



## Order of Worship

*We regret that we cannot gather in person, but we are grateful to be gathered in spirit.  
We invite you to spend a few moments in quiet meditation to prepare yourself for worship  
and allow yourself to be surrounded by the peace of Christ before we begin.*

### PRELUDE

Noël

Louis-Claude Daquin

*Justin M. Wallace, organ*

### OPENING CAROL

Once in Royal David's City

*Irby*

*Gail Roup, soprano*

1. (SOLO) Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed.  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.
2. (ENSEMBLE) He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.
- ▲ 3. Jesus is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us He grew,  
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew:  
And He feeleth for our sadness, and He shareth in our gladness.
4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;  
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895).

Music: Henry John Gauntlett, 1849. Harmonization: Arthur Henry Mann, 1919.

## BIDDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Reverend Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

Mr. Wesley C. Smith, *Student Assistant Pastor*

Genesis 3

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

## CHOIR CAROL

This Is the Truth

Mark A. Boyle

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love; therefore don't turn me from your door but hearken all, both rich and poor. The first thing which I do relate, that God at first did man create; the next thing which to you I tell, woman was made with him to dwell. Then after this, 'twas God's own choice to place them both in Paradise, there to remain from evil free, except they ate of such a tree. But they did eat, which was a sin, and thus their ruin did begin — ruined themselves, both you and me, and all of their posterity. Thus we were heirs to endless woes till God the Lord did interpose; for so a promise soon did run: that He'd redeem us with a Son. So listen now as we declare our Savior's story everywhere. It all began in garden old and finds its way to manger cold.

Text: Verses 1-5, traditional English folk song. Verse 6, Mark A. Boyle.

## SECOND LESSON

Mr. Robert K. Felter

Genesis 22

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

## CHOIR CAROL

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Traditional plainsong chant, 9<sup>th</sup> century

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore. O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing; powers, dominions, bow before Him and extol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring, evermore and evermore. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be, honor, glory, and dominion and eternal victory, evermore and evermore! Amen.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348–413).

Translation: John Mason Neale, 1854, and Henry Williams Baker, 1859.

## THIRD LESSON

Ms. Brigetta P. Del Re, *Elder*

Isaiah 9

*The prophet in exile foresees the coming of the glory of the Lord.*

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*Regent Square*

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
*(Refrain:) Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!*
2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: *(Refrain)*
3. Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great desire of nations; ye have seen His natal star: *(Refrain)*
4. All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising to th' eternal Three in One: *(Refrain)*

Text: Stanzas 1-3, James Montgomery, 1816, 1825. Stanza 4, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857.

Music: Henry Thomas Smart, 1867.

## FOURTH LESSON

Mr. Jonathan P. Stamy

Isaiah 11

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

## CHOIR CAROL

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

*Es ist ein' Ros'*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung; it came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore for us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

Text: German carol, 15<sup>th</sup> century. Translation: Theodore Baker (1851-1934), alt.

Music: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Cologne, 1599;

arranged by Michael Praetorius, 1609.

## FIFTH LESSON

Dr. Margaret A. Ross Mehl, *Elder*

Luke 1

*The angel Gabriel visits the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

## CHOIR CAROL

Magnificat

Michael McCabe

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For He that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is His name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away. He, remembering His mercy, hath holpen His servant Israel; as He promised to our forefathers, Abraham, and his seed forever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Text: Luke 1:46-55

## SIXTH LESSON

The Reverend Todd E. Leach

Luke 2

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Away in a Manger

*Cradle Song*

1. Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.
2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Text: Stanzas 1-2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, ca. 1885.  
Stanza 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892. Music: William James Kirkpatrick, 1895.

## SEVENTH LESSON

The Reverend Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith

Luke 2

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

## CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
(Refrain:) *Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.*
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? (Refrain)
3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

Text: French carol. Translation: James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: French carol, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937. Copyright © 1937, renewed 1965, Fleming H. Revell Company, H. Augustine Smith Jr., from the *New Church Hymnal*. All rights reserved.

