

Christmas Eve

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE

2019 • 5 PM



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

116 South Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206



412.441.3800

www.ELPC.church



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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)

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

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.
People: Y también contigo.

The peace of Christ be with you.
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

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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”

ANTIOCH

HOMILY

“Who’s Who?”

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

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

Cody Conley, *violin*

* HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION (*music printed in bulletin*)

GO TELL IT

“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

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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. 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)
Solo

“Away in a Manger”
“The Jesus Gift”

CRADLE SONG
Gilbert Martin
David Jennings-Smith, *soloist*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Doris Dick, Sharon and Dylan Geibel

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 & BLESSING

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.



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 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

◆ 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.

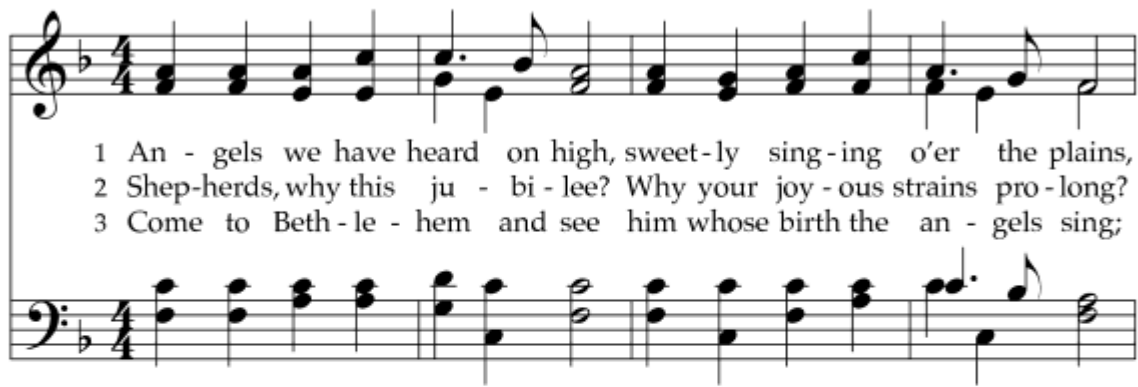
11 amSanctuary Worship. Our largest service
with a multi-cultural congregation and
music from organ, piano and choir.
Dec 29 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
preaching.

◆ NEW YEAR'S EVE

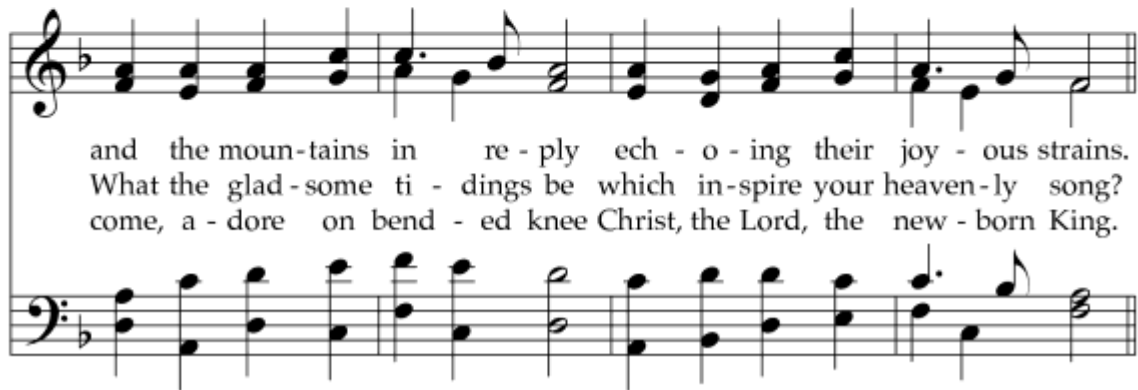
6:45 amWorld Healing Day. Join us
in body or spirit in the Social
Hall from 6:45–8 am for
meditation and a walk on the
labyrinth. Add your love and
light to the healing of this
world.



ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing 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 heaven-ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo -

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.



