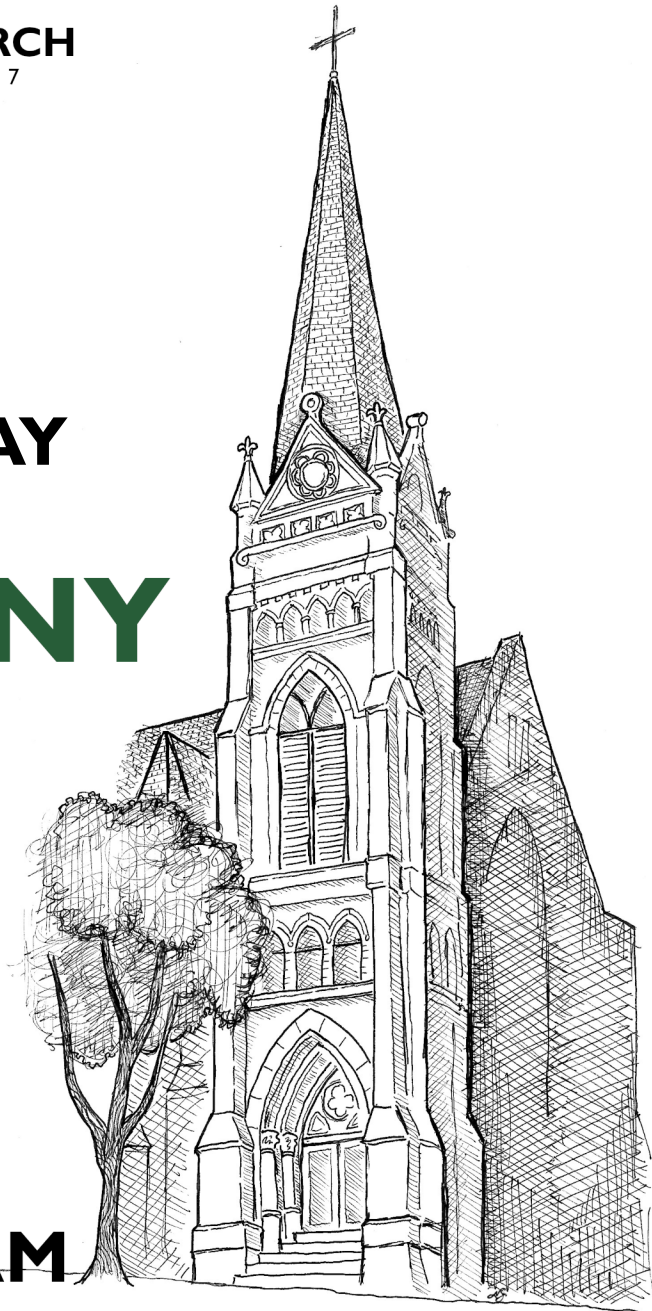


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDED 15 JANUARY 1837

**THE
THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER THE
EPIPHANY**



January 26, 2025

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 is now underway. The courtyard is now open. Entry to the church is now limited to the entrances off the new courtyard. Please note, then, that for now the safest way to enter will be from the direction of Sixth Avenue. Those parking in U.S. Steel should cross Grant Street at Sixth instead of Strawberry Way. Though the new ramp is now very gradual and ADA compliant, please be cautious, railings will be installed shortly.

We will 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.

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. Sometime during your visit at church, use your smartphone to scan one of the special QR codes that are posted around the building to take advantage of this arrangement with Metropolis. **Please note that the QR code must be scanned each time you park in the garage.** Full details on the program are available in the Parish News and posted around the building. 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	THE BAPTISTRY
FLOWERS	<i>is given in celebration of Fiona Marin Weimer's birthday, granddaughter of George & Beatrice Weimer, by Beatrice Weimer.</i>	<i>is given in gratitude to God for the privilege of seventy years serving as a church musician by Joyce Moon Strobel.</i>
	SANCTUARY	VOTIVE
LAMPS January 13-26	<i>is given in memory of Donald Taylor, by Gail & Dave Carl.</i>	<i>is given in memory of Dan Headrick by Nancy Headrick & family & Harry Obley.</i>

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 26, 2025—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

*Give Me the Wings of Faith
In Peace and Joy I Now Depart*

Flor Peeters

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

ELW 311



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



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



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
pre - cious in your sight.
hill to val - ley flow.
king - dom with out end.

