



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 www.ELPC.church

As a diverse community of believers, we strive to follow God — the Creator who calls us, Jesus who teaches us, and the Spirit who empowers us. We show God's unconditional love by providing a refuge for spiritual growth, ardently pursuing justice, and extending Christ's radical hospitality to all. (Strategic Vision mission statement, 2011)

DECEMBER 4, 2016 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SECOND 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*. The chorale it is based on is found at #349 in *Glory to God*.

The text for the hymn *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* dates back to the early years of the Protestant Reformation (1653). It was composed by Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676), who was a pastor and composer of over 100 hymns. This tune is also used for the hymn *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"Christ will come again, God's justice to complete,
To reap the fields of time and sift the weeds from wheat;
Then let us passionately care for peace and justice here on earth,
And evil's rage restrain with love, till Christ shall come again." — Brian Wren

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Johann Sebastian Bach

"Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645"

*Our worship begins with the Ministry of Music.
Please use this as a time for silent prayer and preparation.*

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes. The peace of Christ be with you.
People: Y también contigo. And also with you.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

Hannah Moon and Kevin Lee

Leader: As part of God's eternal covenant with us, prophets and messengers have been sent to prepare us for the coming of the Messiah. Like John the Baptist, they call us to righteousness, to justice and to work for peace.

As two candles are lit, the congregation sings Advent hymn #88 (vs. 1):

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Leader: We light these candles of hope and peace as we trust in the promises of God this day and for all our days to come.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #104

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Callahan

RESPONSE OF PRAISE #90 (please remain seated)

WAIT FOR THE LORD

"Wait for the Lord"

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart! (Repeat)

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER FOR
ILLUMINATION:
Your word, Holy God,
was written for our
instruction. By your Holy
Spirit open our ears and
fill us with the mysteries
of your ancient love. For
you are our Maker,
Savior, and Giver of Life,
one God, now and
forever. Amen.

It is likely that some
sects persisted during
the early years of the
Christian church –
groups that traced their
identity back to John the
Baptist. About 17,000 of
one such group called
the *Mandaeans* continues
even today in modern
Iran and Iraq. The
Jewish historian
Josephus described
John as “a good man
who commanded the
Jews to practice virtue by
exercising justice
towards one another and
piety towards God, and
to come together in
baptism.”

Charles Coffin
(1676-1749) was born in
Buzancy, Ardennes,
France and educated in
Paris. He authored over
100 hymns, including our
middle hymn this
morning, ***On Jordan’s
Bank the Baptist’s Cry***.
Due to his opposition to a
papal bull of Pope
Clement XI, Coffin was
denied last rites and a
Christian burial.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 11:1-5, 10 The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
*Our Extended Session program is provided for infants and toddlers up to age 3 in the first floor
Nursery and pre-school age through grade 1 in Room 151.*

* HYMN #96 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” WINCHESTER NEW

GOSPEL LESSON John 3:22-30 The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

SERMON “What Prophets Say About Jesus” The Rev. Dr. Bush

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles’ Creed can be found on pg 17 (English) or on pg. 40 (Español) in the
Glory to God hymnal.*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in
Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he
ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will
come to judge the living 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. (*Ecumen. Apostles’ Creed*)

MINUTE FOR MISSION Frances Wilson
Presbyterian Women Thank Offering

OFFERING INVITATION Frances Wilson
*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 “In Night’s Dim Shadows” Robert Lehman
text by Charles Coffin

*In night’s dim shadows lying, our limbs fast locked in sleep,
To thee, with faithful sighing, our souls their vigil keep.
Desire of every nation, hear, Lord, our piteous cry;
Thou Word, the world’s salvation, uplift us where we lie.
Lord, be thine Advent hastened, lest sin thy people mar;
The gates which Adam fastened — the gates of heaven, unbar.
Son, to thine endless merit, Redeemer, Saviour, Friend,
With Sire and Holy Spirit be praises without end. Amen.*

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607 OLD HUNDREDTH
The communion bread is being presented by Pamela Napier-Barnes and David Carl.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ADVENT PRAYER:
God most particular,
descending from
generalities to show
yourself in person, and
speak to John the
Baptizer in a particular
time and place, make our
love for you as particular
and specific as your love
for us, beginning here,
beginning now, through
Jesus Christ, the leveler
of mountains and the
straightener of crooked
ways. Amen.

ON THIS DATE
IN HISTORY:
James Monroe was
elected our 5th president
(1816); a Harrisburg, PA
convention for the Whig
Party nominated William
Henry Harrison for
president (1839); the
Senate approved U.S.
participation in the
United Nations (1945);
and Dianne Feinstein
became the first female
mayor of San Francisco
(1978). Near this date
was Rosa Parks' act of
civil disobedience
(Dec 1, 1955) and the
ratification of the 13th
amendment abolishing
slavery (Dec 6, 1865).

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.

— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Callahan

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: El Señor esté 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.

