

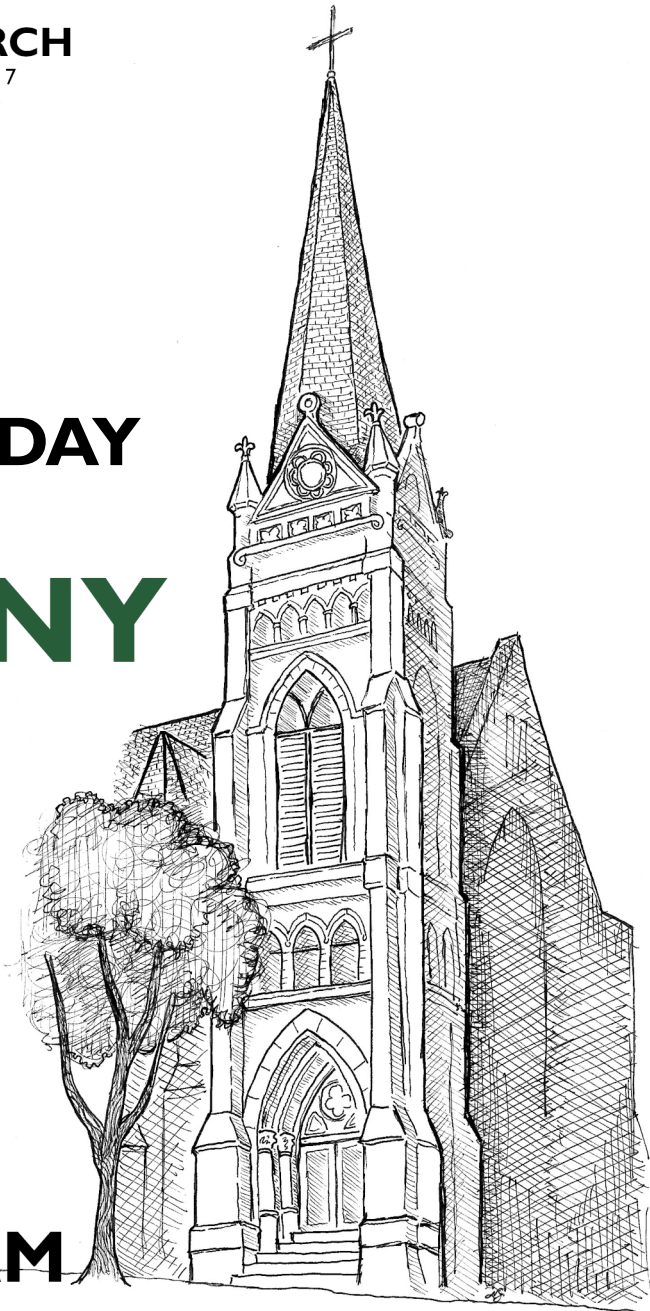
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDED 15 JANUARY 1837

**THE
FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER THE
EPIPHANY**

January 28, 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 An accessible entrance is available using the door on Strawberry Way. 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	THE SIDE VASES
FLOWERS	<i>is given in memory of George & Irene Tomasko by Susan & Lee Bruder.</i>	<i>are given in celebration of Fiona Marin Weimer's 17th birthday by her grandmother, Beatrice Weimer.</i>
	SANCTUARY	VOTIVE
LAMPS January 15-28	<i>is given in memory of Daniel Headrick by Nancy Headrick.</i>	<i>is given to the glory of God.</i>

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 28, 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

*Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ
(All Praise to You, Eternal Lord)*

*Herr Christ, der einig Gottes Sohn
(Lord, Christ, God's Only Son)*

Dietrich Buxtehude

TEMPLE TALK

Grace Hansmann

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.

