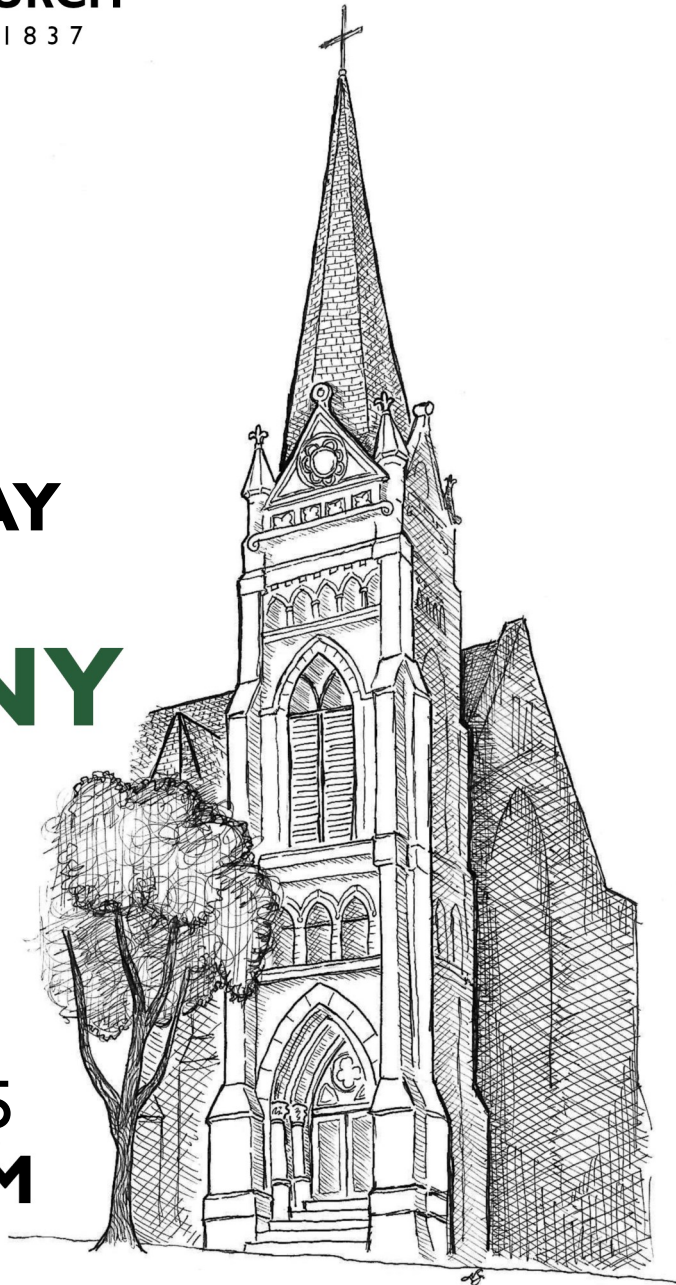


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDED JANUARY 15, 1837

**THE
SIXTH SUNDAY
AFTER THE
EPIPHANY**

**February 16, 2025
8:30 & 11:00 AM**



615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, 15219

Ph: 412-471-8125 ✧ flc@flcpittsburgh.org ✧ 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 ✠

FLOWERS

THE CENTERPIECE

is given to the glory of God.

LAMPS February 10 - 23

SANCTUARY

*is given in celebration of our
second wedding anniversary by
Nancy Headrick & Harry Obley.*

VOTIVE

*is given in memory of Mary &
Myer Headrick by Nancy
Headrick & Harry Obley.*

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 16, 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

Prière, Op. 18

Louis Raffy

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

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

ELW 722

1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,

Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:

The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,

to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
 Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833
 Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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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.

Lord God, mercifully receive the prayers of your people. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them; through your Son, 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—Jeremiah 17:5-10

L A reading from Jeremiah.

⁵ Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

8:30 AM

THE PSALMODY—Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

LBW Tone 9

Sung responsively, Soloist / All



- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,*
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!
- ² **Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,***
and they meditate on his law | day and night.
- ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do not wither;*
everything they | do shall prosper.
- ⁴ **It is not so | with the wicked;***
they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,*
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.
- ⁶ **For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,***
but the way of the wick- | ed is doomed.

11:00 AM

THE PSALMODY—Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

setting by Peter Hallock

Sung by the Choir

THE SECOND LESSON—I Corinthians 15:12-20

L A reading from First Corinthians.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand.