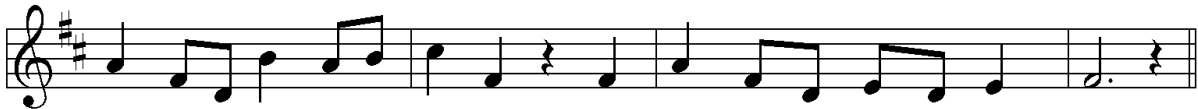
Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

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.

Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON—Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

L A reading from Nehemiah.

¹ All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sung antiphonally, Men / Women



- ¹The heavens declare the glo-¹ ry of God,*
and the firmament ¹ shows his handiwork.
- ²**One day tells its tale ¹ to another,***
and one night imparts knowledge ¹ to another.
- ³Although they have no ¹ words or language,*
and their voices ¹ are not heard,
- ⁴**their sound has gone out in- ¹ to all lands,***
and their message to the ends ¹ of the world.
- ⁵In the deep has he set a pavilion ¹ for the sun;*
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to ¹ run its course.
- ⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens**
and runs about to the end of ¹ it again;*
nothing is hidden from its ¹ burning heat.
- ⁷The law of the LORD is perfect and re- ¹ lives the soul;*
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom ¹ to the innocent.
- ⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and re- ¹ joice the heart;***
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light ¹ to the eyes.
- ⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and en- ¹ dures forever;*
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous ¹ altogether.
- ¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than ¹ much fine gold,***
sweeter far than honey, than honey ¹ in the comb.
- ¹¹By them also is your ser- ¹ vant enlightened,*
and in keeping them there is ¹ great reward.
- ¹²**Who can tell how often ¹ he offends?***
Cleanse me from my ¹ secret faults.
- ¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion ¹ over me;*
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a ¹ great offense.
- ¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation**
of my heart be acceptable ¹ in your sight,*
O LORD, my strength and ¹ my redeemer.

THE SECOND LESSON—I Corinthians 12:12-31a

L A reading from First Corinthians.

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a} But strive for the greater gifts.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The people stand.

THE VERSE

C. Pock

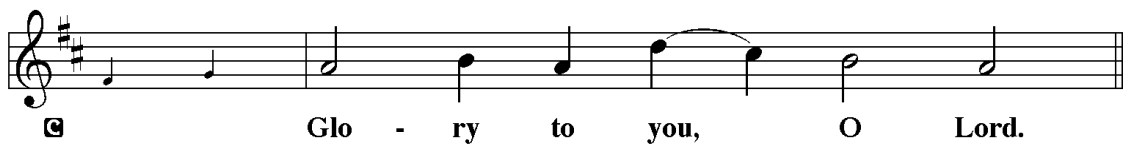
The Alleluia is intoned once by the Soloist/Choir, and repeated by All.



The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, and to proclaim release to the captives.

THE HOLY GOSPEL—Saint Luke 4:14-21

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the fourth chapter.



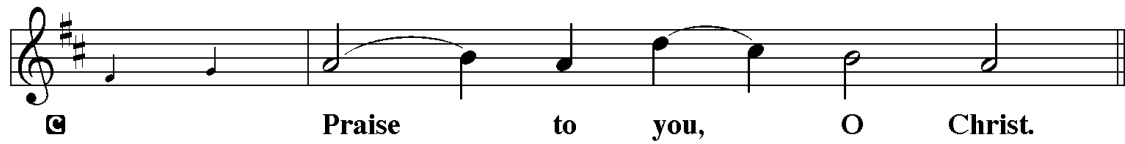
¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.



