



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 2, 2018 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP FIRST 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert as we watch for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our judge and savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"There is no despair so absolute as that which comes with the first moments of our first great sorrow, when we have not yet known what it is to have suffered and be healed, to have despaired and recovered hope." — *George Eliot, Adam Bede*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
Johann Sebastian Bach

"Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" BWV 645

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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

Misia Goodson, Brynn Barker, Charles Davis

Leader: The world says, "All is lost."
God says, "All is loved."
The darkness says, "The light is dying."
The light says, "The fire is catching."
Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears."
Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."
As we light our first Advent candle, we pray for the holy hope of God.

The first candle is lit.

People: Come to us, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Hope.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #88 (verses 1-4)

VENI EMMANUEL

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #88 (verses 6-7)

VENI EMMANUEL

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

December 2 • First Sunday of Advent

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY:

St Paul's Cathedral, designed by Sir Christopher Wren was consecrated for use after the previous building was destroyed in the Great Fire of London (1697); Napoleon Bonaparte was crowned Emperor of France in Paris (1804); Manifest Destiny: US President James K. Polk announced to Congress that the United States should aggressively expand into the West (1845); Abolitionist John Brown was hung for murder, treason and conspiring slaves to revolt at Charles Town, VA (1859); the first Model A Ford sold for \$385 (1927); Japanese Marshal Admiral Yamamoto sent his fleet to Pearl Harbor (1941); paleoanthropologist Louis Leakey discovered 1.4 million year old Homo erectus (Olduvai Hominid 9) in Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania (1960); and the World Food Programme suspended critical food aid to more than 1.7 million Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt because of a lack of funds (2014).

The offertory anthem is based on the finale movement of Bach's Cantata 140. The chorale it is based on is found at #349 in *Glory to God*.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

David Jennings Smith

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 #359

"Freedom Is Coming"

FREEDOM IS COMING

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

"In Days to Come"

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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*)

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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

Johann Sebastian Bach

"Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Is Sounding"

"Sleepers, wake!" a voice is sounding, from watch to watch the call rebounding: "Awake, Jerusalem, awake!" Midnight past, the hour is nearing when in the east, the darkness clearing, a new and brighter dawn will break. The bridegroom to receive. Arise! your couches leave, your torches, light, and mount the height of Zion's wall to greet Christ's coming, one and all.

Let all creatures now adore Christ, people and angels bow before Christ, with harp and lute in sweet accord. From the pearly gates and towers the cherubim proclaim Christ's powers and spread aloud Christ's mighty word. No mortal eye or ear did ever see or hear such joyous thing; let therefore ring the song of praise that to almighty God we raise.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH

The communion bread is being presented by Josh and Michelle Bard and family.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Christ, all creatures here below.

Praise Holy Spirit evermore.

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

BORN ON THIS DAY:
Randolph Apperson
Hearst, American
newspaper publisher of
Hearst Newspapers
(1915-2000); Alexander
Haig Jr, American
General and 59th
Secretary of State (1981-
82), born in Bala
Cynwyd, Pennsylvania
(1924-2010); Gianni
Versace, Italian fashion
designer of Versace,
born in Reggio Calabria,
Italy (1946-1997); and
Carol Shea-Porter,
American
Congresswoman,
representing 1st District
of New Hampshire
(1952).

Wayne L. Wold's festive
setting of *Sleepers 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. Schoenewolf

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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. Fowler-Searcy and The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 #514

SCHMÜCKE DICH

“Soul, Adorn Yourself With Gladness”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

God of abundance, with the bread of life and cup of salvation, you have united us with Christ, making us one people with you and with all people. Now send us out in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #109

MERLE'S TUNE

“Blest Be the God of Israel”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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. Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers.

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♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Brynn Barker
Charles Davis
Misia Goodson
David Jennings Smith
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Michael Painter, *Organ Accompanist*
Acolytes: Mable Buben and Annie Cowan
Beadles: Polly McQueen and Erich Stein
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us in the Fellowship Room after worship for the *Toymakers' Annual Toy Sale and Fellowship Time*. All are welcome!

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

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers today are in loving memory of Eugenia Smith, presented by her sister Martha DeMarzi.

♦ 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 9 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Dec 9 — 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 110B.*

♦ 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 (*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:

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* TODAY and next Sunday from 12:30-2 pm in the 3rd floor Music Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Contact Gloria Knopp to register for next week (GloriaK@coh.net).