THE VERSE

C. Pock

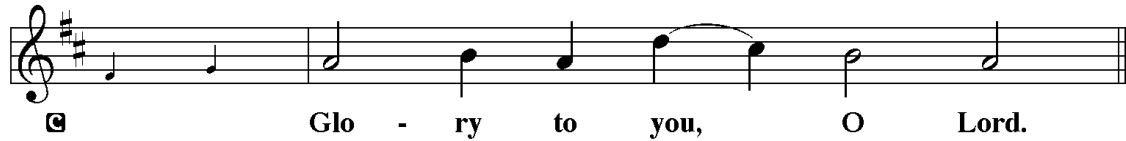
The Alleluia is intoned once by the Soloist/Choir, and repeated by All.



Rejoice, and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven.

THE HOLY GOSPEL—Saint Luke 6:17-26

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



¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

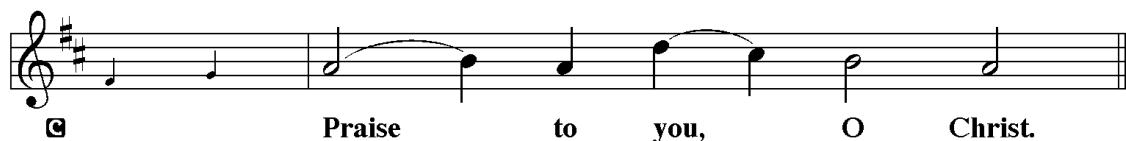
“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

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

Blest are They

ELW 728

St. 1—Soloist / Choir • 2—All • 3—Men • 4—Women • 5—All • Refrain—All



Solo 1 Blest are they, the poor in spi - rit; theirs is the
All 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; they shall in -
M 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; mer - cy
W 4 Blest are they who seek peace; they are the
All 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate all be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they, full of
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who hun - ger and
 shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of
 child - ren of God. Blest are they who suf - fer in
 cause of me. Re - joice, be glad, yours is the



sor - row; they shall be con - soled.
 thirst; they shall have their fill.
 heart; they shall see God.
 faith; the glory of God is theirs.
 king - dom; shine for all to see.

Refrain All



Re - joice and be glad! Bles-sed are you, ho-ly are you! Re -



joice and be glad! Yours is the king-dom of God!

Text: David Haas (b. 1957)
 Tune: David Haas, ©1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright* Philip M. Young

O splendor of God's glory bright, who bringest forth the light from Light; O Light of light, light's fountain spring, O Day of days illumining. Come, very Sun of truth and love, come in thy radiance from above, and shed the Holy Spirit's ray on all we think or do today. Teach us to work with all our might, put Satan's fierce assaults to flight. Turn all to good that seems most ill, help us our calling to fulfill. All praise to God the Father be, all praise eternal Son to thee, who with the Spirit we adore, forever and forever more. Amen. — Saint Ambrose (340-397)

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 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 blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

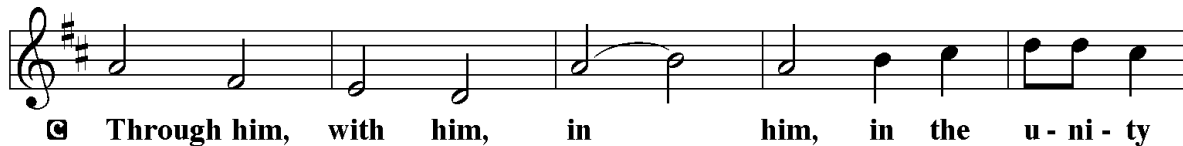
With joy we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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 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



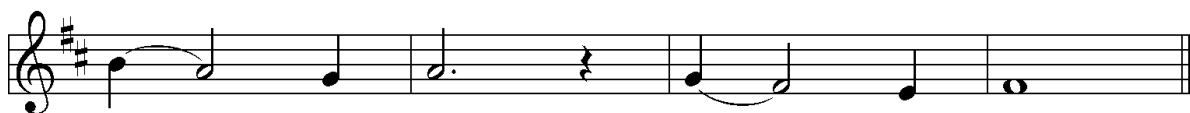
☪ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

8:30 AM

Ubi Caritas

Becki Slagle Mayo

HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960
Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870-1957
Text and music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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



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

God of Grace and God of Glory

H'82 594

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;

crown thine an-cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
 From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
 shame our wan-ton, self - ish glad-ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
 let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt.
 Tune: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes (1837-1932)

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE POSTLUDE

8:30 AM	<i>Christe Sanctorum</i>	John Eggert
11:00 AM	<i>Sortie Improvisé</i>	Dr. Ann Labounsky

THIS MORNING AT FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 16

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR EVANS IS AWAY on vacation. He will return to FLC for liturgies next Sunday, February 23. If you have an urgent pastoral need outside of regular office hours, please call our emergency line at **412-471-6507** and leave a message. A pastor will return your call.