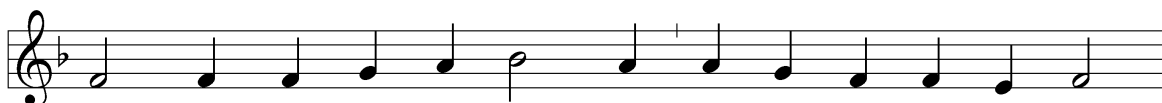
- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the 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

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

LBW 87



- 1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
- 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
- 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
- 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth.
all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
Be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend;



to take a - way trans-gres - sion and rule in eq - ui - ty.
whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

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.

For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, you know we cannot withstand the dangers which surround us.
 Strengthen us in body and spirit so that, with your help, we may be able to
 overcome the weakness our sin has brought upon us; through 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—Deuteronomy 18:15-20

L A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: “If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.” ¹⁷Then the Lord replied to me: “They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

8:30 AM

THE PSALMODY—Psalm 111

Confitebor tibi

LBW Tone 8

Sung antiphonally, Men / Women



¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with | my whole heart,*
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

² **Great are the deeds | of the LORD!***
They are studied by all who de- | light in them.

³ His work is full of majes- | ty and splendor,*
and his righteousness en- | dures forever.

⁴ **He makes his marvelous works to | be remembered;***
the LORD is gracious and full | of compassion.

⁵ He gives food to | those who fear him;*
he is ever mindful | of his covenant.

⁶ **He has shown his people the power | of his works***
in giving them the lands | of the nations.

- ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful- | ness and justice;*
all his command- | ments are sure.
- ⁸ **They stand fast forev- | er and ever,***
because they are done in | truth and equity.
- ⁹ He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his cove- | nant forever;*
holy and awesome | is his name.
- ¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;***
those who act accordingly have a good understanding.
His praise en- | dures forever.

11:00 AM

THE PSALMODY—Psalm 111

Confitebor tibi

Anglican chant / William Crotch

Sung by the choir.

THE SECOND LESSON—I Corinthians 8:1-13

L A reading from First Corinthians.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him. ⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols?

Continued on the following page.

¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

L The Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

8:30 AM
THE VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

11:00 AM
THE VERSE

C. Pock

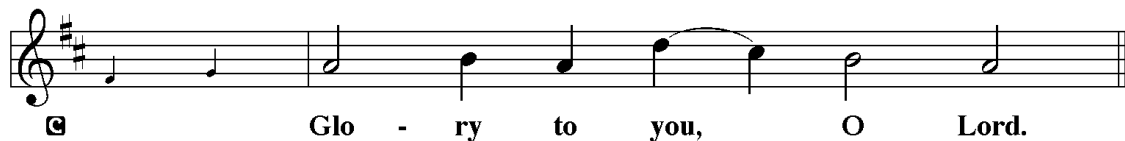
*The Alleluia is intoned once by the Soloist/Choir, and repeated by **All**.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light;
for those who sat in the shadow of death light has dawned.*

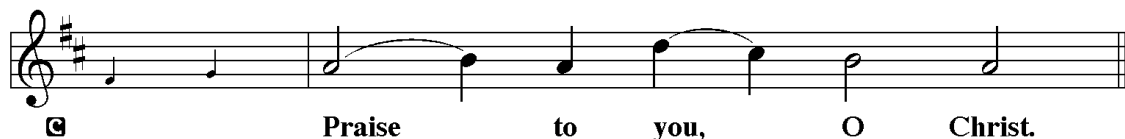
THE HOLY GOSPEL—Saint Mark 1:21-28

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



²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P The Word of the Lord.



The people are seated.

THE SERMON

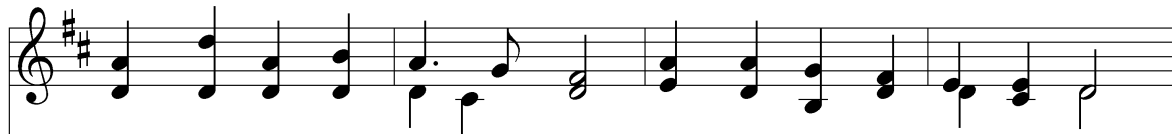
The Rev. Brian A. Evans

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

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LBW 90



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su - preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint-ing soul;
 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
 and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;
 grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
 man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:
 that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - them's be to thee ad - dressed,
 an - them's be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
 an - them's be to thee ad - dressed,
 and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702, adapt.

