars, and puzzle books to inmates at the county jail. (No spiral bound or books/magazines of a military/weapon nature.) Donations may be left in the box at the Highland Lobby. Contact Judy Mancini (412.299.6160) for info.

Presbyterian Women’s Bible Study Winter Weather Closings
ELPC’s Presbyterian Women hold a Bible Study on the first Monday evening and Tuesday morning of each month. During the winter months, they will utilize the following system for canceling the Tuesday morning study in inclement weather: if Pittsburgh Public Schools close, there will be no Tuesday study; if Pittsburgh Public School have a 2-hour delay, the study will still be held. There is no impact on the Monday evening study.

Sunday School Classes for all Ages
Dec 22 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am
• ADULTS •

Contemporaries (McKeehy Rm) — “Keeping Christ in Christmas” led by Diana Armstrong and Aura Sofia Jirau

Journey with Scripture (Highland Rm) — Isaiah 7:10–16; Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19; Romans 1:1–7—Matthew 1:18–25 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) — “The Birth of Christ Then and Now” led by the Rev. Dr. Graham Standish

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A discussion of Gospel Stories of Jesus’ Origin, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, David Carl, Tom Whalen, and Linda Lan

There will be no Church School classes on Sundays, Dec 29 and Jan 5 for a Christmas holiday break.
Classes will resume on Winter Rally Day, Sunday, Jan 12.