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



TODAY AT ELPC

Want to Become Part of our Faith Family?

If you're interested in becoming an ELPC member or friend, stay for our *Inquirers' Class* following Sanctuary worship today and next Sunday. Please see Pastor Randy Bush immediately after the service if you'd like to attend today's class, or call Gloria Knopp (412.441.3800 x122) to register for next Sunday's class.

Facing Systemic Racism Event

Please join us for the final event in our *Facing Systemic Racism Series* today at 12:30 pm in the Good Samaritan Room (#G12) as we discuss where we, as a church, go next to address systemic racism. Your reflections and input will help guide future events, action, and programs at ELPC. A light lunch will be served.

Toymakers' Annual Sale

The ELPC 'Toymakers' annual sale will be held following today's service in the Fellowship Room. Available will be a sampling of the toys they make for distribution to women's shelters and mission trips, as well as ornaments, shelf elves, and Nativity puzzles.



Support the Christmas Giving Tree

Stop by the *Giving Tree* near the Hospitality Desk today, next Sunday, or on Wednesday, Dec 5 and select a gift tag. Deacons will be on hand to offer assistance. Wrapped gifts, with tags securely attached, are due back in the church office no later than noon on Sunday, Dec 16. To participate by donating money, please make checks out to *ELPC Giving Tree* and deliver it to the church office.

Stained Glass Tour

All are welcome to attend a stained glass tour after today's 11 am worship service. Please gather in the Chancel.

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Liz Gonda**.
The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Trish Buben**.

Advent Devotionals Available

As a gift to you this season, the Christian Education committee is offering a range of Advent devotional materials. You can pick up your copy at the Journey service, on the 2nd floor CE table, or near the Hospitality Desk.

Holiday Shopping in the Name of Love – Dec 4

If you shop at Thousand Villages (5820 Forbes Ave) on Tuesday, Dec 4 from 6-8 pm, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the ELPC Deacons. This event is an opportunity to support those artisans far away, and support those in our midst who are most in need this holiday season. Call Tucker Ferda for info (406.249.9811).

TRAIL Event: First Friday @ Shadracks – Dec 7

Young adults are invited to the TRAIL event *First Friday @ Shadracks* on Dec 7. Meet at ELPC at 7 pm to drive to Butler for the *world's largest drive-through, fully synchronized, LED Christmas light and music show of its kind!* RSVP to Kelli Booher (KelliB@coh.net) to save your seat in the van.

Jr. High Service Project – Dec 8

Following our Christmas Pageant rehearsal on Saturday, Dec 8, youth in grades 6–8 will share lunch, then spend the afternoon shopping for Christmas gifts for children who are in foster care through Project STAR, a program of the Children's Institute.

Christmas Pageant: A Story of Unity – Dec 9

Join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, Dec 9 at 10 am as the children of our church tell and enact the Christmas story. Written once again by the Rev. Ashley DeTar Birt, narrators will remind us of how Christ's birth drew unlikely people together in joy and hope. *There will be a dress rehearsal for all participants on Saturday, Dec 8 from 9:30–11 am, followed by a Christmas party for the children who are participating.*

Mini-Retreat on the Incarnation – Dec 9

All are welcome to join us after Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Dec 9 from 12–3 pm in the 2nd floor Parlor as we focus on entering into the reality of the Incarnation. Lunch provided. *Sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee.*

Christmas in East Liberty – Dec 14

Our *Christmas in East Liberty* Cathedral Concert will take place on Friday, Dec 14 at 7:30 pm, with performances by The Brass Roots, organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Saxophonist Mike Tomaro, and the ELPC Chancel Choir! A freewill offering will be received. The concert will feature the premiere of *I Wonder as I Wander*, offered in memory of Gabriel D'Abruzzo, former ELPC music associate.

Blue Christmas Service and Gathering – Dec 15

The ELPC Deacons invite you to a *Blue Christmas* worship service and gathering on Saturday, Dec 15 at 7 pm. There will be a brief worship experience led by the Rev. Tony Richardson-Eckes and Tucker Ferda, with assistance from Joe Kiewra, and then a time of gathering and sharing food in the Fellowship Room. All are welcome!



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

Tim Benedict's aunt Lois,
David Carl's aunt Yvonne,
Carol Chontos' father David,
Molly Dimond-Stephany's sister-in-law Andrea,
Lee Lewand,
Jon Nelson's friend Dan,
Sandra Owen's sister Carol,
Ashleigh Parker,
Henry Petrilli,
Cameron Teacoach and her friend Celina,
Pat Valoon's friend Patti,
and Chris Wharton's grandmother Mary Lou.

