Christmas Eve
FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE
2019 • 5 PM
Christmas Eve Family Service
December 24, 2019 — 5:00 PM

Time of Preparation

“O Holy God, we hear the story of shepherds and magi, of maiden and carpenter, of prophets and angels, and we too come to Bethlehem for a blessing. You are born in our hearts because you have chosen the weakness of our bodies for your birth. We are filled with love because you have taken upon yourself our humanity; we are filled with hope because you have offered us your Spirit, your life and your light; we are filled with faith because all that is meek and lowly and humble in us and in creation becomes holy this night. Our salvation has come into this holy time and we gather to say together, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all.”

— Maren C. Tirabassi

Prelude

“Carillon-Joy to the World”

“O Holy Night”

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ
Mary Beth Bennett
Cody Conley, violin
Adolphe Adam

Welcome & News of the Church

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

Tucker, Libby, Lucy and Junia Ferda

Leader: The angel said, “I bring you good news of great joy! For to you a Savior is born!
People: And so it is with joy that we tell this story once more.
Leader: The angels sang “Glory to God in the highest heaven! And on earth, peace for all.”
People: Together we sing praise to God and pray for peace.
Leader: Let us join our voices to tell this good news! Emmanuel, God-with-us, has come, and is coming again! Praise God!

* Hymn (music printed in bulletin)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Gloria

Prayer of the Day

Sara Hackett

Loving God, the Bible tells us that when Jesus was born, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We thank you for becoming one of us to show us the fullness of your love. Open our ears so that we might hear the story of Jesus’ birth with joy, and find strength and hope from this good news. Help us then to tell this story, not just in words but through our lives. May your love be visible through us as we point to the peace you provided through the Christ-child born in Bethlehem. In the name of your son Jesus we pray. Amen.

* Indicates where you may please rise in body or spirit.
Dec 24 • Christmas Eve Service

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**Hearing God’s Word**

Isaiah 9:2, 6
Luke 1:31, 2:10-14

The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. Ashley Detar Birt

**Moments With Our Children**

The Rev. Schoenewolf

**Hymn** (music printed in bulletin)

“Joy to the World”

**Hymn**

“Who’s Who?”

**Offering Invitation**

Lee, Stephanie, Taylor, Julia, Ramsey and Christian Lewand

Leader 1: ‘Together, we have heard the good news of Jesus’ birth
Leader 2: ‘Together, we have received God’s precious gift to all of us.
Leader 3: ‘So we respond with gratitude and offer our gifts too, as an act of worship, thanks and praise.
Leader 4: ‘With joyful hearts let us now receive this evening’s offering.

**Offertory Anthem**

Cody Conley, violin

“O Come, All Ye Faithful/O Little Town of Bethlehem”

**Hymn at the Presentation** (music printed in bulletin)

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Please sing the refrain, stanza 3 and refrain only.

--- THE LORD’S SUPPER ---

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

The Rev. Schoenewolf

**The Great Thanksgiving**

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

*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.*

**Words of Institution**

The Rev. Dr. Bush and The Rev. Schoenewolf

**Sharing the Bread & the Cup**

Note: The communion elements are bread and grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available. The congregation is invited to come forward to one of the four stations by using the center aisle to the communion servers where each may partake of the bread and the cup, placing the used cup in the basket provided, then returning to seats via the side aisles. Those not able to come forward will be served in their seats.

**Music During Communion**

Hymn (music printed in bulletin)  “Away in a Manger”
Solo  “The Jesus Gift”

Cradle Song
Gilbert Martin
David Jennings-Smith, soloist
**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Leader 1: We thank you, God, for coming to us in Baby Jesus to show us your love.

Leader 2: We thank you that you are Emmanuel, God-with-us, not just today, but always.

Leader 3: May we respond to this precious gift with the courage of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the praise of the angels, the wonder of the shepherds and the generosity of the magi. In the name of the Christ-child we pray. Amen.

* **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE & SHARING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

John 1:1-5  

The Rev. Schoenewolf

* **HYMN** (music printed in bulletin)  

“Silent Night”  

Stille Nacht

* **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

“Toccata on Antioch”

Dr. Moore, organ  
Craig Phillips

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.