The people are seated.

THE SERMON

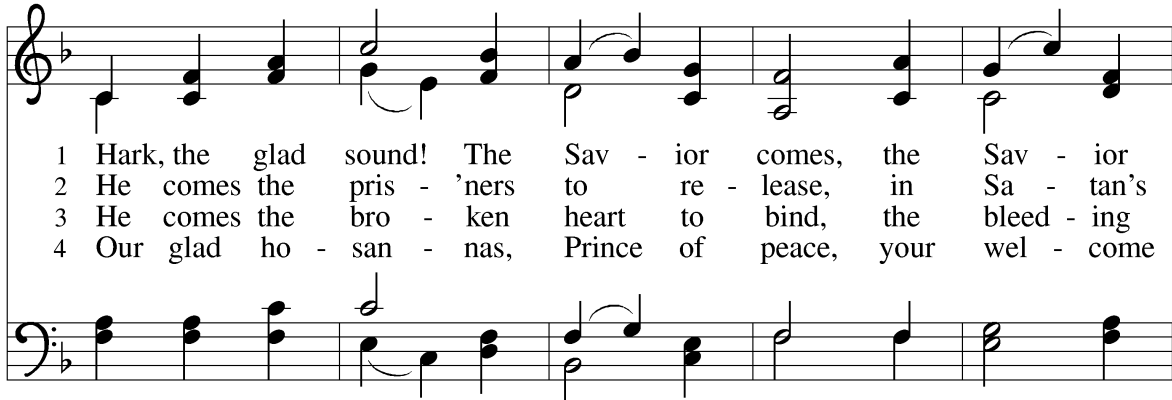
The Rev. Joseph G. Murdy

The people stand for the Hymn of the Day

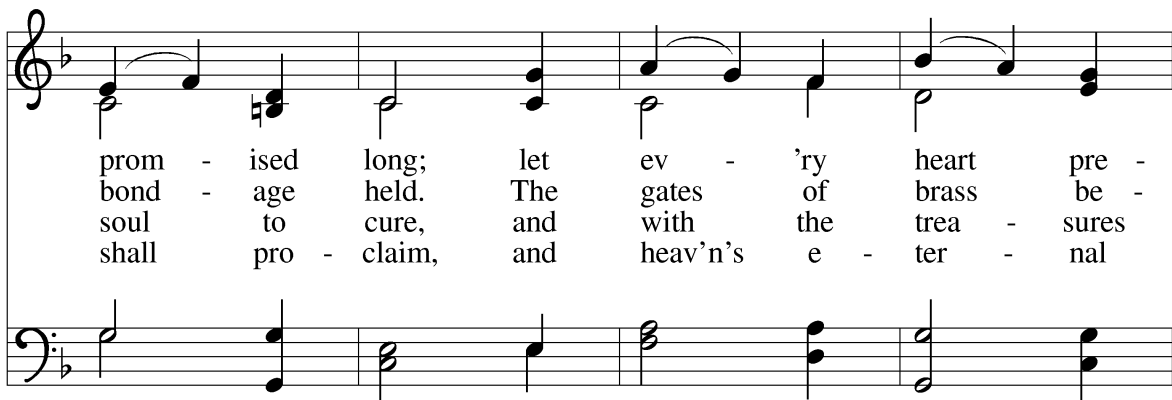
THE HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark, the Glad Sound!

LBW 35



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

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 *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. **G** And al - so with you.



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



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



G 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.