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 kneel to 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

8:30 AM O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright Johann Christoph Bach
ORGAN VOLUNTARY

11:00 AM The Morning Star on High is Glowing Michael Prætorius

*The morning star on high is glowing and far abroad its radiance throwing,
far over hill and vale below, rejoicing sings the angel choirs. Now call the
watchmen from the towers: "Awake ye lords, with all your powers, wake
ye to hail this glorious morn, when every soul anew in Christ is born!" Oh,
holy morning star, thy praises our song today to heaven upraises. Thou Light
for all men, near or far, be thou our Light, oh Christ, our Morning Star!*

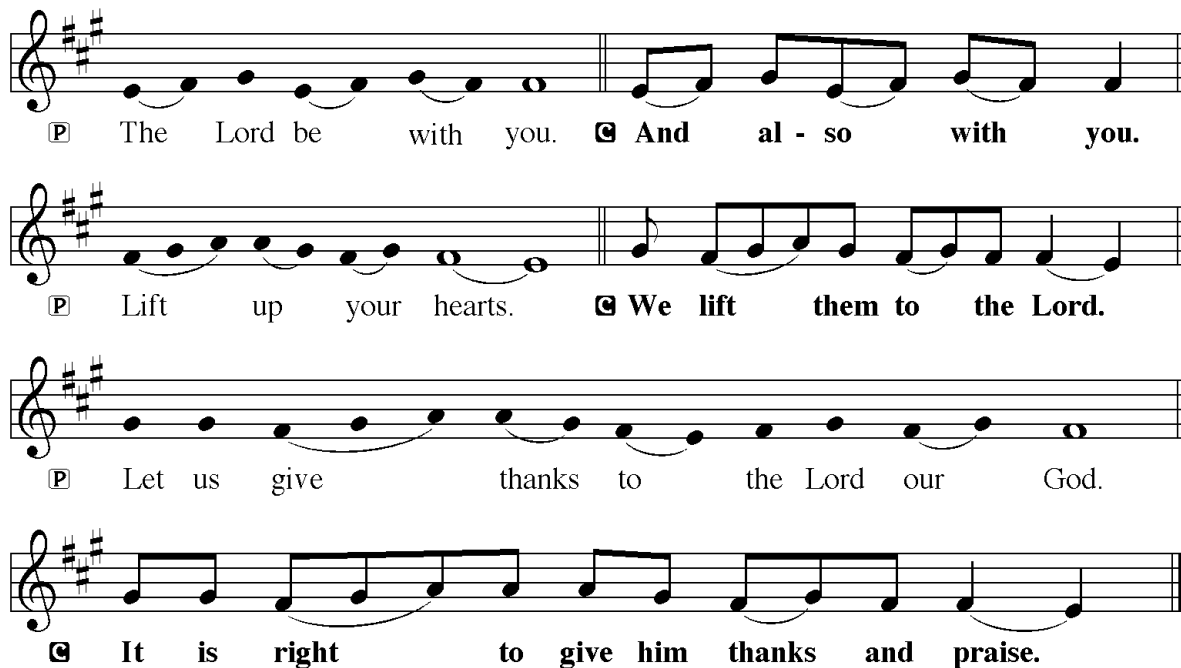
The people stand.

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.