Committee Meetings This Week

Nominating.....Today, 12:00 pm (2nd fl Library)
Property.....Tuesday, 7:00 pm (2nd fl Library)

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering – Dec 16

All are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, Dec 16 at 12:30 pm. Contact Wil Forrest for info or to attend (Wil@coh.net).

Church Tour

All are welcome to attend a church tour after the 11 am worship service on the following dates:

- ✦ Dec 16 — Trinity Chapel
- ✦ Dec 30 — Sanctuary/Chapel

Café Justo Coffee for Sale – Dec 23

Café Justo Coffee will be available for sale during *Fellowship Time* on Sunday, Dec 23. It makes a great last-minute gift for that coffee lover in your life! For just \$10/pound, your purchase will support this fair trade cooperative and help provide a sustainable income for Mexican coffee farmers. Check or cash only. *Note: Café Justo will be sold on the 4th Sunday of each month in 2019.*

No Taizé Sung Prayer Service – Dec 26

Please note we will not have a Taizé sung prayer service on Wednesday, Dec 26.

DG2! (Doing Good Together) Project – Dec 27

Youth in grades 4–12 from ELPC and Rodef Shalom will gather together on Thursday, Dec 27 from 3–8 pm to make and serve dinner to the residents at East End Cooperative Ministry. Contact Sara Hackett for info (SaraH@coh.net).

Tween Movie Night – Dec 28

Youth (grades 4–6) will enjoy pizza, popcorn and a movie at *Tween Movie Night* from 6–8 pm on Friday, Dec 28. Bring a friend and send your movie suggestions to Sara Hackett!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

There will be no Church School classes next Sunday so that everyone can attend the Christmas Pageant, nor on Sundays, Dec 23 and 30 for a Christmas holiday break.

In our COMMUNITY

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus Winter Concert – Dec 2

The talented young singers of *Pittsburgh Youth Chorus* will present their annual winter concert in the ELPC Sanctuary on Sunday, Dec 2 at 4 pm.

You will hear thrilling and heartwarming music perfect for the season, including *Once in Royal David's City*, *Sing to the Lord a New Song*, *Carol of the Bells* and so much more. Plus, experience the combined choirs of PYC perform *What the World Needs Now Is Love* arranged by Gerald Savage of Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12. There will also be an audience sing-along! Tickets are available at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3819843.

Belle Voci Performances – Dec 6, 14 and 15

Hear Belle Voci of Pittsburgh perform live with River City Brass on Thursday, Dec 6 at 7:30 pm at Carnegie Music Hall (Oakland). Belle Voci will also perform their annual *A Natale* concert on Friday, Dec 14 at 7:30 pm at Faith United Methodist Church (261 W Chapel Ridge Rd, 15238) and on Saturday, Dec 15 at 7:30 pm at First Baptist Church of Pgh (159 N Bellefield Ave, 15213). Visit www.bellevocipgh.com for tickets and info.

Renaissance City Choir Concert – Dec 8

The Renaissance City Choir presents its holiday concert *Find JOY Together* at ELPC on Saturday, Dec 8 at 7:30 p.m. The concert features *Gloria* by John Rutter, accompanied by members of the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra, and includes a *Grinch!* Medley, *Home for the Holidays*, *Hine Ma Tov*, and *1000 Grandmothers*. The 90 member choir is Western PA's only LGBTQIA+ choir, and rehearses and performs at ELPC. Tickets are available online at www.rccpittsburgh.org.

Film Viewing: In the Executioner's Shadow – Dec 13

Pennsylvanians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty and the ACLU are co-sponsoring the free showing of the film *In the Executioner's Shadow* on Thursday, Dec 13 at 7 pm at the First Unitarian Church (605 Morewood Ave). Following the film there will be a presentation and discussion on the *Joint State Government Report and Recommendations regarding the Justice System in PA* published in June, 2018. Everyone is welcome. For more info, please contact Vivienne Selia (vselia@comcast.net).

Looking for a way to put your love in action?



If you have something to share, visit the iSERVE webpage at www.ELPC.church/programs/iserve-2, or contact Jim DiGiorgio (JimD@coh.net).

◆ Food 4 Thought needs a Mentor
for a youth on Thursday evenings ◆