

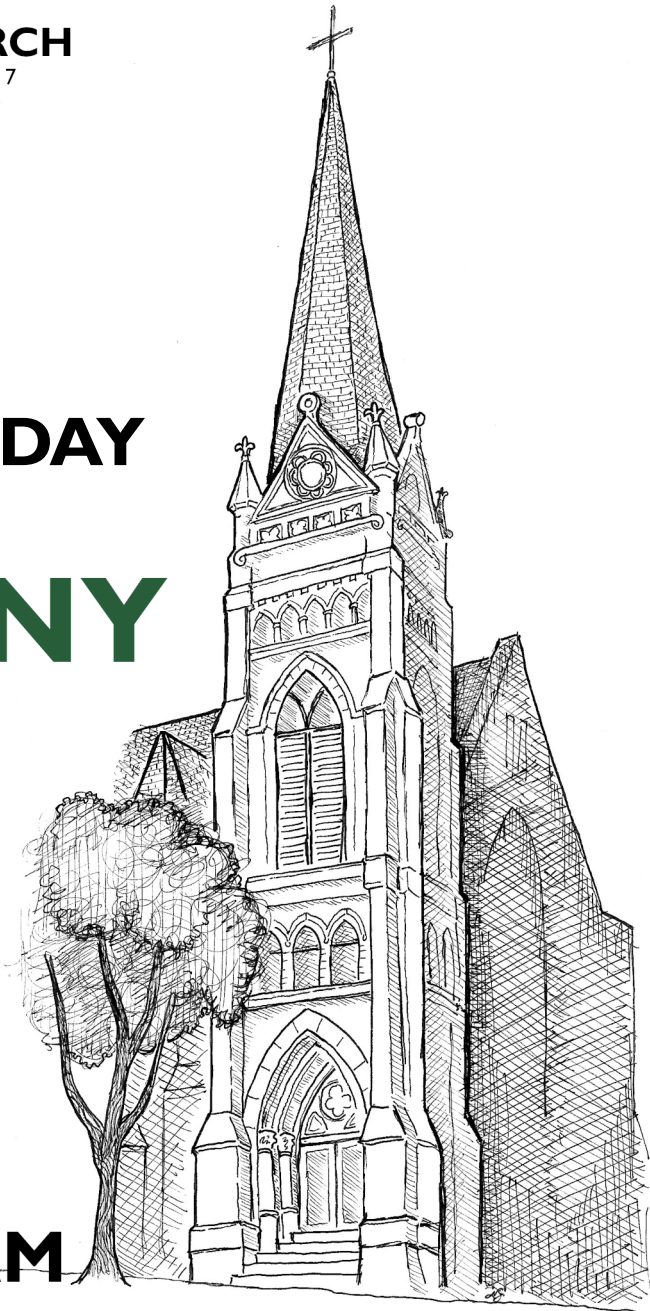
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDED 15 JANUARY 1837

**THE
SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER THE
EPIPHANY**

January 14, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 AM



615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, 15219

Ph: 412.471.8125 ✕ Fax: 412.471.9521 ✕ flc@flcpittsburgh.org ✕ www.flcpittsburgh.org



PARDON OUR DUST

Reconstruction of our front sidewalks and courtyard is now underway. The courtyard is closed. Entry to the church is now limited to the bell tower and basement doors. The doors at the bell tower, at Grant Street and Strawberry Way, have very steep steps. Please use these with caution. Our temporary handicapped entrance is located at the basement door at the corner of Strawberry and Garland Ways. All are welcome to use this entrance. This Sunday, our financial secretary Suanne O'Dell, will be staffing this door. If you are parking at the U.S. Steel Tower, please cross Grant at Strawberry Way. We will update you when the courtyard entrances will be available and keep you informed through the Parish News and bulletin as work progresses.

PARKING

Please be aware that the police have been more diligent in enforcing no-parking zones on Sundays, especially when there are sporting or other events downtown. Parking on our side of Grant Street is posted as permitted until 1:00 PM, but they sometimes ticket or even tow vehicles across the street. Though past efforts have failed, we are once again exploring if parking can be permitted there in the future.

