



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Avenue, 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)

Christmas Eve Service

DECEMBER 24, 2025 — 10:00 PM

TIME OF PREPARATION

Young. Brown. From *that* side of town...the humble Mary used what she had – torn cloths. Weaving together the fragments of fabric from her life, Mary swaddles her child. As we await the forthcoming return of Christ, may we be transformed by the witness of Mary – a young girl from *that* side of town, a bearer of the Word. — *Angellica Sweat*

PRELUDE

“Toccata on Antioch”	Craig Phillips
“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”	Dr. Edward Alan Moore, <i>organ</i> arr. Martin Green Tim Chaplin, <i>soloist</i>
“Do You Hear What I Hear?”	arr. Harry Simeone Jess Poeske, <i>soloist</i>
“The Birthday of a King”	W.H. Neidlinger Adrianna Cleveland, <i>soloist</i>
“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”	Robert MacGimsey David Jennings-Smith, <i>soloist</i>
“One Bright Star”	John Jarvis Denise Sheffey-Powell, <i>soloist</i>
“Comfort Ye/Every Valley Shall Be Exalted” from <i>Messiah</i>	G.F. Handel Logan Williams, <i>soloist</i>
“Gesù Bambino”	Pietro Yon Todd Farwell, <i>soloist</i>
“Joy to the World – Carillon”	Mary Beth Bennett Dr. Moore, <i>organ</i>
“Cantique de Noël/O Holy Night”	Adolphe Adam Kym Laret, <i>soloist</i>

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Charma Dudley

Leader: On this holy night, we gather together as prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,

People: We dare to dream and imagine a world renewed.

Leader: We ponder with Mary. We marvel at Christ’s birth.

People: We marvel in divine truth that defies expectations.

Leader: God draws near as a vulnerable child, not as a trampling warrior.

People: Heaven and earth meet in a manger, not in a palace.

Leader: Just as the angels sing and the shepherds dance, come and worship, all you who dream.

People: We treasure these things in our hearts. We desire to wonder and praise!

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #133** (*music printed in bulletin*)

ADESTE FIDELIS

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADVENT & CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING

Degenholtz/DeVries family

Leader: The birth of Jesus has been told and retold a thousand times and in a thousand ways. Its impact cannot be contained in any one perspective.

People: **Who is telling the story changes how we hear it, how we imagine it, how we experience it.**

Leader: Imagine new parents who are excited to meet their child. Herod is terrified he might lose power and influence. The shepherds are in awe of all they have seen and heard. Whose perspective you consider changes the experience.

People: **Is this a story about an innocent child coming into the world or a story about one coming to upset the empire?**

Leader: We hope, when we believe something good is on the horizon! We hope, when we recognize all is not yet as it should be. Before we can hope, we must be honest with what is wrong. Our world is not what it should be, but with Jesus, we have hope that one day it will be.

People: **We light the candle of hope because hope creates a path for a new, unknown story to unfold.**

(The first candle is lit.)

Leader: Peace allows for a respite and much-needed restoration. And restoration is needed to act without becoming numb or burned out.

People: **We light the candle of peace because peace requires us to pay attention to the needs of those around us.**

(The second candle is lit.)

Leader: Mary and Joseph found joy in an unexpected place, in a warm and dry manger. We can find joy in small acts of kindness and beauty in a harsh world.

People: **We light the candle of joy because joy sustains us in the midst of uncertainty.**

(The third candle is lit.)

Leader: From joy we move to love! Love for God and love for our neighbor. Love is far more than an emotion; it is the foundation of the gospel that is good for all!

People: **We light the candle of love because love makes the impossible possible.**

(The fourth candle is lit.)

Leader: Tonight, we light the Christ candle. May we acknowledge the new light it provides, disrupting what is, lighting the path for our dreams to come.

People: **Give us the will to dream, O God. May all be true in your name.**

(The Christ candle is lit.)

* **HYMN #136** (*music printed in bulletin*)

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

GO TELL IT

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7a (*adapted from Inclusive Bible*)

Rev. BJ Woodworth

The people journeying through darkness are seeing a brilliant light; upon those who dwell in the land of deep shadows light is shining. For a child is born to us, an heir is given to us; authority rests upon the shoulder of this one who is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Sovereign, Prince of Peace. This dominion, and this peace, will grow without end.