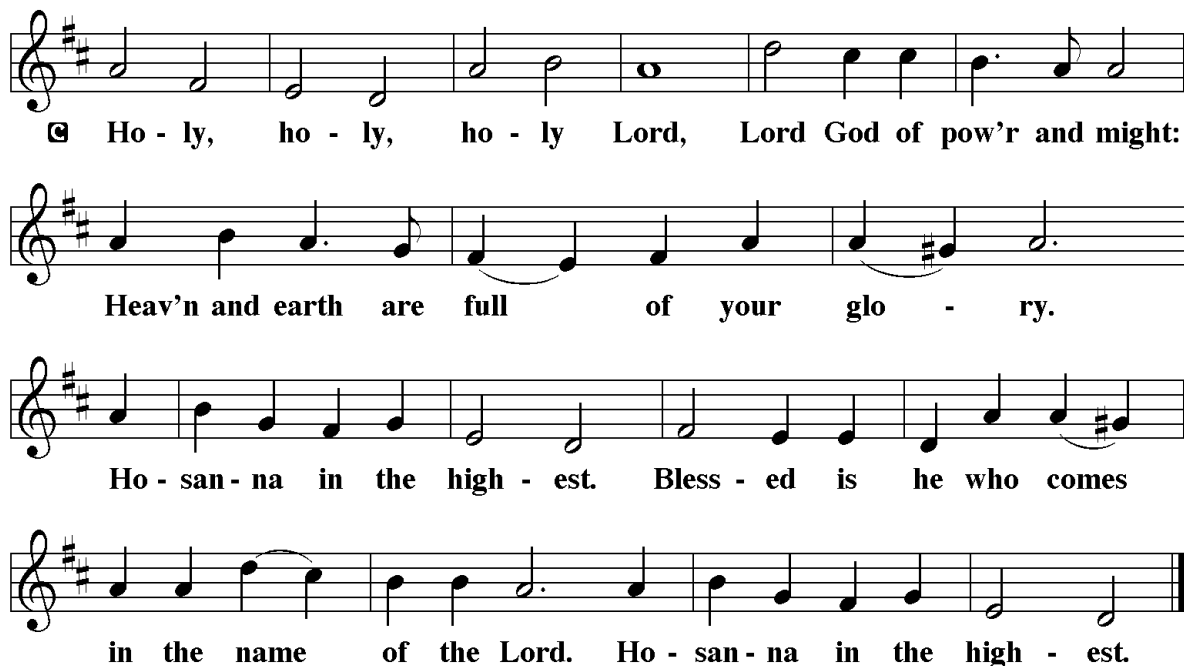
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, our Lord Jesus 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 for the 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 my 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.

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and ends with a double bar line. The second and third staves continue the melody and lyrics, with the third staff also ending with a double bar line.

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



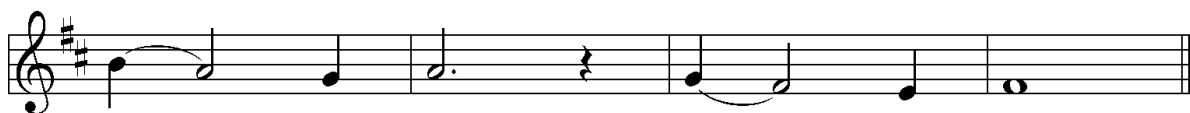
☪ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

CANTICLE

The People Who Walked in Darkness

LBW 8

To be sung twice.

The musical score is written on a single staff in G minor (three flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The peo - ple who walked in dark - ness have seen a great light. Al - le - lu - ia. The light has shined on the na - tions who live in the shad - ow of death A - rise, be clothed in light. Your light has come. Al - le - lu - ia. Though dark - ness cov - ers the earth, the Lord will shine up - on you. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The music features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and ties. The final line of music ends with a double bar line.

The peo - ple who walked in
dark - ness have seen a great light. Al - le - lu - ia.
The light has shined on the na - tions who live in the shad - ow of
death A - rise, be clothed in light. Your light has come.
Al - le - lu - ia. Though dark - ness cov - ers the earth, the
Lord will shine up - on you. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text and music © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 5: Services of the Word*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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

8:30 AM

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

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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

From God the Father, Virgin Born

LBW 83

Printed on the following page.