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**WELCOME VISITORS!**

We are delighted that you have chosen to celebrate this season with us at ELPC, 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:

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 **February 9 and 16** during the Church School Hour (9:45-10:45 am) for an opportunity to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Contact Gloria Knopp for more info (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x122).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.
Please remember to turn off cell phones during worship. Hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers.

♦ Participants In Today's Service
Preaching: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Participants: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Ashley Detar Birt, Sara Hackett Tucker, Libby, Lucy and Junia Ferda
Doris Dick, Sharon and Dylan Geibel
Lee, Stephanie, Taylor, Julia, Ramsey and Christian Lewand
Libby, David and Noble Schoenewolf
Travis, Stephen, Michael and Parker Simpson-Hunt
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist and Music Director
Cody Conley, violin
Cantors: David Jennings-Smith
Pamela M. Kimmel
Mary Randolph
Robin Schmeider
Denise Sheffey-Powell
Beadles: Michele Bossers and Lenore Williams
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ Christmas Eve Worship
10 pm ...........Candlelight Service. Prelude music begins at 9:30 pm. The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

♦ 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
No Taizé services on Dec 25 or Jan 1.

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

♦ Worship Flowers
The poinsettia plants in the Sanctuary are in loving memory of the Honorable Andrew W. Mellon and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Beatty Mellon.

♦ Sunday Worship
There will be no Journey service on Sunday, Dec 29.
11 am ..........Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Dec 29 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

♦ New Year’s Eve
6:45 am ........World Healing Day. Join us in body or spirit in the Social Hall from 6:45–8 am for meditation and a walk on the labyrinth. Add your love and light to the healing of this world.
ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

1 Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju-bi-lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth- le-hem and see him whose birth the an-gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re- ply ech-o-ing their joy-ous strains.
What the glad-some ti-dings be which in-spire your heav-en-ly song?
come, a-dore on bend-ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.

Refrain

This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called “macaronic” or mixed-language texts.

(admin. Fleming H. Revell Company, a div. of Baker Publishing Group)

GLORIA
7.7.7.7 with refrain

CCLI #689547
riot in excelsis Deo!
JOY TO THE WORLD

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room,

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow

4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding far as the curse is found, far as the curse is

and wonders of his love, and wonders of his

and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4–9 in Christian terms, titling it “The Messiah’s coming and kingdom.” So “the Lord” here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
MUSIC: Attributed to George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836
Public domain

ANTIOCH
CM with repeat
(alternate tune: RICHMOND, 266)
GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Go, tell it on the mountain, o-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

Go, tell it on the moun-tain that Je-sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o’er si- lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a-bove the earth
3 Down in a low-ly man-ger the hum-ble Christ was born,

be-hold, through-out the heav-en’s there shone a ho-ly light.
rang out the an-gel cho-rus that hailed our Sav-iors birth.
and God sent us sal-va-tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativiy stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

TEXT: African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II, 1940
Music Harrn. © 1989 Melva Wilson Costen
CCLI #689547
AWAY IN A MANGER

Capo 5: (C) (Am) (C) (Dm)
F Dm F Gm

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay

(F) (G) (C) (Dm) (F) (G)
Bb C F Gm Bb C

the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
close by me forever and love me, I pray.

(C) (Dm)
F Gm

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,

(G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
C F Gm C F

the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

This anonymous carol probably originated among Pennsylvania Lutherans in the late 19th century, giving rise to a mistaken assertion that it had been written by Martin Luther. This tune is also by an American but has become the one usually used in Canada and Great Britain.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Little Children’s Book for Schools and Families, c. 1885; stanza 3, Gabriel’s Vineyard Songs, 1892
MUSIC: William James Kirkpatrick, 1895
CRADLE SONG
11.11.11.11
(alternate tune: MUELLER, 115)
SILENT NIGHT

1 Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
3 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
4 Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;

‘round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!”
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our

mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

ia: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!

grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

King: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

Music: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818
Public domain.