## EIGHTH LESSON

The Reverend Lynn M. Portz

Matthew 2

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

## CHOIR CAROL

The Three Kings

Peter Cornelius

*Brian Doherty, baritone*

Three kings came forth from an Eastern land, a bright star led them to Jordan-strand; and when they came into Judah, the three asked where the newborn King should be: for gold and myrrh and frankincense they brought to lay before His Innocence. The star shine high in a firmament, and to the stable the three kings went; and when they looked on that Child so sweet, the three kings bend them low at His feet. They brought a gift was lovelier than gold or frankincense or myrrh. O child of man, take the pilgrim's way; the three kings took it, do thou as they; the star of mercy, the star of love shall light thy path to the Lord above. Leave frankincense and myrrh and gold; give Him thy heart to have and hold.

Text: Peter Cornelius. Translation: Arthur Henry Fox Strangways.

## NINTH LESSON

The Reverend Dr. John A. Dalles

John 1

*St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

## ▲ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Adeste fideles*

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels! *(Refrain:)*  
*O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*
2. God of God, light of light,  
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created: *(Refrain)*
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God\_\_\_, glory in the highest! *(Refrain)*
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee\_\_\_ be all glo—ry given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *(Refrain)*

Text: John Francis Wade (1711-1786). Translation: Frederick Oakeley, 1841.

Music: John Francis Wade. Harmonization: *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

## ▲ COLLECT AND BLESSING

**Minister:** Let us pray. O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive Him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold Him, when He shall come to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

**All:** **Amen.**

**Minister:** May He, who by His incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**All:** **Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

Postlude on *Mendelssohn*

David Willcocks

*Justin M. Wallace, organ*

## Soli Deo gloria!

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*Thank you for worshipping with us virtually this day.  
Please let us know you joined us online today by [clicking here](#) and completing the form.*

### Today from Shadyside Presbyterian Church

**Singing in the Chancel Choir Ensemble this afternoon are** Meghan DeWald Althouse, Kathy Linger, and Gail Roup, soprano; Jane M. Boyle and Jolanta Doherty, alto; Mark A. Boyle, Alex Sabo, and Timothy Stoddard, tenor; Brian Doherty, baritone; and Hayden Keefer, bass.

**We extend our deepest thanks to Dr. Mark A. Boyle** for his videography and editing work on today's video. We also thank Stephen M. Donnelly for contributing additional footage.

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### Virtual Vespers in Advent

..... *Wednesdays, December 9 and 16, at 7:00 p.m.* .....

During the liturgical season of Advent, Shadyside Presbyterian Church invites you to join us each Wednesday for an evening of music and reflection. These online-only candlelight Communion services include a homily, the Lord's Supper, and music offered by the Shadyside Strings, Chatham Baroque, and a chamber choir.

To connect remotely, visit [www.shadysidepres.org](http://www.shadysidepres.org).

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### Christmas with the Camerata

..... *Sunday, December 13, at 3:00 p.m.* .....

In this exclusive web-based concert, the Pittsburgh Camerata sings a program of choral and vocal music for Christmas. Recorded in advance, the performance will be released for viewing online at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 13, and available through midnight on Friday, January 1. Hear the music of the season sung by Pittsburgh's premier professional chamber choir, under the direction of Mark A. Anderson, the church's Director of Music Ministry and the Camerata's Artistic Director.

Virtual tickets and subscriptions may be purchased online at [www.pittsburghcamerata.org](http://www.pittsburghcamerata.org).

## History of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College, Cambridge, was first held on Christmas Eve 1918. It was planned by Eric Milner-White, who at the age of thirty-four had just been appointed Dean of King's after experience as an army chaplain which had convinced him that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship. (He devised King's Advent Carol Service in 1934, and was a liturgical pioneer and authority during his twenty-two years as Dean of York.) The music was then directed by Arthur Henry Mann, organist from 1876 to 1929. The choir included sixteen trebles as laid down in King Henry VI's statutes, but until 1927 the men's voices were provided partly by Choral Scholars and partly by older Lay Clerks, and not, as now, by fourteen undergraduates.

A revision of the Order of Service was made in 1919, involving rearrangement of the lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the hymn "Once in Royal David's City." In almost every year, some carols have been changed and some new ones introduced by successive organists: Arthur Henry Mann; Boris Ord, 1929-1957; Harold Darke (his substitute during the war), 1940-1945; Sir David Willcocks, 1957-1973; Philip Ledger, 1974-1982; and, from 1982, Stephen Cleobury. The backbone of the service, the lessons and the prayers, has remained virtually unchanged.

The original service was, in fact, adapted from an Order drawn up by E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed, which then served as his cathedral in Truro, at 10:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve 1880. A.C. Benson recalled: "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve – nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop." The suggestion had come from G.H.S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh.

Almost immediately, other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider frame began to grow when the service was first broadcast in 1928, and, with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War, when the ancient glass (and also all heat) had been removed from the Chapel and the name of King's could not be broadcast for security reasons. Sometime in the early 1930s, the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programs. It is estimated that there are millions of listeners worldwide, including those to Radio Four in the United Kingdom. In recent years, it has become the practice to broadcast a digital recording on Christmas Day on Radio Three, and since 1963 a shorter service has been filmed periodically for television. Recordings of carols by Decca and EMI have also served to spread its fame.

In these and other ways, the service has become public property. From time to time, the College receives copies of services held, for example, in the West Indies or the Far East, and these show how widely the tradition has spread. The broadcasts, too, have become part of Christmas for many far from Cambridge. One correspondent writes that he heard the service in a tent on the foothills of Everest; another, in the desert. Many listen at home, busy about their own preparations for Christmas. Visitors from all over the world are heard to identify the Chapel as "the place where the carols are sung."

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out, derive from the lessons and not the music. “The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God . . .” seen “through the windows and words of the Bible.” Local interests appear, as they do here, in the bidding prayer, and personal circumstances give point to different parts of the service. Many of those who took part in the first service must have recalled those killed in the Great War when it came to the famous passage “all those who rejoice with us but on another shore and in a greater light.” The center of the service is still found by those who “go in heart and mind” and who consent to follow where the story leads.

To-night ungather'd let us leave  
This laurel, let this holly stand:  
We live within the stranger's land,  
And strangely falls our Christmas-eve.

Our father's dust is left alone  
And silent under other snows:  
There in due time the woodbine blows,  
The violet comes, but we are gone.

Let cares that petty shadows cast,  
By which our lives are chiefly proved,  
A little spare the night I loved,  
And hold it solemn to the past.

But let no footstep beat the floor,  
Nor bowl of wassail mantle warm;  
For who would keep an ancient form  
Thro' which the spirit breathes no more?

Be neither song, nor game, nor feast;  
Nor harp be touch'd, nor flute be blown;  
No dance, no motion, save alone  
What lightens in the lucid east

Of rising worlds by yonder wood.  
Long sleeps the summer in the seed;  
Run out your measured arcs, and lead  
The closing cycle rich in good.

“In Memoriam,” CV – Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Text adapted from the website of King's College, Cambridge: [www.kings.cam.ac.uk](http://www.kings.cam.ac.uk)

## News and Notes

**Building Status** - Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the church building is open on a limited basis to members and guests by appointment only. With the exception of small weddings, funerals, and memorial services, all other activities, including Sunday services of worship, will not meet on-site until further notice. In order to recommend our advancement to the next stage of re-opening at the appropriate juncture, the COVID-19 Task Force is monitoring government guidance as well as local data for COVID-19 cases and positivity rates.

**Virtual Friendship Pad** - Please take a moment to let us know you joined us today by “signing” our virtual friendship pad. Complete the form at [www.shadysidepres.org/check-in](http://www.shadysidepres.org/check-in) and click submit. Thank you!

**Prayer Gatherings** occur on Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., and on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. You are invited to join us for a time of silent and spoken prayers, as we bring our concerns before God. If you cannot be with us in person, we encourage you to remember the congregation in your prayers at these same times. This is one of the many ways we can express our care for one another. While the COVID-19 countermeasures remain in effect, both prayer groups will meet virtually via Zoom videoconferencing. Please contact Deacon Connie Coffelt through the church office to access the meetings.

**Thursday Morning Coffee with Rev. Leach** - While practicing “social distancing” we can be intentional about remaining connected with one another. Rev. Todd E. Leach is inviting you to join in casual and informal conversation with him and others on Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. This is an opportunity for us to check in with one another and, perhaps, share creative ideas of embracing this time of “self-isolation.” To join the conversation, contact Rev. Todd Leach: [tleach@shadysidepres.org](mailto:tleach@shadysidepres.org).

**Women at the Well** - Women of all ages are welcome to gather online with the “Women at the Well” for in-depth Bible study, discussion, and fellowship. Friendships and connections grow deeper when we share the Scriptures in study and prayer. This fall, we are exploring *Everything You Need*, a study guide by Dr. David Jeremiah. In general, we meet from 10:30 a.m. to noon on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, but check the calendar for exceptions. Our next virtual gathering occurs Thursday, December 10. Please contact Deacon Connie Coffelt through the church office to access the meeting via Zoom.

**Friday Evening Scripture and Prayer** - Shadyside Presbyterian Church’s Prayer Ministries invite you to a time of spiritual connection as we experience physical distancing. Gather with us via Zoom videoconferencing on Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. to read the daily lectionary Scriptures and pray together. Please contact Deacon Adam Loucks through the church office to access the meeting.

**Children’s Chapel** - The Children’s Ministry of Shadyside Presbyterian Church invites families to gather remotely with us for our weekly online chapel time on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Children enjoy singing songs, hearing a story from the Bible, and praying with us. Chapel worship streams live through a protected Facebook group; for access, please contact Ellen Allston: [eallston@shadysidepres.org](mailto:eallston@shadysidepres.org). To view previous videos, visit the church’s YouTube channel. We’re looking forward to celebrating Jesus with you!

**Virtual Time of Fellowship** - Immediately following worship, the Parish Life Ministry Team will host an informal Time of Fellowship online so that we may connect with one another and share the blessings and challenges we are experiencing in this time of isolation. Folks are welcome to “come and go” as we check in with one another. To participate in future virtual fellowship gatherings via Zoom videoconferencing, please contact Kaysie Strickland through the church office before noon on Friday.

**Christmas Poinsettias** – The Board of Deacons will approach our Flower Ministry’s poinsettia options differently this season. Although we are unable to provide you with the opportunity to order a poinsettia plant for yourself this year, we invite you to support the church’s flower fund and to place loved ones’ names in the bulletin. There is no required minimum amount for a donation; please give whatever you deem appropriate and know that, in addition to beautifying the Sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas seasons, you also will be bringing joy to those who would be blessed by a poinsettia delivered by the deacons. Visit [www.shadysidepres.org/poinsettia](http://www.shadysidepres.org/poinsettia) before Friday, December 18, for details and instructions.

**The Virtual Giving Tree** will benefit the families at Sojourner House; Sojourner House’s Mentoring, Opportunity, Motivation, and Spirituality (MOMS) program; and the Pennsylvania Organization for Women in Early Recovery (POWER). Please visit [www.shadysidepres.org/giving-tree](http://www.shadysidepres.org/giving-tree) to select the name of a recipient, along with the corresponding clothing size and color preference. Gift-wrapped packages should be returned to the church by Sunday, December 20; please affix to the package the gift tag that will be emailed to you. Questions? Please contact Deacon Lisa Iadicicco through the church office.

**Presbyterian Mission Giving: Alternative Gifts** – If you are looking for a special gift for a loved one, consider giving a meaningful gift from the **Presbyterian Giving Catalog**. View [this video](#) to see how such giving can support a community’s vision for transformation. Explore a wide variety of gifts that provide real and positive impact around the world – including aid for refugees, access to clean water, and helping to end hunger. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rev. Todd E. Leach: [tleach@shadysidepres.org](mailto:tleach@shadysidepres.org).

**Virtual Midweek Vespers** will not be held online on Wednesdays, December 23 and 30. Midweek Music Ministry programs will begin on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. on YouTube and Facebook.

**Adult Christian Education Classes** will not be held at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, December 27, 2020, or on Sunday, January 3, 2021. Education classes for adults will resume online Sunday, January 10, 2020, at 9:45 a.m.

**Pledges and Year-end Giving** – As we come to the close of the year, please consider whether you have completed paying your pledge for this calendar year. For those who make year-end gifts, please remember the church in your giving. Both pledges and gifts must be **received** by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 30, in order to be included in this year. Looking ahead, if you have not made your pledge for 2021, please do so by returning your form to the church, or pledge online by visiting [www.shadysidepres.org/pledge](http://www.shadysidepres.org/pledge).

**eGiving Options** – Shadyside Presbyterian Church offers secure eGiving options in order to encourage faithful stewardship. Please visit [www.shadysidepres.org/give](http://www.shadysidepres.org/give) to begin a one-time or recurring contribution; or, text **SHADYSIDE** and an amount to 73256, then follow the link to complete your gift. Thank you for faithfully supporting the mission and ministry of Shadyside Presbyterian Church.

**The Pastor Nominating Committee** is comprised of seven members of the congregation: Susan Balaan, Sara Brooke, Don Coffelt, Percy Jackson, Adam Loucks, Ann Pauley, and Janet Rohrer. Previous updates from the PNC are published on the church website: [www.shadysidepres.org/pnc](http://www.shadysidepres.org/pnc). You may contact them via email: [pnc@shadysidepres.org](mailto:pnc@shadysidepres.org). Please continue to pray for them as they work to discern whom God is calling to be our next senior pastor.

**PrayerNet** complements our ongoing prayer groups by lifting up urgent prayer requests. If you or a loved one are in need of urgent prayer, or if you would like to become a PrayerNet prayer partner to help lift up these requests, email member Krissy Geffel at [prayernet@shadysidepres.org](mailto:prayernet@shadysidepres.org). Confidentiality, if requested for names and/or situations, will be maintained.

**Care and Support** – Your pastors, staff, elders, deacons, and Care Team remain deeply committed to caring for our congregation. We are making every effort to remain connected, especially with those who are most vulnerable and those who may be feeling lonely or anxious. We encourage you to stay connected by phone, email, or social media. Please don't hesitate to reach out by any of these means if you want to talk to someone.

**By God's Side: Blog from Dr. Dalles** – Shadyside Presbyterian Church publishes *By God's Side*, a weekly series of inspirational reflections from the Reverend Dr. John A. Dalles, to support you in your spiritual journey. These pastoral messages appear in the blog section of the church website; each week, an excerpt is included in the *Mini-Mouse* e-newsletter with a link to continue reading the full blog entry on the website. (If you do not already receive the e-newsletter, please see below.) We hope this regular feature will help you to draw closer to God's side in your life of faith.

**The Mini-Mouse** – Sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletter by sending your subscription request in an email message to [info@shadysidepres.org](mailto:info@shadysidepres.org) or by following the instructions at [shadysidepres.org/mini-mouse](http://shadysidepres.org/mini-mouse).

**The Shadyside Presbyterian Church online worship archive** contains audio recordings of worship from previous years, which we encourage you to explore. We hope these archived resources will enhance your personal devotional time as we face an extended period of physical separation from our community of faith.

**The Shadyside Presbyterian Church website, [www.shadysidepres.org](http://www.shadysidepres.org)**, provides additional information about the church's programs and activities, as well as access to video and audio recordings of worship.

## Mission Partnerships of Shadyside Presbyterian Church

The mission outreach efforts of Shadyside Presbyterian Church range from educating community youth and feeding the homeless, to international efforts of caring for orphans and promoting health care. Please visit [www.shadysidepres.org/serve-others](http://www.shadysidepres.org/serve-others) for more information regarding the church's local, national, and international mission partners.