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



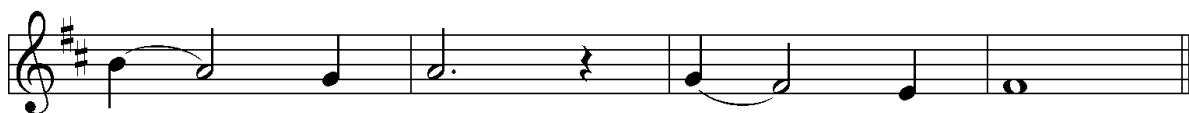
☪ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW 843



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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HYMN

Father, We Thank You

ELW 477



1 Fa - ther, we thank you that you plant - ed your ho - ly name with -
 2 Watch o'er your church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,



in our hearts. Knowl - edge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus your
 guard it still; per - fect it in your love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -



Son to us im - parts. Lord, you have made all for your plea - sure,
 formed un - to your will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,



and giv'n us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the
 was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands your



bread e - ter - nal; yours is the pow'r, yours be the praise.
 church be gath - ered in - to your king - dom by your Son.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; para. F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt.
 Music: RENDEZ À DIEU, attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561
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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.)

LBW 349



I leave, as you have prom-ised, Lord, in peace and glad - ness.



My eyes have seen their great re - ward; gone is sad - ness.



Fa - vored Is - ra-el's glo - ry bright shall be the world's sal - va - tion.

Text: Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930

Music: MIT FRIED UND FREUD, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 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



Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and for - ever. A - men

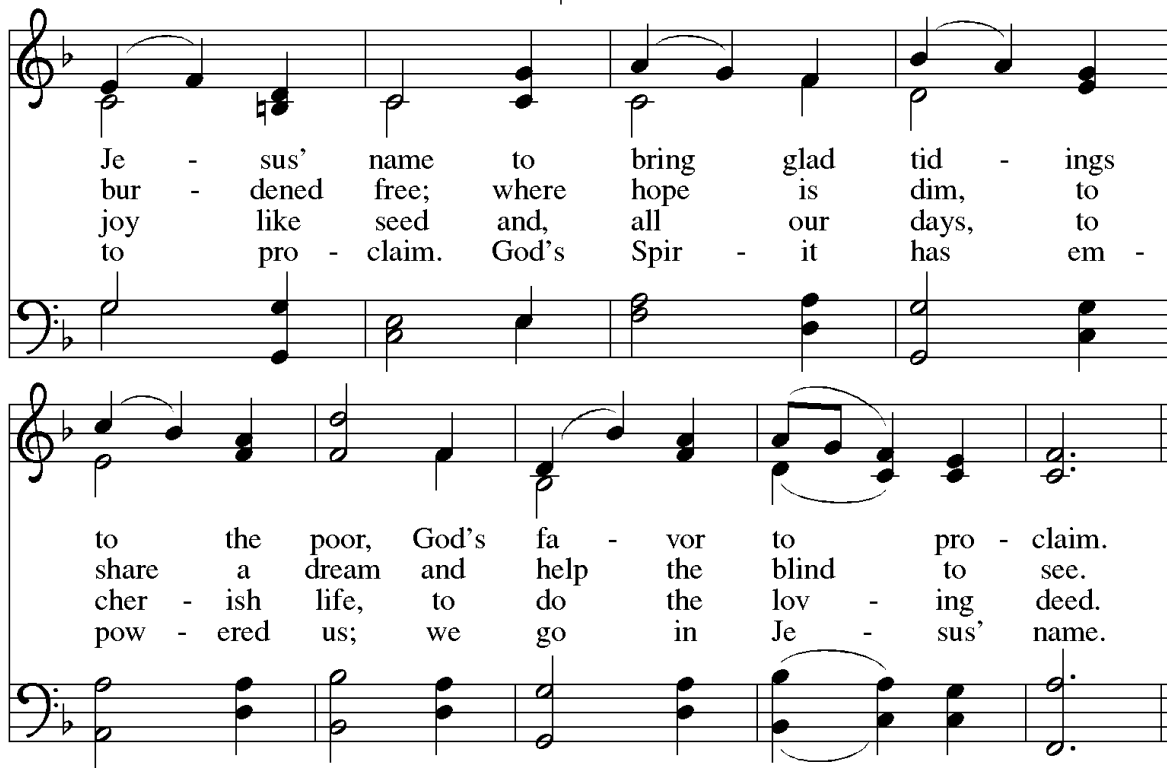
The people may turn in place to follow the cross and bow as we are sent forth to serve.

