Christmas Eve
8 pm Candlelight Worship Service 2020
East Liberty Presbyterian Church
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)

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2020 — 8:00 PM

Prelude

“In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729”
Johann Sebastian Bach
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ
Mary E. Caldwell
Robin Schmeider, soloist
Gustav Holst
Cody Conley, violin
Teresa Jennings
Michael Warren, soloist
arr. Harry Simeone
Denise Sheffey-Powell, soloist
as recorded by Bing Crosby and David Bowie
Todd Farwell and David Jennings Smith, soloists
Jason Robert Brown
Adrianna Cleveland, soloist
Marcel Dupré
Dr. Moore, organ
Adolphe Adam
Gail Novak Mosites, soloist

CALL TO WORSHIP & ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING

Leader: Once more we light the Advent candles, although our time of waiting is almost at an end. We light a candle of peace, as we await the one called the Prince of Peace.
First candle is lit.
Leader: We light a candle of hope, as we prepare our hearts for the Savior who was, who is, and who is to come.
Second candle is lit.
Leader: We light a candle of joy, as we celebrate the birth of Immanuel, God with us.
Third candle is lit.
Leader: And we light a candle of love, knowing that on Christmas Eve love came down in the form of a child born in a manger, bringing grace upon grace to each of us and for all the world. O come, all ye faithful – let us worship God!
Fourth candle is lit.
Dec 24 • Christmas Eve Service

CAROL
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

PRAYER OF ADORATION
Loving God, as you came at night when all was still, so enter our lives this night. Wherever we are now, be near to us. Illuminate our homes and our paths with the light of Christ’s presence, that we may clearly see the way, the truth, and the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, Mother of us all, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC
“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”

David Jennings-Smith, soloist
Robert MacGimsey

READINGS FOR THE SEASON — THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Schoenewolf
The Rev. Woodworth

ELPC CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

READINGS FOR THE SEASON — WHEN JOSEPH CAME TO BETHLEHEM

by J. Barrie Shepherd
The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Woodworth

SPECIAL MUSIC
“Christmas Bell Medley”
Christine D. Anderson/Daniel Kramlich
Keith Irvin, handbells

READINGS FOR THE SEASON — QUOTES FROM DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Schoenewolf

SPECIAL MUSIC
“The Who Would Imagine a King”
Marvyn Warren/Hallerin Hilton Hill
Adrianna Cleveland and Michael Warren, soloists

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Isaiah 11:1-2, 6
Isaiah 12:2, 6
Isaiah 60:1-3, 6, 22
Luke 2:1-17

The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Schoenewolf
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Woodworth
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

CAROL
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

SCRIPTURE LESSON
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON
“From Darkness to Light”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

CAROL
“What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

OFFERING INVITATION
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. Please visit www.ELPC.church/donate if you would like to make a contribution.
— THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
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.
Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty …

THE LORD’S PRAYER
The Rev. Schoenewolf

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
The Rev. Dr. Bush

SHARING THE BREAD & THE CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION
The Brass Roots
“O Magnum Mysterium” Morten Lauridsen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
The Rev. Woodworth
God of grace and peace, as you have shared your life with us through the child in the manger and this simple meal together, let us share your life with others as the body of Christ in the world, the hands, voice, eyes and heart of Christ wherever we go. May we ever live as instruments of your great love. Amen.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE
John 1:1-5, 14 The Rev. Dr. Bush

CAROL
“The First Nowell” The Rev. Dr. Bush

STILLE NACHT

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

CAROL
“The First Nowell” The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE
“Toccata on Antioch” Dr. Moore, organ Craig Philips

PARTICIPANTS

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/Music Director
Quartet: Adrianna Cleveland, Robin Schneider, Michael Painter, Todd Farwell
Soloists: Adrianna Cleveland, Todd Farwell, David Jennings-Smith, Gail Novak Mosites
Keith Irvin, Handbells
Cody Conley, Violin
The Brass Roots
A/V: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Music Videos Recording and Editing
O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem! Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
got ten, not created! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

2 True God from true God, Light from light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; very God, begotten, not created! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

3 Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; asus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, born the King of angels! glory in the highest! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him,

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, the Lord! O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt.
MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906

ADESTE FIDELES
Irregular
HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glo-ry to the new-born king.
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord,
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!”
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin’s womb.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal-ing in his wings.

Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate de-i-ty,
Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim, “Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!”
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, “Hark, how all the welkin rings.” The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg’s introduction of moveable type.

TEXE: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.
MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855
MENDELSOHN 7.7.7.7.D with refrain
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born king!”
WHAT CHILD IS THIS

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
2 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, 1871
MUSIC: English ballad, 16th cent.; arr. Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871
SILENT NIGHT, HOLY 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 "Al-le-lu-
riant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming
with the angels let us sing Al-le-lu-ia 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.

GERMAN
1 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schlaf, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
 schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
 schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

KOREAN
1 고요한밤 가 ölçü한밤
어둠에 묻힌밤
주의부모 앞에서
잠자기도 드릴때
아기잠도 잡다
아기잠도 잡다

SPANISH
1 ¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!
Todo duerme en derredor,
entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella, anunciando al niñito Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.

MUSIC: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818
Korean Trans. © The Christian Literature Society of Korea
THE FIRST NOWELL

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing
their sheep, on a cold win-ter’s night that was so deep.

2 They look-ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
east be-yond them far; and to the earth it gave
great light, and so it con-tin-ued both day and night.

3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
came from coun-try far; to seek for a king was their
in-tent, and to fol-low the star wher-ev-er it went.

4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o’er Beth-le-
hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop
and stay, right o-ver the place where Je-sus lay.

Refrain

Now-ell, Now-ell, Now-ell, Now-ell,

“Nowell” is the English form of the French “noel,” a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer’s “Franklin’s Tale”), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to “born” (natus / né) as well to “news” (nova / nouvelle).
Then entered in those wise men three,  full reverently upon their knee, 
and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain