



# 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 1, 2019 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The prelude setting of *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* is from Johann Sebastian Bach's (1685-1750) collection of chorale preludes called *Das Orgelbüchlein* (Little Organ Book). This chorale is found in the purple *Glory to God* hymnal #102.

**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

"We must let go of the life we planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us."  
— Joseph Campbell

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*  
"Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland" Helmut Walcha  
"Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 599" J. S. Bach  
(*Savior of the Nations, Come*)

### 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

David Carl and Dorothy J. Carl

Leader: When I look around, I see shadows of hunger, people in need here and around the world.  
Leader: When I look around, I see shadows of injustice, of anger and violence, sadness and despair.  
Leader: In the face of brokenness, hunger, injustice, we boldly light a candle of hope.

*The first candle is lit.*

*Congregation sings vs. 1 of hymn #88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" as candle is lit.*

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: Friends, be not afraid. God's hope is at hand!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #83

STUTTGART

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

### SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #90

WAIT FOR THE LORD

"Wait for the Lord"

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

\* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

## December 1 • First Sunday of Advent

\* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 130

Samantha Coggins

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

*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.*

What is our tragedy but  
our failure to grasp what  
Christ can do for our  
lives here and now? And  
what is our glory but to  
discover with him how to  
live in heaven even while  
we live on earth?  
(Howard G. Hageman)

\* HYMN #92

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

WAITING

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 23:33-46

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

“Words of Hope from the Cross”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Rev. Dr. Bush

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are **called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor** life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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

“People, Look East”

BESANÇON

Martin Shaw/Eleanor Fajeon

*The text can be found in the Glory to God hymnal #105.*

\* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH

*The communion bread is being presented by Ben and Katie Fitzpatrick.*



The tune name  
BESANÇON is named for a  
town in Eastern France.  
Eleanor Farjeon (1881-  
1965) was a children's  
author in England. Her  
most widely known work  
is the hymn *Morning Has  
Broken*.

Optimism means faith in  
the potential of  
humankind; hope means  
faith in God and in God's  
omnipotence.  
(Carlo Carretto)

\* 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).

The postlude setting of  
*Nun komm, der Heiden  
Heiland* is from Johann  
Sebastian Bach's (1685-  
1750) collection of  
chorale preludes known  
as the *Leipzig Chorales*,  
as they are from the final  
period of his life when he  
lived and worked in  
Leipzig, Germany.

— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

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 Rev. Dr. Bush

*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. Callahan

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 #102

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Terri Pennybaker

God of righteousness and infinite patience, you have promised to redeem the whole creation when Christ comes again. In faith and hope we offer our gifts of money and self, that we may be part of what you are doing in the world **even now, as we watch for Christ's coming in glory. In Christ's name we pray.** Amen.

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN #107

REJOICE, REJOICE

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

"Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661"

J. S. Bach

(Savior of the Nations, Come)

*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.*



*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](http://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. Mary Lynn Callahan  
The Rev. Terri Pennybaker  
David Carl and Dorothy J. Carl  
Samantha Coggins  
Sara Hackett  
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*  
*Music Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
Acolyte: Samantha Brake-Hoffman  
Beadle: Liz Hopkins  
Crucifer: Charlotte Brake-Hoffman  
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us for our *Fellowship Time* after worship in the Fellowship Room. 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 presented by Tamara Golden in loving memory of her mother Gail Noden, and grandparents George and Norma Noden.

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP — 2nd 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 8* — 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 8* — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf 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.

\* *Pre-school 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* TODAY and Dec 8 during the Sunday School hour to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more info ([GloriaK@coh.net](mailto:GloriaK@coh.net); 412.441.3800 x122).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church).



### TODAY AT ELPC

#### Support the Giving Tree — Today and Dec 8

The ELPC Deacon Board organizes the *Christmas Giving Tree* to benefit children and families from East End Cooperative Ministry, ELPC's Mission and Christian Education Ministries, and—for the first time—Casa San José. Today and next Sunday, the *Giving Tree* will be in the Social Hall during Journey worship, and by the Highland Ave entrance from 9:30 am–12:30 pm. The *Giving Tree* will also be available during our Taizé prayer service on Wednesday, Dec 4. Deacons will be on hand to help you record your name and phone number, along with the information from your tag.