THE HYMN TO CLOSE

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

ELW 551

1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
 joy like seed and, all our days, to
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -

to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
 share a dream and help the blind to see.
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820
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THE DISMISSAL

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

THE POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in E-Flat

John W. Becker

THIS MORNING AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26: 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	Special Congregation Meeting – Call Vote	HCH
9:45 AM	Sunday Church School Classes for All Ages	VARIOUS
10:25 AM	Parish Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR LOFT
11:00 AM	Holy Communion	NAVE
12:15 PM	Cantate Children’s Choir Rehearsal	CHOIR ROOM
4:00 PM	Small Group Bible Study	ZOOM

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL VOTE FOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR TODAY: The Call Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Amy Mehta, has unanimously recommended The Rev. Joseph G. Murdy to our Congregation Council to be called as Associate Pastor. The Council, in turn, voted unanimously to recommend him to the full Congregation for call. Therefore, the Council has called a Special Congregational Meeting to be held **TODAY at 10:00 AM** in Holy Cross Hall. All voting members of the congregation are encouraged to attend and vote on the motion to consider Pr. Murdy for call as our seventh Associate Pastor. Voting members are defined as those members who have communed and made a contribution of record in the current or preceding year. All are welcome to attend.

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC: We welcome new treble section leader, Theresa Kesser! Theresa sings at 8:30 AM today, and at 11:00 AM with the Parish Choir. The postlude (*Trumpet Tune in E-Flat*) was written by First Lutheran Church's late Composer-in-Residence, and Compline Choir founding director, John W. Becker for his daughter Margaret's wedding.

THE CARING AND HOSPITALITY TEAM are looking for more volunteers to provide meals to our fellow parish members during illness, recovery, or other circumstances. Please email Amy Mehta, Chair of the Care and Hospitality Team at amyandamish@aol.com or call/text her at 412-559-4963 if you can serve in this way. Thank you!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL The story of Joseph in the book of Genesis is well known and well loved. There is more biographical information about Joseph than any other figure in the Old Testament. But how well do we know his character? His faith? His relationships? From **January 5 to February 2**, Pastor and Amanda Murdy will lead us in an in-depth study of the story of Joseph. Join us as we open and explore this well-loved story from a devotional perspective.

ESTIMATES OF GIVING RECEIVED FOR 2025: We are deeply grateful to those who have pledged financial support for the ministry of First Church in 2025. 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.

CHORAL COMPLINE is back for the semester! The Pittsburgh Compline Choir, directed by Douglas-Jayd Burn, sings Compline at Heinz Chapel on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh on **Sunday evenings at 8:00 PM**. First Church is a co-sponsor of the Pittsburgh Compline Choir.

ACOLYTE TRAINING will take place on **Sunday, February 2**, after the 8:30 AM service. If you are interested in serving as an acolyte please meet in the Parish House at around 9:45 AM. If you have any questions, please contact Ben Pasternak, Acolyte Coordinator, at 412-228-7445.

SAVE THE DATE: THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST will be held **Saturday, March 1, at 9:00 AM** in Holy Cross Hall. Our guest speaker will be The Rev. Eric André from Trinity Lutheran in Oakland, who will speak on Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in light of the recent movie. Please sign up in the Parish House or contact the Church office at cgh@flcpittsburgh.org if you plan to attend.

ST. OLAF CHOIR TO PERFORM IN PITTSBURGH The renowned St. Olaf Choir, conducted by Anton Armstrong, will perform at East Liberty Presbyterian Church on **Sunday, February 9, at 7:30 PM**. For more than a century, the St. Olaf Choir has set the gold standard for choral singing, performing for millions around the world. Composed of 75 mixed voices, the St. Olaf Choir is hailed as one of the nation's premier a cappella ensembles, renowned for its artistry and beauty of sound. Tickets are \$35 and \$10 for all students, available at stolaf.edu/tickets/choir or 800-363-5487

2025 FLOWER and SANCTUARY/VOTIVE LAMP dedications 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, which is 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 at cgh@flcpittsburgh.org or 412-471-8125.