We encourage parking in the U.S. Steel Tower Garage, which we have made free on Sundays, though contributions toward our \$2.00 cost are welcome. Please bring your ticket to the staff member on duty, who will attach a sticker to your parking ticket. When exiting the garage, do not go to the pay station; simply insert your validated ticket at the exit gate. There are two entrances to the garage: one is off of the Veterans Bridge/Bigelow Blvd ramp just before Sixth Ave; the other is on Bigelow Square, just off of Sixth Ave and in front of the DoubleTree Hotel's main entrance.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU!

We extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting with us today and hope you will return to worship with our community of faith again. If you would like to know more about our ministry in downtown and metropolitan Pittsburgh, please speak to a pastor, any of our members, or visit www.flcpittsburgh.org.


Our liturgy incorporates historic practices of the Western Christian tradition, aspects of which may be unfamiliar to some. We hope this bulletin will serve to welcome our visitors and be an aid to those who seek to participate in our worship of God.

ACCESSIBILITY Accessible entrances to the nave are available using either door from the courtyard. An elevator is available in the Parish House to access other levels of the building. The parking spaces directly in front of the building have been designated for those with handicapped plates or placards for their vehicles.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available at the ushers' table in the rear of the nave. Easy-to-use receivers with either an earpiece or a neck loop are available. Antiseptic wipes are available to clean assisted listening equipment before use.

YOUNG CHILDREN

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." The presence of children in worship, even when they are wiggly and noisy, is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our parish is growing. Children's worship boxes, with items to help engage our youngsters in worship, are available in the back of the nave. Please return them to an usher after worship. A family restroom with a changing table is available downstairs.



HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered by invitation of the Lord himself. All baptized believers who trust that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist, regardless of denomination, are invited to receive the Blessed Sacrament. To receive the Sacrament, come to the altar rail by way of the center aisle. The pastor will place a wafer into your hand. Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten-free wafer. The wine may be received by drinking directly from the common cup or with an individual glass filled from a pouring chalice. Please pick up a glass from the tables at the head of the center aisle, and return your empty glass to the tables at the head of the side aisles. If you need to have communion brought to you in your seat, please let an usher know.

If you choose to receive the Sacrament under the form of bread alone for any reason, you may be assured that in so doing, you receive the whole Christ. If you choose not to receive communion, you may request a blessing instead. After receiving communion (or a blessing), you may return to your seat by the side aisles.

✠ ALTAR FLOWERS & LAMPS ✠

THE CENTERPIECE / SIDE VASES / BAPTISTRY

FLOWERS

are given in memory of LaVonne Johnson by Ariana Patton.

SANCTUARY

VOTIVE

LAMPS

January 1-14

is given to the glory of God.

*is given in memory of
Jennifer Kane by Beth Kane.*

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 14, 2024—8:30 & 11:00 AM

*Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.
The people prepare for worship by silently praying the following prayer:*

✠ Jesus, Master, come and meet us while we walk in the way and long to reach the heavenly country, so that, following your light, we may keep the way of righteousness and justice and, while you, who are the Way, the Truth, and the Life are shining within us, may never wander away into the darkness of this world's night. Amen

Read Psalm 100 p. 263

THE PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude:
'Holy Ghost with Light Divine'

Prelude on BEVAN

Healey Willan

TEMPLE TALK

Lilly Larkin

The people stand.

THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The people kneel. A brief time is provided for reflection.

- P Most merciful God,
C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**
- P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us
and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen**

The people stand and may turn in place to follow and bow as the cross passes.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW 314

Printed on the facing page.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN*Arise, Your Light Has Come!***ELW 314**

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, each corresponding to a part of the choir. The first line of lyrics is: 1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door; 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born, 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song! The second line of lyrics is: show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day. pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor. bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn. Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

THE CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Gloria in excelsis



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord God, you showed your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son. As he brought gladness and healing to his people, grant us these same gifts and lead us also to perfect faith in him, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON—I Samuel 3:1-20

L A reading from First Samuel.

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ¹¹Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

L The Word of the Lord.