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

READING

Excerpt from “A Christmas Poem” by Kaitlin Hardy Shetler

Rev. Sarah Robbins

*sometimes I wonder
if Mary breastfed Jesus.
if she cried out when he bit her
or if she sobbed when he would not latch.
and sometimes I wonder
if this is all too vulgar
to ask in a church
full of men
without milk stains on their shirts
or coconut oil on their breasts
preaching from pulpits
off limits to the Mother of God.*

*but then i think of feeding Jesus,
birthing Jesus,
the expulsion of blood
and smell of sweat,
the salt of a mother’s tears
onto the soft head
of the Salt of the Earth,
feeling lonely
and tired
hungry
annoyed
overwhelmed
loving*

*and i think,
if the vulgarity of birth is not
honestly preached
by men who carry power but not burden,
who carry privilege but not labor,
who carry authority but not submission,
then it should not be preached at all.*

Leader: May God bless the truth in these words.

People: Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”

Geoffrey Ainger

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:7-20 (Inclusive Bible)

Dr. Charma Dudley

She gave birth to her firstborn, a son; she put him in a simple cloth wrapped like a receiving blanket, and laid him in a feeding trough for cattle, because there was no room for them at the inn. There were shepherds in the area living in the fields and keeping night watch by turns over their flock. The angel of God appeared to them, and the glory of God shone around them; they were very much afraid. The angel said to them, “You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you—news of a great joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in David’s city, a savior—the Messiah—has been born to you. Let this be a sign to you: you’ll find an infant wrapped in a simple cloth, lying in a manger.” Suddenly, there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in high heaven! And on earth, peace to those on whom God’s favor rests.”

When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go straight to Bethlehem and see this event that God has made known to us.” They hurried and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger; once they saw this, they reported what they had been told concerning the child. All who heard about it were astonished at the report given by the shepherds. Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart. The shepherds went away glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as they had been told.

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

* HYMN #145

“What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

SERMON

“Dreaming with Mary”

Rev. Dr. Diaz

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER (in the language or version closest to your heart) Rev. Robbins

Leader: As we pray, I invite you to join me in the postures I model—lifting our bodies along with our words as part of our prayer.

O God, sometimes we find ourselves as the shepherds: seeing your glory, filled to bursting with good news, eager to tell the world of light breaking in. We give thanks for all who continue to tell their stories and yours, and we lift our hands now as we pray that we might listen well to one another and amplify the good news.

People: May Jesus be born again, in us and in our world.

Continues on next page...

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Leader: And sometimes we find ourselves as the innkeeper, as the animals: serving as witness to a story unfolding around us, offering what we have, though it may seem small. We give thanks for all who strive to meet one another's needs, and we open our hands now as we pray for open doors, open hearts, open minds.

People: **May Jesus be born again, in us and in our world.**

Leader: And sometimes we find ourselves as Mary, equal parts committed and confounded, awestruck and on fire. We remember our own invitation is like hers: to embody your love, to nurture your dream. We give thanks for all who labor to birth more care and more justice in our world. We feel our heart beat now as we remember to keep rhythm with your kin-dom coming.

People: **May Jesus be born again, in us and in our world.**

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Rev. Dr. Diaz

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.

The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **Y también contigo.**

And also with you.

OFFERING INVITATION

Rev. Woodworth

Please remember to write your name on your offering envelope.

You can also scan this QR code to give online or visit www.ELPC.church/donate.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Sussex Carol"

arr. David Willcocks

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #143 (verse 4)

REGENT SQUARE

All creation, join in praising God Creator, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal

Three in One: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

— THE LORD'S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Robbins

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Dr. Diaz, Rev. Robbins

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.

Sanctus:

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, _____
 2. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. _____

_____ heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
Memorial Acclamation:

Rev. Dr. Diaz, Rev. Robbins



Christ has died; ——— Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

Christ has died; ——— Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

SHARING BREAD & CUP

Rev. Dr. Diaz, Rev. Robbins

The communion elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice. The congregation is invited to come forward by using the center aisle to the communion servers where each may receive the bread and the cup, then returning to their seats via the side aisles. Those seated in the East Transept (the section near the Highland Entrance) will be directed by an usher to the walkway between the front and back section and will file in behind those in the first row of the back section. Those not able to come forward will be served in their seats. Please raise your hand and/or make eye contact with the roaming Communion server.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION (*music printed in bulletin*)

SOLO	“In the Bleak Midwinter”	Cody Conley, <i>violin</i>
HYMN #115	“Away in a Manger”	MUELLER
HYMN #113	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	GLORIA

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Woodworth

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Rev. Dr. Diaz

* **HYMN #122** (*music printed in bulletin*) “Silent Night” STILLE NACHT

* **RESPONSIVE READING FROM HOWARD THURMAN** (*while candles are lit*) Rev. Robbins

Leader: I will light candles this Christmas.
People: Candles of joy, despite all the sadness.
 Leader: Candles of hope, where despair keeps watch.
People: Candles of courage, where fear is ever present.
 Leader: Candles of peace, for tempest-tossed days.
People: Candles of grace, to ease heavy burdens.
 Leader: Candles of love, to inspire all of my living.
People: Candles that will burn all the year long.

* **RECESSIONAL HYMN #119** (*music printed in bulletin*) MENDELSSOHN
 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

* **CHARGE & BENEDICTION** Rev. Dr. Diaz

POSTLUDE “In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729” Johann Sebastian Bach
 Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*



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. 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.

Please turn off all electronic devices before the service begins.

◆ **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz (he/him/él)
Liturgists: Rev. Sarah Robbins (she/they)
Rev. BJ Woodworth (he/him)
Sara Hackett (she/her)
Degenholtz/DeVries family
Dr. Charma Dudley
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him)
Director of Music and Arts
ELPC Chancel Choir
Cody Conley, *Violin*
Soloists: Adrianna Cleveland, Tim Chaplin
Todd Farwell, David Jennings-Smith
Kym Laret, Jess Poeske
Denise Sheffey-Powell, Logan Williams
Beadles: Mario Seneca
Debbie O'Dell-Seneca
Crucifer: Jason Van Ness
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ **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, sponsored by the congregation members.

◆ **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

There will be no Journey service on Sundays, Dec 28, Jan 4, 11.
11 am **Sanctuary Worship.** Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.

◆ **WEEKDAY WORSHIP**

Taizé: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation
Chants and periods of meditative silence modeled after the Taizé community in France. Rev. BJ Woodworth leads this service in the Chapel.
Wednesdays, 7 pm
(No service on Dec 31)

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.
Available everyday

◆ **WEEKLY SPIRITUAL LIFE OFFERINGS**

Contemplative Prayer on Mondays
Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead a time on Zoom of 30 minutes of communal silence and guided meditation on scripture.

Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am

Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 • Passcode: bestill

Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Group
Join Steve Evrard on Zoom for a time of scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue.

Tuesdays, 8 to 8:30 am

Meeting ID: 896 9680 6662 • Passcode: 116

Meditation Hour
Join John Benedict, retired psychologist and practitioner of insight meditation, in the Chapel for an hour devoted to meditation, which includes an opening reading, silent sitting, and walking. All are welcome!

Tuesdays, 6-7 pm

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this special evening and ask you to **sign your name in our red Friendship Books** in each pew.

If you're a first time visitor, please fill out a **NEW HERE** card found in the pew backs and give that card to a pastor at the Penn Ave or Highland Ave entrance to receive a gift in exchange for your filled out card. Our pastors will reach out to you for any prayer requests and to answer any questions you might have.

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on **Sunday, Feb 1 after the 11 am service** to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please see one of the pastors to attend, or contact Jen King for more info (JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

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

#133 — O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

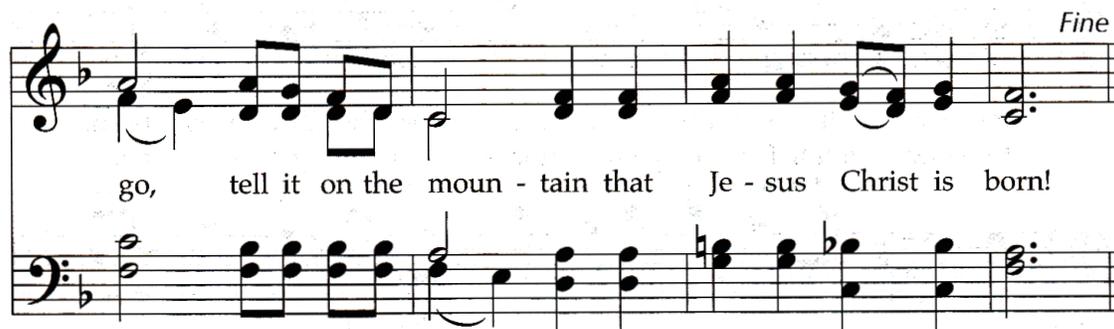
From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