LITURGICAL CALENDARS are still available in the Parish House for \$2.00!

TIME TO RESTOCK THE PANTRY! We could especially use: canned vegetables, canned fruits, jam and jelly, large boxes of saltines, pasta sauces, canned pasta meals (Chef Boy-Ar-Dee), and packages of snack crackers. Please donate easy-open pull-tab canned goods whenever possible. Thank you!

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 27-30.**

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 18.

HOW OUR PRAYER LIST WORKS: Prayer requests for individuals may be submitted to the church office by telephone or email, or by using the form on our website. Reasons for the request may be submitted with the request, but these will be kept confidential among the pastors and office staff unless permission is given to share them with others. Last names may be omitted. The full prayer list is sent to members and associate members each Friday unless the list is unchanged from the previous week. After persons are added, names will remain on the list through the following calendar month unless there is a request to keep them on. In this case, please alert the office when we may remove them from the list.

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE WHEN:

- A member of your family is admitted to the hospital, a member of your family is no longer physically able to attend worship, a member of your family leaves home for college, military service, or to establish a new residence, a member of your family changes their name and/or marital status
- A new baby arrives in your family
- Your address, phone number and/or email address has changed
- You feel the church can assist you in any way
- You would like to request a visit from the Pastor

Call 412-471-8125 or email Christine at cgh@flcpittsburgh.org

SERVING TODAY

	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Presiding Minister	Pr. Murdy	Pr. Evans
Preacher		Pr. Murdy
Assisting Minister	Pr. Evans	Dan Weimer
Communion Assistants	Kathy Pfister Richard King	Pr. Murdy Mimi Pasternak
Lectors	Ted Schroeder	Amy Mehta
<hr/>		
Acolyte(s)	Will Schroeder C/A	Grace Hall C Maryam Hall A
<hr/>		
Cantor	Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, OLF, AAGO	
Vocalists	Theresa Kesser, <i>Treble Section Leader</i>	The Parish Choir
<hr/>		
Head Usher		Kurt Herbst
Usher(s)	Kurt Hansmann	Wes Nelson
Altar Guild	Grace Hansmann Gerri Giles	Jen Roth Kathy Roth
Coffee Hour Host		Kim Wilson

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JANUARY 27 *Lydia, Dorcas, & Phoebe: Witnesses to the Faith*

12:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting HOLY CROSS HALL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28 *Thomas Aquinas, Teacher*

1:00 PM Staff Meeting MEZZANINE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

8:00 AM Meal Ministry Prep KITCHEN

12:10 PM Noonday Holy Communion NAVE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

10:00 AM Renovation Task Force MEZZANINE / ZOOM

6:00 PM Youth Ministry Committee Meeting ZOOM

6:30 PM Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal CHOIR LOFT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

12:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting HOLY CROSS HALL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

9:30 AM Parish Choir Rehearsal CHOIR ROOM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2: THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

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 NAVE

12:00 PM Health Ministry Committee Meeting HOLY CROSS HALL

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

4:00 PM Small Group Bible Study ZOOM

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. Joseph G. Murdy, OLF, *Interim 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 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, *St. Paul, Zeli. / Zion, Harmony*
The Rev. Canon Natalie G. Hall, *Church of the Redeemer*
The Rev. S. Cyril Hurnyak
The Rev. Leonard J. Larsen
The Rev. Jennifer Peters McCurry, *Carnegie Mellon Univ.*
The Rev. Caroline Mendis
The Rev. Martin M. Roth

MISSIONARIES

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

ORGAN ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Dr. Ann Labounsky Steele

COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE

Joyce Moon Strobel



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