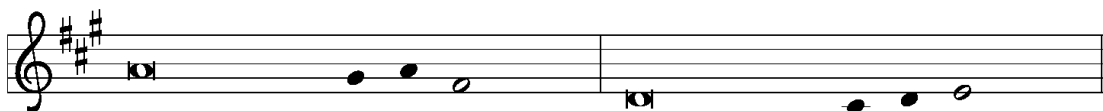
C **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALMODY—Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

Domine, probasti

ELW Tone 3

Sung responsively, Choir / All



- ¹ LORD, you have searched me | out and known me;*
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts | from afar.
- ² **You trace my journeys and my | resting-places***
and are acquainted with | all my ways.
- ³ Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips,*
but you, O LORD, know it | altogether.
- ⁴ **You press upon me behind | and before***
and lay your | hand upon me.
- ⁵ Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;*
it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.
- ¹² **For you yourself created my | inmost parts,***
you knit me together in my | mother's womb.
- ¹³ I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;*
your works are wonderful, and I | know it well.
- ¹⁴ **My body was not hid- | den from you,***
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths | of the earth.
- ¹⁵ Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written | in your book;*
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was | none of them.
- ¹⁶ **How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!***
How great is the | sum of them!
- ¹⁷ If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;*
to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours.

THE SECOND LESSON—I Corinthians 6:12-20

L A reading from First Corinthians.

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

THE VERSE

C. Pock

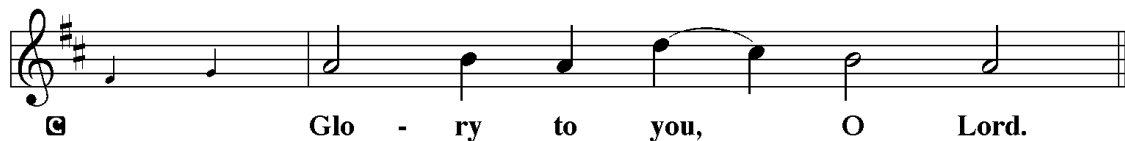
*The Alleluia is intoned once by the Soloist/Choir, and repeated by **All**.*



We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us grace and truth

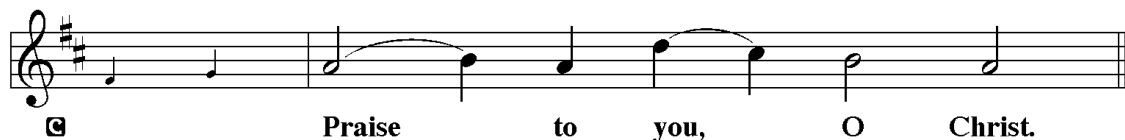
THE HOLY GOSPEL—Saint John I:43-51

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the first chapter.



⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

P The Word of the Lord.



The people are seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Brian A. Evans

Following the sermon the people stand for the Hymn of the Day

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

The Son of God, Our Christ

LBW 434

St. 1—**All** • 2—**Men** • 3—**Choir** • 4—**Women** • 5—**All**



All 1 The Son of God, our Christ, the Word, the Way,
M 2 In ev - 'ry test, in tri - als man - i - fold,
Choir 3 To - day, as then, Christ sum - mons us to dare
W 4 In cit - y street, in town, or on the soil,
All 5 Wher - e'er we find our wit - ness should be made,



shared hu - man life and toiled through - out the day;
 these ser - vants wit - nessed, by their faith made bold;
 to fol - low bold - ly and his work to share,
 may each serve Christ in faith - ful dai - ly toil,
 what - e'er our task, be thou, O Christ, our aid,



from com - mon folk he called the twelve to be
 and with the gifts and tal - ents which they brought
 to help and heal the sick, the blind, the lame,
 and in each thought and kind - ly word and deed,
 that we may glad - ly give for thee our best



co - work - ers in his sa - cred min - is - try.
 the church was found - ed and God's mes - sage taught.
 de - clar - ing to the world his ho - ly name.
 o - bey Christ's call and go where he shall lead.
 and find each task di - vine - ly sent and blest.

Text: Edward M. Blumenfeld, b. 1927, alt.

Music: SURSUM CORDA, Alfred M. Smith, 1879–1971

Text © 1957, ren. 1985 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 1941 Historic Church of the Ascension, Atlantic City, NJ, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
and for all people according to their needs.

The people kneel. A brief time for reflection is provided.

A ...Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

The people stand.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*The people offer each other the sign of peace, saying "Peace be with you."
The people are seated as the gifts are prepared.*

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* setting by Dale Wood
(Text at LBW 367)

The people stand.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

SURSUM CORDA

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

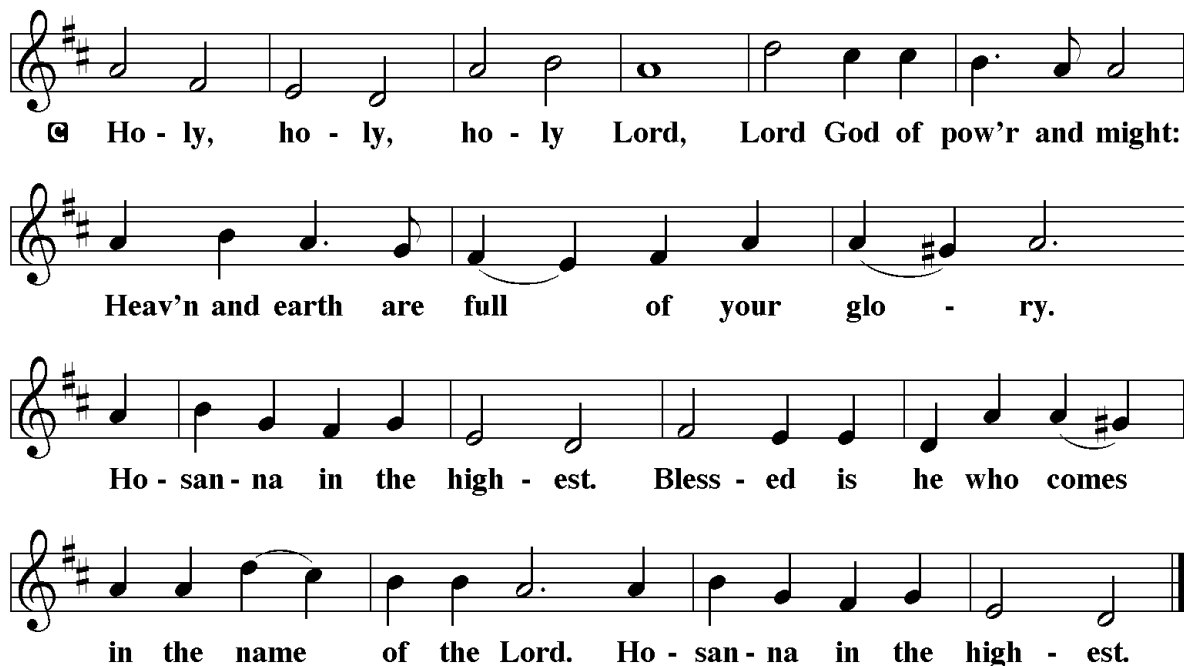
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You are indeed holy, O God. You surround us with your glory and mercy, and in the splendor of your heavenly light you lead us through the darkness of this world. You led your people Israel by a pillar of fire, as you delivered them from bondage and brought them to the promised land.

By the light of Bethlehem's star you led the sages to your beloved Son, revealing him to the nations as King of kings and Lord of lords. In words, signs and wonders your Son gave the light of hope to the hopeless and healing to the downcast.

Then, at the appointed time, he stretched out his hands on the cross, showing forth the brilliance of a life freely given, that all may have life in him.

In the night in which he was betrayed, took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

*Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.*

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
*This cup is the new covenant in blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

With joy we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Gracious Father, we give you thanks for the light of our Lord's passion
and his victory over the grave. We rejoice that you have made us your
people, by Christ's redeeming love.

We pray that by your Holy Spirit you will bless and sanctify this Holy
Communion, that we may be illumined in faith as we partake of Christ's
body and blood, renewed in the forgiveness of sins, and joyous in our
hope for your eternal kingdom.

C Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he
comes as victorious Lord of all.

C Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty
of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is
yours, al - might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

THE FRACTION

P When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.
When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

**C Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread,
as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

P The gifts of God for the people of God.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The people are seated.

AGNUS DEI



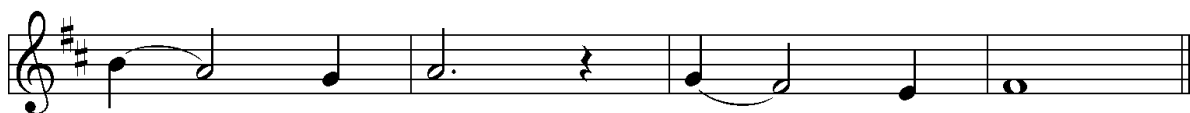
☞ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

To receive the Sacrament, come to the altar rail by way of the center aisle. The pastor will place a wafer into your hand. Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten-free wafer. The wine may be received by drinking directly from the common cup or with an individual glass filled from a pouring chalice. Please pick up a glass from the tables at the head of the center aisle, and return your empty glass to the tables at the head of the side aisles. If you need to have communion brought to you in your seat, please let an usher know.

If you choose to receive the Sacrament under the form of bread alone for any reason, you may be assured that in so doing, you receive the whole Christ. If you choose not to receive communion, you may request a blessing instead. After receiving communion (or a blessing), you may return to your seat by the side aisles.

MUSIC AT THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN

He Comes to Us as One Unknown

ELW 737



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -
 2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -
 3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and
 4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and
 5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in
 part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -
 foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the
 birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a
 dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.
 cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.
 tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.
 sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.
 not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

Text © 1984 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

HYMN

I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

LBW 213



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to your ta - ble, for weak and wea - ry
 2 Your bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior; your blood, which once for
 3 With you, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; you live in me and
 4 My heart has now be - come your dwell - ing, O bless - ed, ho - ly



is my soul; you, Bread of life, a - lone are a - ble to
 me was shed: these are my life and strength for - ev - er, by
 I in you. No sor - row fills my soul; de - light - ed it
 Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, your prais - es tell - ing, shall



sat - is - fy and make me whole.
 them my hun - gry soul is fed. Lord, may your
 finds its deep - est joy in you.
 live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.



bod - y and your blood be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941, alt.
 Music: ICH STERBE TÄGLICH, manuscript, Municipal Library, Leipzig, 1756

When all have communed, the people stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Nunc dimittis (para.)

ELW 313



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
till rap-tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin-ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
where Christ, the bless-ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

THE BLESSING



P Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now and for - ever.

C A - men

The people may turn in place to follow the cross and bow as we are sent forth to serve.

THE HYMN TO CLOSE

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW 810

Printed on the following page.

THE HYMN TO CLOSE

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW 810

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.
 Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

THE DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Now Let Us All Sing Praise

Healey Willan

THIS MORNING AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, JANUARY 14

8:30 AM Holy Communion	NAVE
9:30 AM Bel Canto Youth Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR ROOM
9:45 AM Sunday Church School Classes for All Ages	VARIOUS
10:00 AM Parish Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR LOFT
11:00 AM Holy Communion	NAVE
12:15 PM Cantate Children's Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR ROOM
12:15 PM Health Ministry Team Meeting	HOLY CROSS HALL

ADULT EDUCATION

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

What is the Gospel? How do we make sense of the endlessly differing retellings of a singular story? How do we apply its meaning when millions of readers have reached varying conclusions? In his book, *What is the Gospel?*, Bishop Kurt F. Kusserow resists declaring one definitive answer and instead offers nine.

Join Pastors Evans and McCurry for this inspiring examination of the Gospel by Bp. Kusserow.

Visit swpasynod.org/download-gospel to download a copy from the Synod website. If you need a print copy, please contact the church office.

January 14

- 3 - The Gospel Is the Power of God for Salvation
- 4 - The Gospel Is Inherently Elusive

January 21

- 5 - The Gospel Is the Gift of Life
- 6 - The Gospel Is Being Forgiven

January 28

- 7 - The Gospel Is Welcome
- 8 - The Gospel Is for the Poor

February 4

- 9 - The Gospel Is Love
- 10 - What Makes the Gospel True?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VICAR ELIZABETH RECEIVES HER FIRST CALL: We rejoice in the news that Elizabeth Rheinfrank has been called to serve as pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church of Perrysville in the North Hills. Elizabeth's ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament will take place at Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church (975 Washington Road Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228) on **Saturday, February 24, 2024, at 10:00 AM**, followed by a light lunch in the Social Hall. All are invited and encouraged to attend to offer their prayers and support. Clergy are invited to vest and process. The color of the day is red. Please RSVP for the lunch at mtleboluth@aol.com or 412-563-0300 by February 17.