Wrapped gifts, with tags attached, are due by noon on Sunday, Dec 15. 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.

#### Wholistic Wellness Ministry Event

Looking for a healthy alternative to soda pop? Join the “Kefir Chicks” in the McKelvy Room following today's Sanctuary worship to learn about a fermented beverage called “water kefir.” You also will have an opportunity to sample the different flavors of this natural probiotic.

#### 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 **Beth Minnigh**.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Elaine Phillips**.

#### Advent Devotional Materials Available

The Children and Family Ministry is pleased to offer devotional resources for your Advent journey. They are available on tables outside of each worship service, on the 1st floor below the monitor near the Highland entrance, and on the 2nd floor Christian Education Table.



#### Holiday Shopping in the Name of Love — Dec 2

Get your Christmas shopping started early at Ten Thousand Villages (5820 Forbes Ave) on Monday, Dec 2 from 6-8 pm. Ten Thousand Villages is an independent nonprofit organization that supports artisans from around the globe by establishing a sustainable market for their products in North America. This special shopping event supports those artisans, as well as the ELPC Thanksgiving Food Ministry, which supports those in our midst who are in need. ELPC Deacons will be present to offer snacks and refreshments to shoppers. Contact deacon Tucker Ferda (406.249.9811) for more info.

#### Presbyterian Women Bible Study — Dec 2 and 3

Join Presbyterian Women at 7 pm tomorrow, or at 10 am on Tuesday, Dec 3 for their 2019–2020 Bible study titled *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*. Monday's group meets in the Trustees' Room. Tuesday's group meets in the 2nd fl Parlor followed by lunch (soup and sides provided by the members).

#### Young Adult Dinner — Dec 6

Young Adults are invited to a dinner hosted by Pastor Randy at the manse on Friday, Dec 6 at 6:30 pm. RSVP by Dec 3 to Kelli (KelliB@coh.net).

#### Tween Craft Night — Dec 6

Twins in grades 4–6 are invited to enjoy crafts and pizza at *Tween Craft Night* on Friday, Dec 6 from 6-8 pm. If you are working on a project, bring it with you. There also will be craft supplies here—some of which will make great Christmas gifts. Friends are welcome! RSVP required to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

#### Become a Member of our Faith Family — Dec 8

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* next Sunday, Dec 8 from 9:45-10:45 am in Room 203 to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please contact Gloria Knopp to register (GloriaK@coh.net).

#### Toymakers' Toy Sale — Dec 8

The Toymakers' annual *Toy Sale* will be held following the Sanctuary worship service on Sunday, Dec 8. Our special project this year is a fleet of Noah's arks, each complete with Mr. and Mrs. Noah, a small herd of animals with a handy carry-all bag, and also some seasonal decorations.

#### Café Justo Coffee for Sale — Dec 8

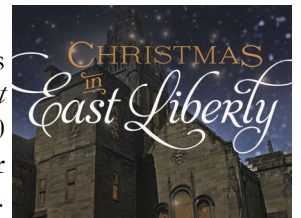
Café Justo Coffee will be available for sale next Sunday, Dec 8. For just \$10/pound, your purchase will support this fair trade cooperative. Check or cash only please.

#### Underground Tour — Dec 8

Join tour guide Tim VanFleet next Sunday, Dec 8 after the Sanctuary worship service for an underground basement tour. Please gather in the Highland Lobby after worship.

#### Christmas in East Liberty — Dec 13

Our *Cathedral Concerts* series continues with *Christmas in East Liberty* on Friday, Dec 13 at 7:30 pm. The Brass Roots, conductor Lance LaDuke, organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore, and the ELPC Chancel Choir will combine for an East Liberty tradition, featuring holiday favorites for brass, organ, choir, and audience! The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be received.





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

David Carl's friend's son Morgan,  
Martha DeMarzi's friend,  
Molly Dimond-Stephany's sister-in-law,  
Agnes Green, Mary Lenox's friend Claudia, Lee Lewand,  
Deborah Marx's friend Sharon, Julianne McAdoo,  
Polly McQueen's brother Clay,  
Carolyn Russ' friend Norman,  
Heather Schoenewolf's niece Rose, and Pat Valoon.

*Congratulations to Kay and Allan Slagle  
on the birth of their son, Eli.*

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### Committee Meetings This Week

Nominating..... Today, 12:00 pm (Highland Rm)  
Property..... Tuesday, 7:00 pm (2nd fl Library)  
Mission Board ..... Thursday, 7:00 pm (2nd fl Library)

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#### Middle School Mission Project – Dec 14

Youth in grades 6–8 are invited to go shopping on Saturday, Dec 14 from 11:30 am-2:30 pm to help choose gifts for children who are spending the holiday season in foster care. We will have lunch after pageant rehearsal and then walk to Target. RSVP to Sara (SaraH@coh.net).

#### Children's Christmas Pageant of "Why?" – Dec 15

Join us in the Sanctuary on Sunday, Dec 15 at 10 am as we consider the reason for the season in terms of our faith and our lives at the annual children's Christmas Pageant. *Notes: Dress rehearsal for all participants is on Saturday, Dec 14 from 9:30–11 am, followed by a Christmas party for the participants. If a student can't attend rehearsal, but will be here for the pageant, they are welcome! Let your Church School teacher know.*

#### Heretics, Doubters & Other Saints – Dec 15

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to our next *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 on Sunday, Dec 15 from Noon-3 pm for an open conversation where all ideas and questions will be welcome! Lunch will be provided.

#### ELPC to Receive The Christmas Joy Offering – Dec 15

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* on Sunday, Dec 15 at all worship services.

#### 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.

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

#### Holiday Maker Fair & Market – Dec 5

Join the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library for an evening of gift making, local shopping and seasonal refreshments on Thursday, Dec 5 from 6-8 pm. Crafts will be available to make, and local vendors will feature products for sale. For more info, call 412.363.8232.

#### Gifts of Hope Fair Trade Shopping Event – Dec 7

Attend the *Gifts of Hope Fair Trade Shopping Event* with over 15 worldwide vendors, live music, and complimentary coffee and donuts at East End Cooperative Ministry (6175 Harvard St, 15206) on Saturday, Dec 7 from 10 am-2 pm. For more info, visit [www.pittsburghfairtrade.com](http://www.pittsburghfairtrade.com).

#### Pittsburgh Youth Chorus Winter Concert – Dec 8

The talented young singers of Pittsburgh Youth Chorus will present their annual winter concert on Sunday, Dec 8 at 4 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary. Hear heartwarming music for the holiday season, with an audience sing-along. For info and tickets, visit [www.pittsburghyouthchorus.org](http://www.pittsburghyouthchorus.org).

#### RCC Holiday Concert – Dec 14

The Renaissance City Choir presents its holiday concert *The Many Moods of the Holidays* in the ELPC Sanctuary on Saturday, Dec 14 at 7:30 pm. The concert explores the emotions that this time of year elicits from people. A cookie reception will follow in the Social Hall. The 95 member choir is Western PA's only LGBTQIA+ choir. Tickets are available online at [www.rccpittsburgh.org](http://www.rccpittsburgh.org).

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#### LGBTQ Ministry Events

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. In December, we will be doing our annual Advent retreat and attending the RCC holiday concert together. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks welcomed. Contact Wil to attend (412.441.3800 x118).

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### — SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES —

Dec 8 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

**Contemporaries (McKelvy Rm)** — "You'll Never Guess What's in the Bible" led by the Rev. Tony Richardson-Eckes

**Journey with Scripture (Highland Rm)** — Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19; Romans 15:4–13; Matthew 3:1–12 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 *Inspired—Loving the Bible Again, Church Stories*, led by Michele Bossers, John Benedict, Michelle Yamada, and Joshua Bard