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. Fowler-Searcy

SHARING BREAD & CUP

*Note: The communion elements are bread and grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available. The
congregation is invited to come forward 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.*

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & WHOLENESS

*After receiving communion, worshipers may go to one of the prayer stations for intercessory prayers,
anointing with oil, and/or the laying on of hands.*

COMMUNION HYMN #497

ARGENTINE SANTO|BREAK NOW THE BREAD

"Bread of Life from Heaven"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

We give you thanks, Holy One, for all good things: for this universe, for
creatures and plants, water and food, light and darkness; for Jesus our brother
who set himself before us as the bread and wine of abundant life, and for the
Holy Spirit, who moves in our midst with the power to lead us to you. May
our lives be offerings of gratitude. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #93

TRURO

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

"Wachet auf – Finale"

Wayne L. Wold

*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. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
Hannah Moon and Kevin Lee
Frances Wilson
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Acolytes: Lydia Delp and Zaida Collins
Beadles: Michele Bossers and Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Margaret Edgecombe
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us for our Fellowship Time in the McKelvy Room, sponsored by the Toy Makers. They will also be holding their annual toy sale. 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 x18).

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

Today's flowers are in memory of Alvona Boozer, Sandy Kalsey and Vivian Martz, and in honor of the women of East Liberty Presbyterian Church.

◆ 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 11 — The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service.
Dec 11 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

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 a *New Members and Friends Class* TODAY to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Lunch provided. Please go to Room 244 to see if there is space in today's class, or contact Gloria Knopp for info on future classes (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x22).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.

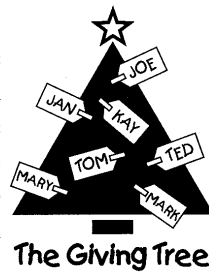
TODAY AT ELPC

Presbyterian Women Thank Offering

Presbyterian Women will honor the women of ELPC by receiving the Presbyterian Women *Thank Offering* today at our worship services. The *Thank Offering* supports programs that lift up the lives of women and children around the world. Please use the PW pew envelopes for these donations.

The Christmas Giving Tree

Every year, the Deacons organize the *Christmas Giving Tree* to benefit children and families from East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM), as well as our ELPC ministries. The *Giving Tree* will be set up near the Information Desk before and after our Journey and Sanctuary services today and our Taizé services on Wednesday, Dec 7. Stop by and pick up a tag!



Wrapped gifts with tags are due in the church office by noon on Sunday, Dec 11. To make a monetary donation, make your check payable to *ELPC Giving Tree* and deliver it to the church office.

Support the Toymakers' Annual Sale

The Toymakers have been working all year, producing toys for young children. Their devoted efforts will culminate with their annual Christmas sale following today's Sanctuary worship service in the McKelvy Room.

Available will be hand-made, holiday-related items made of wood and stained glass, as well as toys. Proceeds from the sale (you determine the amount) will keep the Toymakers in wood and paint—and the occasional tool—for the year ahead. ELPC members have always been most generous, and your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Tour the Trinity Chapel

Join Elder Penn Hackney following today's 11 am Sanctuary worship service to visit and learn about the small, beautiful Trinity Chapel. Gather at the front of the Sanctuary following the organ postlude, and allow 20–25 minutes for the tour.

New Members and Friends (Inquirers) Class

For those who have registered for today's *New Members and Friends* class, please gather in Room 244 after the 11 am service. If you would like to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology (with lunch) by attending a future class, please contact Gloria Knopp (412.441.3800 x22; GloriaK@coh.net).

Advent Devotionals Available

The Christian Education Committee is offering Advent Devotionals so that you might deepen your faith as you await the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child. The devotionals are on the table outside of the East Transept and on the Christian Education table on the 2nd floor. They will also be available at the Journey service.

Renovations are Coming Soon!

We anticipate renovation work to begin on ELPC in early 2017. To help prepare for this, you can meet with Renovations Committee members and hear more about the extent of the work and timing for the construction in the 1st floor Library following Sanctuary worship today or on Sunday, Dec 18.

DG2! @ ELPC

Doing Good Together! (a service based partnership with youth at Rodef Shalom) meets today from 12:30-3 pm. Youth in grades 4–12 and their families are encouraged to serve in a variety of ways. Lunch will be served. See Sara Hackett immediately after the service to participate.



LGBTQ Ministry Gathering – Dec 10

The next LGBTQ Ministry gathering is on Saturday, Dec 10 at 7:30 pm for the Renaissance City Choir concert, and going out after it is over. To attend or learn more, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x14).

Christmas Pageant – Dec 11

Join us at 10 am on Sunday, Dec 11 for a fresh retelling of the Christmas Story by our children and youth in the Sanctuary. This year's pageant, *Do You Hear What I Hear?*, was written by ELPC member Ashley Birt. *Please note: Pageant Rehearsal...* All children from infancy through grade 8 are invited to participate in our pageant. Rehearsal is at 9:30 am on Saturday, Dec 10, followed by a brief celebration hosted by the Christian Education Committee.