2024 LITURGICAL CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE for \$2.00 at the reception desk.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR INPUT! First Lutheran Church has a long history with campus ministry and has built lasting connections with nearby universities, and maintains connections with our members who are students. The Campus Ministry Team of the Evangelism Committee is interested to learn more about your college and school experiences, to continue to build connections between alumni in our congregation and current, prospective, or visiting students. We have created a questionnaire that can be accessed at flcpittsburgh.org/questionnaire. We look forward to receiving your responses!

ESTIMATES OF GIVING RECEIVED FOR 2024: We are deeply grateful to those who have pledged financial support for the ministry of First Church in 2023. If you have not as yet done so, you may still send in your support for our ministry in the coming year. Estimate of Giving forms are available on the table at the rear of the nave in the Parish House or by contacting Suanne O'Dell at sso@flcpittsburgh.org.

DANIEL SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY Beginning in February, adult small groups will be doing an 6-week study on the prophetic book, Daniel. In the past, small groups have met either on Zoom or in person on weekday evenings or Sunday afternoons about twice a month, scheduled according to the availability of the participants. These are a great opportunity to get to know and spend time with a group of adults from First Lutheran Church on a new level, sharing prayer requests, and learning about scripture. Express your interest and availability online at tinyurl.com/FLCsmallgroup by **Sunday, January 21**. If you have questions, contact Pr. McCurry (jpm@flcpittsburgh.org).



DEADLINE APPROACHING: REGISTER SOON!

ICE FEST will take place **Saturday, February 3, 2024!** join us as we learn how we are "Clothed with the Spirit" and dressed in the armor of God. We will enjoy lunch together at FLC after our morning activities and then walk to PPG Place for an afternoon of ice skating. Cost is \$15/ camper (grades K-6). There is no charge for youth counselors (grades 7-12) or adult volunteers. Drop off at the church at 9:00 AM and pick up at the ice rink at PPG at 3:00 PM. **Register by Sunday, January 21** at flcpittsburgh.org/campdowntown



ASH WEDNESDAY

F E B R U A R Y 14

Join us as we begin our Lenten pilgrimage toward the cross of Christ with Ash Wednesday.

HOLY COMMUNION WITH ASHES

12:00 & 7:00 PM

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

8:30 AM & 4:00 PM

YOUTH GROUP SKI TRIP: The Youth group will be going to Oglebay on Saturday, January 27 at 9:00 AM. Skiing and snow boarding are available. We will meet at Pr. Evans's house and carpool there. (Please indicate if you are available to stay with the group as a chaperone, either on the slopes or in the lodge.) The cost will be: Adult Lift (18+) \$32 Child Lift (6 - 17) \$25 Adult Rental (18+) \$34 Child Rental (6 - 17) \$28 Please reach out to Pr. Evans if assistance is needed with this cost. Sign up in the Parish House or RSVP by email to cgh@flcpittsburgh.org.

DUFF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Are you a protestant student who has attended high school or been home schooled at least two academic years in Allegheny County, PA? Are you a high school senior or high school graduate planning to enroll (or already enrolled) in a full-time undergraduate course of study leading to a bachelor's degree at an accredited four-year education institution? Do you have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.8 on a 4.0 scale? You may be eligible for aid from the Lola G. Duff and William H. Duff, II Scholarship Program. Information is available at the URL, below. **The application deadline is March 4, 2024.** <https://learnmore.scholarsapply.org/duffscholarship/>.