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC: We extend thanks to Organ Artist in Residence, Dr. Ann Labounsky, for improvising the postlude at 11:00 AM. The improvisation includes phrases of the hymns which were just sung during worship, woven together in a creative manner. The anthem at offering is a prayer by Saint Ambrose (340-397), set by American composer Philip M. Young (b. 1937).

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. Friends are welcome!

INSTALLATION OF CYM: On **Sunday, February 23** at the 8:30 AM service, Amy Bills will be installed as First Lutheran Church's Coordinator of Youth Ministry, Christian Education, & Fellowship (CYM).

NEW PASCHAL (EASTER) CANDLE: If you would like to make a donation to help defray the cost of the new Paschal Candle this year, please contact Christine at cgh@flcpittsburgh.org or 412-471-8125. A dedication may be included in the Easter Flower booklet.

YOUTH GROUP OUTING TO CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER: The Youth Group will visit the Carnegie Science Center on **Sunday, February 23**. Following the 11:00 AM service we will gather in Holy Cross Hall for pizza and then take the T from Steel Plaza to the Northside. **This activity is set to run from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.** Youth can be picked up in front of the Science Center. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Please contact Amy Bills at cym@flcpittsburgh.org to RSVP.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND TEACHER APPRECIATION: Support our Youth Group and Sunday School teachers on **Sunday, March 2 at 9:45 AM** in Holy Cross Hall at our annual pancake breakfast and teacher appreciation. First Church's youth will cook and serve made-to-order pancakes and raise money for activities. Teachers will be recognized for their service and dedication.

FAMILY CIRCUS PARTY AT THE TOY LENDING LIBRARY: Please drop in and play alongside other families from First Lutheran on **Friday, March 14, 2025**. We will serve food around 5:30 PM. If you would like to attend, please fill out the form that can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/FamilyCircusFLC> If you have questions, please contact Emily Weimer at eharmon130@gmail.com. Friends are welcome!

CALL FOR COMMUNION ASSISTANTS/ASSISTING MINISTERS: Please consider serving as worship assistants on Sundays. Assisting Ministers serve as assistant to the presiding minister, leading prayers, preparing the altar for communion and administering the Cup. Communion Assistants administer the wine at communion and perform other small tasks at the altar. Time commitment is about one Sunday a month. Training is available. Please contact Christine Hoffman, who coordinates the assistants by calling 412- 471-8125 or email cgh@flcpittsburgh.org. Thank you!

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!

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.

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.

ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 5, 2025

Imposition of Ashes
8:30 AM

Holy Communion
with Imposition of Ashes
12:00 PM & 7:00 PM



Join us as we begin our annual Lenten pilgrimage toward the cross of Christ.

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 Lutheran Church** will be on duty Tuesday-Thursday, **February 18 - 20.**

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 March 17.

SERVING TODAY

	8:30 AM		11:00 AM
Presiding Minister			Pr. Murdy
Preacher			Pr. Murdy
Assisting Minister	Kathy Pfister		Frances Verschuure
Communion Assistants	Richard King Kathy Stefani		Amy Bills Daniel Weimer
Lectors	Richard Moncure		Maggie Wolfram
Acolyte(s)	Ben Pasternak	C	Nate Wilson
	Vivian Evans	A	Emily Wilson
Cantor	Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, OLF, AAGO		
Vocalists	Megan Wall, <i>Treble Section Leader</i>		The Parish Choir
	Bel Canto		
Head Usher			Kurt Herbst
Usher(s)	Kurt Hansmann		Wes Nelson
Altar Guild	Gerri Giles Nora Nealon		Becky Lauffer Kathy Lauffer

CALENDAR

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Church Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day

6:30 PM Congregation Council Meeting HOLY CROSS HALL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 *Martin Luther, Renewer of the Church*

Walk-In Week Begins

1:00 PM Staff Meeting MEZZANINE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

8:00 AM Meal Ministry Prep KITCHEN

12:10 PM Noonday Holy Communion NAVE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

10:00 AM Renovation Task Force MEZZANINE / ZOOM

6:30 PM Gloria Dei Ringers Rehearsal CHOIR LOFT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

12:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting HOLY CROSS HALL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

9:30 AM Parish Choir Rehearsal CHOIR ROOM

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 23

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

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

12:15 PM Youth Group Outing to Carnegie Science Center VARIOUS

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, *Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Daniel E. Hall, MD, *Assisting Episcopal Priest*
Sr. Cynthia A. Pock, OLF, AAGO, *Cantor*
Ms. Amy Bills, *Christian Ed., Youth Ministry, & Fellowship*
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