#136 — GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Refrain 

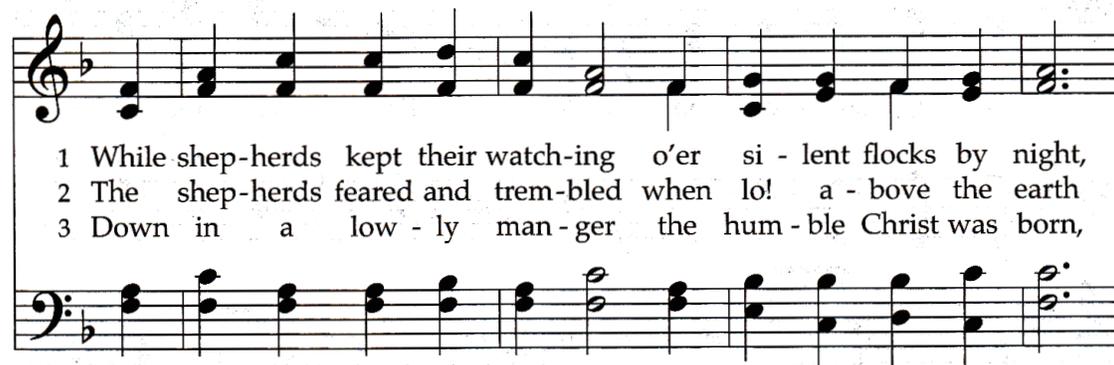


Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

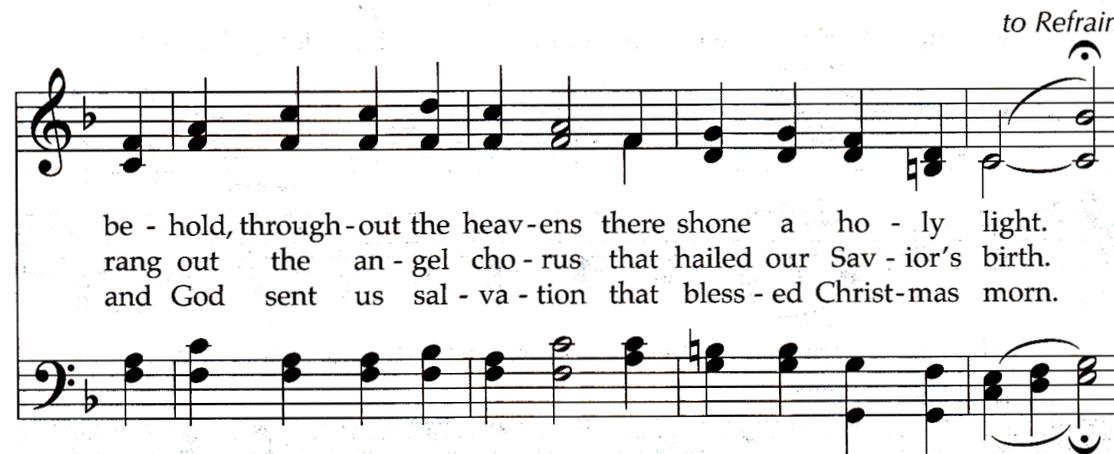


go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine



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.

#145 — WHAT CHILD IS THIS



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



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

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.

#115 — AWAY IN A MANGER

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B \flat (D) F

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

(A7) C7 (D) F

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.

(G) B \flat (D) F

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,

(A7) C7 (D) F (Em) Gm (A7) C7 (D) F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.

#113 — 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

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

TEXT: French carol; trans. James Chadwick, 1860, alt.
 MUSIC: French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937
 Music © 1937, ren. 1965 H. Augustine Smith Jr.

GLORIA
 7.7.7.7 with refrain

#122 — 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 - riant 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.