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

THE HYMN TO CLOSE

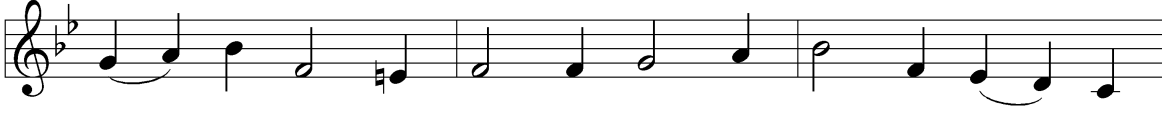
From God the Father, Virgin Born

LBW 83


St. 1 & 2—All • 3—Men • 4—All • 5—Women • 6—All



All { 1 From God the Fa - ther, vir - gin - born to us the
 2 Be - gin - ning from his home on high, in hu - man
Men 3 Glide on, O glo - rious Sun, and bring the gift of
All 4 A - bide with us, O Lord, we pray; the gloom of



on - ly Son came down; by death the font to con - se -
 flesh he came to die; cre - a - tion by his death re -
 heal - ing on your wing; to ev - 'ry dull and cloud - ed
 dark - ness chase a - way; your work of heal - ing, Lord, be -



crate, the faith - ful to re - gen - er - ate.
 stored, and shed new joys of life a - broad.
 sense the clear - ness of your light dis - pense.
 gin, and take a - way the stain of sin.

Women

5 Lord, once you came to earth's domain
 and, we believe, shall come again;
 be with us on the battlefield,
 from ev'ry harm your people shield.

All

6 To you, O Lord, all glory be
 for this your blest epiphany;
 to God whom all his hosts adore,
 and Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Latin office hymn, c. 11th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866
 Music: DEUS TUORUM MILITUM, *Antiphoner*, Grenoble, 1753

THE DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Toccata and Fugue in F-Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

THIS MORNING AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, JANUARY 28

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
12:15 PM	Worship Committee Meeting	HOLY CROSS HALL
3:00 PM	Archipelago Choral Concert	NAVE

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 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?



ASH WEDNESDAY

F E B R U A R Y 1 4

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR, THE REV. JENNIFER PETERS MCCURRY, has accepted a newly-formed position as the Coordinator of Religious and Spiritual Life Initiatives at Carnegie Mellon University. The final day of her call here at First Lutheran Church will be Sunday, February 18. An opportunity to celebrate and thank her for her nine years of ministry with us will be held in conjunction with our Pancake Breakfast between liturgies on **Sunday, February 11**. We hope you can join us

PASTOR McCURRY WILL BE AWAY for a brief vacation beginning on Thursday, January 25. She will return to the office on Monday, January 29. If you have a pastoral care concern outside of normal office hours, please call our emergency line at 412-471-6507. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC: Two common themes prevail in today's music for worship: Christ as light of the world (*The Morning Star on High is Glowing, The People Who Walked in Darkness Have Seen a Great Light*), and the music of Lutheran composers Dietrich Buxtehude (Danish, 1637-1707), and Michael Praetorius (German, 1571-1621). The organ and choral works of these composers significantly influenced those who followed them, including Johann Sebastian Bach.

PREMIER CONCERT! This afternoon at **3:00 PM**, a new choral ensemble will present its premier concert here at First Lutheran Church. "Archipelago" – a professional vocal ensemble under the direction of Dr. Caron Daley of Duquesne University – will present choral works of women composers. The concert is open to the public and all are welcome. A free will offering will be collected.

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

COLLEGE STUDENT LUNCHEON & SERVICE PROJECT: On **Sunday, February 4 around 12:15 PM**, students of any college, university, or technical schools will gather for lunch and help prepare food for First's meal ministry downstairs in Holy Cross Hall. Friends are most welcome! RSVP (including any special dietary needs) to Pastor Jennifer at jpm@flcpittsburgh.org so we have enough food!