WILLIAM J. WOLF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND was created by a bequest from William J. Wolf, founder and president of General Cleaning Company. Although Mr. Wolf completed high school, he did not have the means to attend college, which he regretted. Through the establishment of this fund, he is able to give back in perpetuity to the Pittsburgh community that he and his wife, Elizabeth, loved, and to the Lutheran faith which they supported during their lifetimes. This scholarship is to assist with the college or graduate level education of students of Lutheran denominations who have a residence in Allegheny County and maintain good grades. To apply for the Scholarship go to <https://pittsburghfoundation.org/scholarship/1631>. **Completed applications are due April 1, 2024.**

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS AND ASSISTING MINISTERS NEEDED:

Please consider serving as a communion assistant or assisting minister in the new year! Assisting ministers serve as assistant to the presiding minister, leading prayers, preparing the altar for communion, administering the cup. Communion assistants administer the wine with pouring chalices at communion, and other small tasks at the altar. **We especially need assisting ministers at the 11:00 AM service.** Please contact Christine Hoffman, who coordinates and trains the assistants by calling 412-471-8125 or email cgh@flcpittsburgh.org. Thank you!

2024 FLOWER and SANCTUARY/VOTIVE LAMPS are available for those who wish to make a donation. Floral arrangements and candles can be donated in honor of a living person or in memory of someone who has died, in celebration of an anniversary or other milestone, or in thanksgiving for friends or family. Your name(s) and dedication are acknowledged in the bulletin. The cost for flowers is \$25 per arrangement. The cost for the 14-day candles used in the sanctuary/votive lamps is \$7.50. Please sign-up in the notebooks on the reception desk in the Parish House, or contact Christine Hoffman at 412-471-8125 or cgh@flcpittsburgh.org.

MEAL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES Each **Wednesday** morning **8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**, a small team of volunteers prepares 60-100 meals in our church kitchen for two local organizations serving our neighbors in need. Meals are planned and groceries are gathered by our coordinators; volunteers need no cooking experience. Contact Christine to volunteer: cgh@flcpittsburgh.org.

CHORAL COMPLINE will be sung at Heinz Chapel on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh **Sunday evenings at 8:00 PM beginning January 14**, under the direction of Dr. Douglas-Jayd Burn. First Church is a co-sponsor of the Compline Choir.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS! The Walk-In Food Pantry is once again well-stocked thanks to your generosity! We can still use jars of peanut butter and jelly, ramen noodles, individually packaged snack crackers, and jars of pasta sauce.

ON DUTY THIS WEEK / PARTNER MINISTRY SERVICES: This week, Smithfield United Church of Christ will be on duty Monday-Thursday, January 15-18. The Red Door at St. Mary of Mercy Roman Catholic Church offers breakfast Monday - Saturday 9:00-10:30 AM; bag lunches Monday - Saturday, 10:30 - 11:30 AM, and dinners Monday - Friday, 5:00 - 5:30 PM. A midday meal is served on Sundays from 1:00-2:00 PM. Those seeking crisis counseling or services may be directed accordingly. First Lutheran Church's next week of service begins January 22.

LUTHERLYN'S BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN

We are excited to share with you that we are working with one of western Pennsylvania's most beloved Lutheran organizations; Lutherlyn.

Lutherlyn has been a camp, retreat center, and special "place apart" since 1948. Congregations look to Lutherlyn as a resource in providing a valuable ministry to our youth, families, and synod.

Because of the need for Lutherlyn to upgrade and modernize its facilities, the congregations of the Southwestern and Northwestern Pennsylvania Synods, including our congregation, are participating in a capital campaign to help raise \$2.5 million.

During the next five weeks, you will learn more about this important effort. We pray that your commitment to ministry will encourage you to become involved and excited about Lutherlyn's

Building for the Future Capital Campaign

Liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024, Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #46420.