GERMAN

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

KOREAN

1 *고요한밤 거룩한밤
 어둠에 묻힌밤
 주의부모 앉아서
 감사기도 드릴때
 아기잘도 잔다
 아기잘도 잔다*

SPANISH

1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!
 Todo duerme en derredor,
 entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
 bella, anunciando al niño 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.

#119 — HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels 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.

Continued on next page

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hark! The herald angels sing." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The melody is written in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.



**Welcome
Visitors!**

If you are joining us for the first time, we're glad you are here! Please fill out a **NEW HERE** card found in the pew backs and give that card to a pastor at the Penn Ave or Highland Ave entrance. You will receive a gift in exchange for your filled out card. Our pastors will reach out to you for any prayer requests and to answer any questions you might have.



**Support Hope Academy
of Music & the Arts**

Hope Academy of Music and the Arts, a ministry of East Liberty Presbyterian Church, provides high-quality music and dance education to students ages 3–19 each week. Your gift directly supports:

- Needs-based scholarships for private lessons, music classes, and dance instruction
- Instrument repairs, maintenance, and essential accessories
- Special programs, performances, and community events

Your generosity helps our students learn, grow, and thrive. Make a gift today and invest in their creative future by scanning this QR code.



**INQUIRERS CLASS
Sunday, Feb 1
after 11 am worship**

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on Sunday, Feb 1 after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service in the McKelvy Room.

Learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided.

Register online using this QR code, visit elpc.church/visit-us/becoming-a-member, or see one of the Pastors.



Please contact Jen King for more info:
JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222

**PRAY ALWAYS
IN ALL WAYS**



ELPC Spiritual Pathways

Have you ever wondered what prayer is or if you even believe in prayer? Have you ever longed to pray more but struggled to know how? Together we will talk about our struggles and hopes with prayer and explore a wide variety of prayer forms, including body prayer, prayer beads, icons, silence, written fixed-hour prayer and prayer as simple awareness in life. It will be playful, inspiring, interactive with lots of time to practice together.

WEEKLY GATHERINGS

Wednesdays, Jan 21, 28, Feb 4 and 11
at ELPC from 5:30-7 pm

Register online at
<https://tinyurl.com/PrayAlwaysClasses2026>

WEEKEND RETREAT

Fri, Jan 23 at 6 pm to Sun, Jan 25 at 11 am
at Villa Maria Retreat Center

Register online by Jan 11 at
<https://tinyurl.com/PrayAlwaysRetreat2026>

Christmas Poinsettia

DEDICATIONS

Carolyn Bigbee

In Memory of my parents, John and Sue Mooney

Trish Buben

In Honor of our children, Mabel
and Margo Buben

Bill and Lynn Buchanan

In Memory of our loved ones

Marissa Cozza

In Honor of Rebecca Cozza and Nash Family

Carla Depperman

In Memory of beloved family and friends

Michael Diaz

In Memory of D. Walter Staggs
& Oscar Natera Diaz

Marilyn Fitzgerald

In Memory of our parents &
In Honor of Ryan Fitzgerald

Wil Forrest

In Memory of Robert Angus
from his nieces and nephews

Timothy Goodall

In Honor of those who work to protect the poor
& those victimized by government oppression

Penn Hackney

Kevin Harvey

In Memory of Jamie Halladay

Michael Hellman

In Honor of Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz,
Rev. BJ Woodworth & Rev. Sarah Robbins

Irvin Family

In Memory of Elizabeth Hill,
Elizabeth Capon and Paul Capon

Stephanie Lewand

In Memory of Lee Blaise Lewand and
Grandma Margaret (Lewand)
& Grandpap John Petruna

Gail Mallory

In Memory of Avis and Richard Mallory

Gary Marzolf and David Swatzler

Polly McQueen

In Memory of Max Stein and Clay McQueen &
In Honor of Steve Evrard,
the Tuesday Prayer Group
and Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

Norma Meyer

In Honor of Barbara Davis

Edward Moore

In Memory of William H. Moore &
In Honor of ELPC Music Ministry
Singers and Ringers

Alice Patton

In Memory of Michael Zanolli,
beloved husband and father &
Cora and Joseph E Welch &
Corinne and James M Patton

Amanda Potasnik

In Memory of Jeffry Potasnik

Matthew Stufft

In Memory of Vaughn and Linda Stufft

Gloria Walls

In Honor of Frances Wilson