YOUTH ICE SKATING The youth will go ice skating at PPG Place downtown on the evening of **Friday, February 16**. You can sign up by using the form on our website at <http://tinyurl.com/FLCwinteryouth>

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND SUPER BOWL SUNDAY First Lutheran Church will be celebrating Super Bowl Sunday by holding our own SOUPER BOWL Sunday! Please bring donations of soups and other canned goods to church **on Sunday February 11** (Super Bowl Sunday) to be donated for those in need. There will be boxes for donations in the Parish House and in Holy Cross Hall where we will also be holding our annual Teacher Appreciation Pancake Breakfast. Full details about the pancake breakfast coming soon!

PICTURE DAY RETURNS! A second session with the professional photographer for those families and individuals who would like to have new pictures taken for the church directory will be held on **Sunday, February 18 from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM**. Those who have already had their photographs taken should watch their e-mail inboxes in the coming days for copies of your photographs. Retakes are welcome! Sign up in the Parish House for your session today!

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 2024. 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.

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.

LUTHERLYN'S BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN

Since 1948 Lutherlyn has been providing ministry to youth, families and adults from the congregations and communities of Western PA and beyond. As an outdoor ministry of the Northwestern & Southwestern PA Synods of the ELCA, more than 200 congregations and 15,000 people benefit from ministry opportunities at Lutherlyn each year.

The goal of Lutherlyn's Building for the Future Capital Campaign is \$2.5 million. **Our congregation's goal is to raise \$20,000 from our members to support that campaign.** You will have an opportunity to contribute to that goal in the next few weeks.

The Building for the Future Campaign will help build new cabins, renovate Lutherlyn's Amphitheater, repair roads, and remove buildings no longer in use. For more information we encourage you to watch the campaign video:

<http://tinyurl.com/lutherlynVID>

TIME TO RESTOCK THE WALK-IN PANTRY We can still use individual and large boxes of cereal, large boxes of crackers, individually packaged snack crackers, jars of pasta sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, Compleats shelf-stable meals, canned soups, cans of fruit, individual fruit cups, rice sides, canned vegetables, and toilet paper.

By visiting our Amazon wish list, First Lutheran Church - Walk in Ministry Food Pantry you will get an idea of the items that are needed, you have a few options: 1. You can make a monetary donation to the church (noting that the contribution should be directed to the food pantry) 2. You can order directly from the FLC Amazon wishlist, or 3. You can place an order for similar items on the list from your own Amazon account (changing brand or quantity to suit your giving choices.)

<http://tinyurl.com/flcWISHLIST>

ON DUTY THIS WEEK / PARTNER MINISTRY SERVICES: This week, First Presbyterian Church will be on duty Monday-Thursday, January 29-February 1. 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. Our next week of service begins February 19.

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SERVING TODAY

	8:30 AM		11:00 AM
Presiding Minister		Pr. Evans	
Preacher		Pr. Evans	
Assisting Minister	Jim Nealon		Christine Hoffman
Communion Assistants	Susan Bruder Richard King		Sarah Maenner Maggie Wolfram
Lectors	Theresa Schroeder		Gail Carl
Acolyte(s)	Will Hansmann	C A	Ben Pasternak
Cantor	Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, OLF, AAGO		
Vocalists			The Parish Choir
Instrumentalist			Ben Sommer, <i>organ</i>
Head Usher			Kurt Herbst
Usher(s)	Barb & Steve Neumann Kyle Neumann		Wes Nelson
Altar Guild	Gerri Giles Amy Hansmann		Jen Roth Kathy Roth
Coffee Hour Host	Paula Hobbs		Kim Wilson

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

12:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	HOLY CROSS HALL
7:00 PM	Lay Visitation Meeting	ZOOM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

8:00 AM	Social Ministry Meal Prep	KITCHEN
12:10 PM	Noonday Holy Communion	NAVE
1:00 PM	Staff Meeting	MEZZANINE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

6:30 PM	Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal	CHOIR LOFT
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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 *The Presentation of Our Lord*

12:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	HOLY CROSS HALL
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 *Bishop Ansgar of Hamburg, Missionary*

9:00 AM	Camp Downtown: Icefest	VARIOUS
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THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 4

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
12:15 PM	College Student Luncheon	HOLY CROSS HALL
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, 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