Hymns from *The Lutheran Book of Worship*, copyright 1978 and *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, copyright 2006. All rights reserved. Hymns reprinted by permission under OneLicense #A-722888.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

SERVING TODAY

	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Presiding Minister	Pr. Evans	Pr. McCurry
Preacher	Pr. Evans	
Assisting Minister	Pr. McCurry	Daniel Weimer
Communion Assistants	Kathy Dearth Kathy Stefani	Pr. Evans Sarah Maenner
Lectors	Jeff McCurry	Kim Wilson
Acolyte(s)	Roy Navid Sadie Navid	^C ^A Zoe McCurry
Cantor	Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, n/OLF, AAGO	
Vocalists	Megan Wall, <i>Treble Section Leader</i>	The Parish Choir
Head Usher		Kurt Herbst
Usher(s)	Kurt Hansmann	Wes Nelson
Altar Guild	Amy Hansmann Grace Hansmann	Janet Balas Lorraine Beers
Coffee Hour Host	Natalie Connors	Janet Balas

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JANUARY 15 *187th Anniversary of the Founding of First Lutheran Church*

Church closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

7:00 PM Youth Ministry Committee Meeting ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17 *Antony of Egypt and Pachomius, Renewers of the Church*

8:00 AM Social Ministry Meal Prep KITCHEN

12:10 PM Noonday Holy Communion NAVE

1:00 PM Staff Meeting MEZZANINE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18 *The Confession of Saint Peter*

6:30 PM Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal CHOIR LOFT

6:30 PM Property Committee Meeting HCH / ZOOM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 *Henry of Uppsala, Bishop & Martyr*

12:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting HOLY CROSS HALL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21: THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

8:30 AM Holy Communion NAVE

9:30 AM Bel Canto Youth Choir Rehearsal CHOIR LOFT

9:45 AM Sunday Church School Classes for All Ages VARIOUS

10:00 AM Parish Choir Rehearsal CHOIR LOFT

11:00 AM Holy Communion with Holy Baptism NAVE

12:15 PM Cantate Children's Choir Rehearsal CHOIR ROOM

4:00 PM Campus Ministry Team Meeting at Trace Brewing BLOOMFIELD

THE FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

has served downtown Pittsburgh since its founding in 1837 as the first English-speaking Lutheran Church west of the Alleghenies. Its members come from far and near to participate in its Christian witness in the heart of the city: a witness that is faithful to Holy Scripture and to the historic Lutheran Confessions. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is at the center of its life, providing direction, comfort, and hope. If you are seeking a church home in Pittsburgh, we invite you to become a part of our downtown ministry.

THE CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY FOR PRAYER

STAFF

The Rev. Brian A. Evans, *Senior Pastor*
The Rev. Jennifer Peters McCurry, *Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Daniel E. Hall, MD, *Assisting Episcopal Priest*
Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, n/OLF, AAGO, *Cantor*
Mrs. Suanne O'Dell, *Financial Secretary*
Ms. Christine G. Hoffman, *Admin. Assistant to Pastoral Staff*
Mr. Jeremy Caywood, *Building Manager*
Mr. Nicholas Scott Sharer, *Communications Coordinator*
Mr. Benjamin Sommer, *Organ & Sacred Music Scholar*

PASTORS-IN-RESIDENCE

The Rev. Brian O. Bennett, *Lutheran University Center*
The Rev. Erin E. Evans, *Christ Lutheran Church, Millvale*
The Rev. Canon Natalie G. Hall, *Church of the Redeemer*
The Rev. S. Cyril Hurnyak
The Rev. Leonard J. Larsen
The Rev. Caroline Mendis
The Rev. Christine Rotella, *Abiding Missions*
The Rev. Martin M. Roth
The Rev. Robert W. Strobel

MISSIONARIES

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson
& Dr. Andrew L. Wilson, *Japan*

ORGAN ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Dr. Ann Labounsky Steele



Assisted listening devices are available. Inquire with an usher.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship

8:30 AM Holy Communion
9:45 AM Sunday Church School
(Classes for all ages during school year)

11:00 AM Holy Communion

Midweek Noonday Worship

12:10 PM Holy Communion, Wednesdays
(Holy Communion for Healing on the first Wednesday of each month)

SUNDAY PARKING

Accessible parking is available on Grant Street in front of the church. Free parking is available in the US Steel Tower garage. Reduced rate parking is available at the Mellon Square and Smithfield/Liberty garages for \$1.00. See an usher or the attendant at the reception desk for validation. Street parking is free on Sundays until 1:00 PM.

If you have a pastoral concern outside of normal office hours, please call our emergency line: **412-471-6507** and the pastoral staff member on duty will return your call as soon as possible.

Visit us online at
flcpittsburgh.org