JOY TO THE WORLD

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,


and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

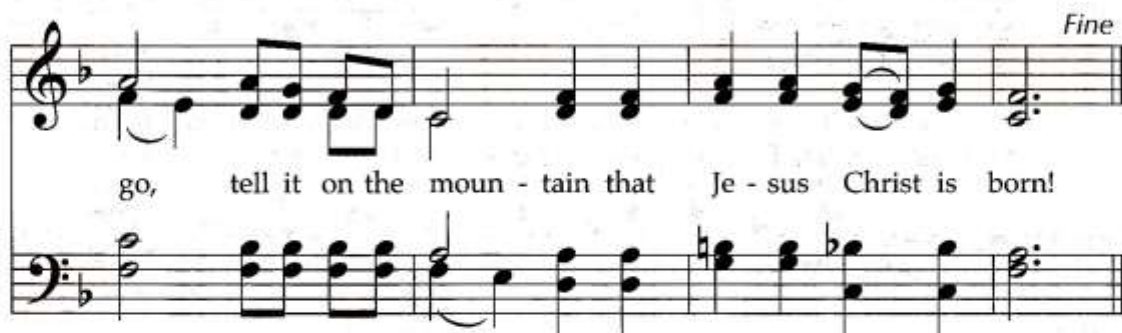
While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4–9 in Christian terms, titling it “The Messiah’s coming and kingdom.” So “the Lord” here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

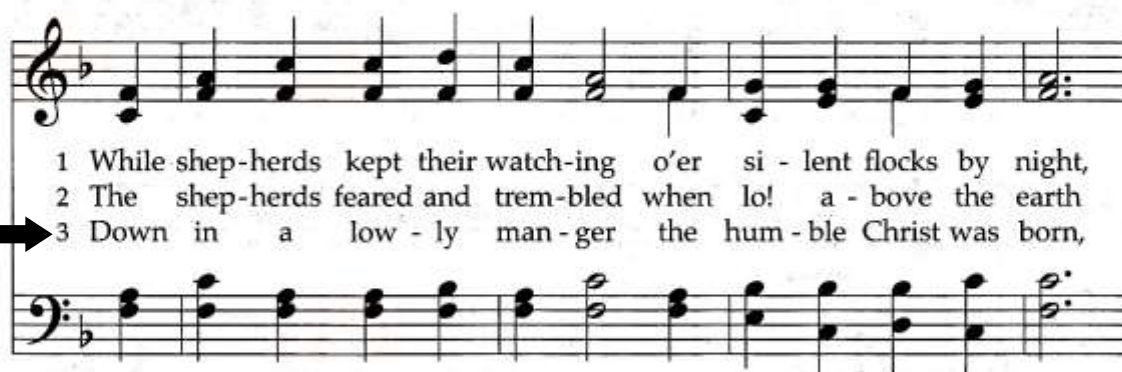
Refrain 



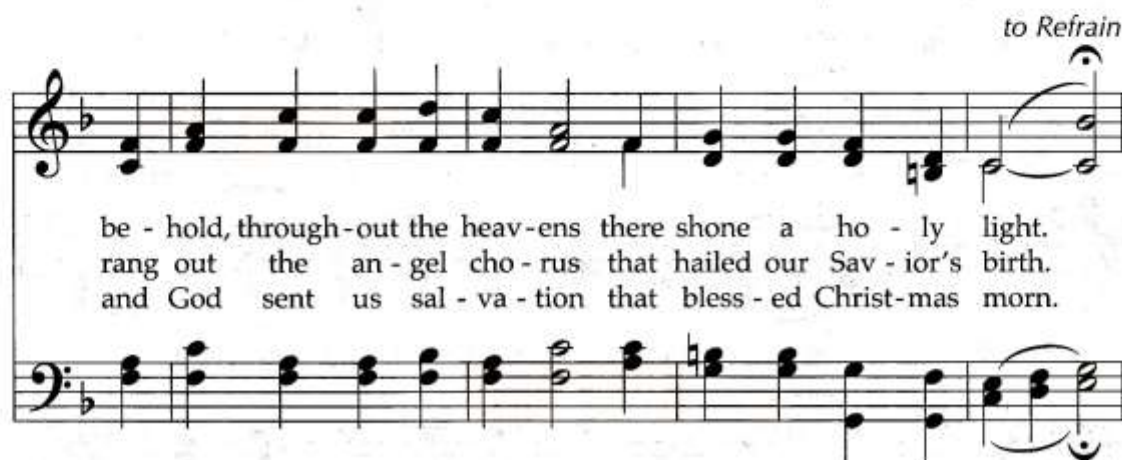
Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



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,



to Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's 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 Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

TEXT: African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II, 1940

MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. John W. Work III, 1940; harm. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987
Music Harm. © 1989 Melva Wilson Costen

GO TELL IT

7,6,7,6 with refrain

CCLI #689547

AWAY IN A MANGER

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

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(F) B \flat (G) C (C) F (Dm) Gm (F) B \flat (G) C

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(C) F (Dm) Gm

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

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

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en 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 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1816; stanzas 1-3, English trans. John Freeman Young, 1863;
 stanza 4, English trans. Jane Montgomery Campbell, 1863, alt.
 Music: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818
 Public domain.

STILLE NACHT
 Irregular