CHRISTMAS IN EAST LIBERTY

Friday, Dec 16 ♦ 7:30 pm

The Brass Roots will return for another festive concert with Dr. Ed Moore at the organ and ELPC's Chancel Choir. Please invite your friends and family to join us in the Sanctuary for this joyous concert!

A freewill offering will be received.



As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

Diana Armstrong, Chanteera Blackshear,
Sharron Boddy's sister,
Carol Bonner's cousin Mary Kay,
Kate Carlson's cousin Jack, Judi Dixon's husband Ken,
Mary Evrard's godmother Ginny,
Barbara Goodwin's husband John, Joe Hajdu,
Leigh Halverson's stepfather Brian,
Jan Herzer and her friends Francine, Bob and Mick,
Kathy Kierwa, Pam Kimmel's niece Jen, Lee Lewand,
Deborah Marx's friends Monica and Chris,
Polly McQueen's brother Clay,
Sonya-Marie and Nate Morley's brother-in-law Matty,
Jon Nelson's friend Clair, Jan Pressman's daughter Caryn,
Mary Randolph's mother Cecilia,
Betty Rieley, Cami Teacoach's friend Laura,
Bob Ross' mother Anne,
Heather Schoenewolf's cousin Louise,
Andrew Wilkinson's mother Leslie,
Pat Valoon.

Our condolences to the family of Jim Cover on his passing.

Our condolences to Doris Dick on her father's passing.

Our condolences to Sonya-Marie Morley on her uncle's passing.

Our condolences to the family of Nancy Thomas on her passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Special Session..... *Today, 12:15 pm (Rm 234)*
Christian Ed..... *Tuesday, 6:30 pm (Rm 244)*
Property..... *Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Session Rm)*

Feeling Crafty?

Contact Diane Jackson if you are interested in joining these groups (412.441.6021; dnjcks@verizon.net).

- ✦ *Knitting Group* — Tuesday, Dec 6, 1–3 pm
- ✦ *Toymakers* — Wednesday, Dec 14, 9–11:30 am
- ✦ *Sewing Group* — Monday, Dec 19, 2:30–6 pm

The Great Exchange: Music — Dec 11

On Sunday, Dec 11 at 12:30 pm in the Music Room, folks of all ages are invited to *The Great Exchange: Music*, a fun, interactive event where together—across the generations—we will explore some fun and intriguing discussion questions centered around the topic of music. We will enjoy a simple lunch while sharing our stories with one another. No preparation is necessary.

Christmas Day Celebration — Dec 25

All are invited to celebrate Christmas together as a church family after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec 25, in the McKelvy Room. Our time together will include brunch, music and fellowship. Please RSVP to Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.260.2554) by Sunday, Dec 18.

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Pittsburgh Youth Chorus Concert — Today!

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus (*formerly Children's Festival Chorus*) will present their winter concert *A Star in the Night* today at 4 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary. For tickets, please visit www.pittsburghyouthchorus.org.

Renaissance City Choir Holiday Concert — Dec 10

Come hear the Renaissance City Choir perform holiday music that celebrates the season but also brings a message of hope on Saturday, Dec 10 at 7:30 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary. RCC and the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra combine to perform selections from J.S. Bach's *Magnificat*. As always, RCC will also bring fun to this performance, with familiar and delightful songs of the season, sung with the RCC twist. This is a concert for all ages. The Renaissance City Choir is western Pennsylvania's only LGBTQ+Allies choral group. They are Artists-in-Residence at ELPC, where they practice and perform. For tickets, call 1.800.838.3006, or visit rccpittsburgh.com.

Belle Voci a Natale Concert — Dec 10

Belle Voci Women's Choir will present their 5th annual *Belle Voci a Natale* concert on Saturday, Dec 10 at 7:30 pm at Northmont United Presbyterian Church (8169 Old Perry Highway, 15237). Belle Voci will be joined by the Giambelli String Quartet of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Boy Choir and Gail Mertz Henry, organist. Donations of non-perishable food items will be collected at the door and donated to the Homewood-Brushton YMCA Food Bank.

Looking for a way to put your love in action?



Visit the iSERVE webpage at www.ELPC.church/programs/iserive-2 to learn about other service opportunities, or contact Wil Forrest (412.441.3800 x14).

◆ **Club 116 Dinner Provider for 2017** ◆

Church School Classes

There will be no classes next Sunday, Dec 11
so everyone can attend the
Christmas Pageant in the Sanctuary.

The Chapel Market Accepts Winter Outerwear Only



During November and December, *The Chapel Market* can accept **only** donations of winter outerwear (coats, jackets, gloves, scarves, hats, boots). Due to very limited storage space, no other clothing items please until after the Christmas holidays.