### Virtual Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve

..... Thursday, December 24, at 8:00 p.m. ....

This virtual service begins with a prelude by harpist Nuiko Wadden and concludes with the singing of "Silent Night" during a ceremony of lights. Enjoy this beloved tradition from the safety of your home. To connect remotely, please visit [www.shadysidepres.org](http://www.shadysidepres.org).

# Church Calendar

..... December 6 - 13 .....

<b>TODAY</b> <i>December 6</i>	3:00 p.m.	Virtual Service of Lessons and Carols on YouTube and Facebook
<b>TUESDAY</b>	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer Group via Zoom Videoconferencing
	5:00 p.m.	Yoga via Zoom Videoconferencing
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study via Zoom Videoconferencing
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7:00 p.m.	Virtual Vespers in Advent on YouTube and Facebook
<b>THURSDAY</b>	9:30 a.m.	Morning Coffee with Rev. Leach via Zoom Videoconferencing
	10:30 a.m.	“Women at the Well” Bible Study via Zoom Videoconferencing
	6:30 p.m.	Pastor Nominating Committee via Zoom Videoconferencing
	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer Group via Zoom Videoconferencing
<b>FRIDAY</b>	7:30 p.m.	Evening Scripture and Prayer Gathering via Zoom Videoconferencing
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>December 13</i>	9:30 a.m.	Adult Christian Education Studies via Zoom Videoconferencing
	10:30 a.m.	Children’s Chapel in the Children’s and Family Ministries’ Facebook Group
	11:00 a.m.	Virtual Worship on YouTube and Facebook – Third Sunday of Advent Rev. Dr. John A. Dalles, preaching
	11:45 a.m.	Virtual Time of Fellowship via Zoom Videoconferencing
	3:00 p.m.	“Christmas with the Camerata” Virtual Concert via pittsburghcamerata.org

## Daily Prayer Lectionary Readings

..... December 6 - 13 .....

<b>Sunday, December 6</b> Psalms 24; 150 Isaiah 5:1-7 2 Peter 3:11-18 Luke 7:28-35	<b>Tuesday, December 8</b> Psalms 33; 146 Isaiah 5:18-25 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 Luke 21:29-38	<b>Thursday, December 10</b> Psalms 18:1-20; 147:12-20 Isaiah 7:1-9 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 Luke 22:1-13	<b>Saturday, December 12</b> Psalms 90; 149 Isaiah 8:1-15 2 Thessalonians 3:6-18 Luke 22:31-38
<b>Monday, December 7</b> Psalms 122; 145 Isaiah 5:8-17 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Luke 21:20-28	<b>Wednesday, December 9</b> Psalms 50; 147:1-11 Isaiah 6:1-13 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12 John 7:53-8:11	<b>Friday, December 11</b> Psalms 102; 148 Isaiah 7:10-25 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5 Luke 22:14-30	<b>Sunday, December 13</b> Psalms 24; 150 Isaiah 13:1-13 Hebrews 12:18-29 John 3:22-30

## Adult Christian Education

..... Sundays prior to Worship .....

On Sunday mornings, the Adult Christian Education Team invites you to gather online to attend the study of your choice. [Click here](#) to learn more about each class, including access instructions.

### BIBLE STUDY

The Pauline Epistles:  
1 Corinthians  
Led by Elder Jason M. Huber  
via Zoom Videoconferencing at 9:45 a.m.

### TOPICAL STUDY

*Handel's Messiah: The Gospel in Words and Music*  
Part One: November 8 through December 20  
Led by Elder Margaret E. Heely  
via Zoom Videoconferencing at 9:30 a.m.

## Church Staff

John A. Dalles, *Interim Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*

Todd E. Leach, *Associate Pastor for Missions*

Lynn M. Portz, *Associate Pastor for Parish Life*

Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith, *Associate Pastor*

Wesley C. Smith, *Student Assistant Pastor*

Ellen L. Allston, *Director of Christian Education for  
Children's Ministry*

Mark A. Anderson, *Director of Music Ministry*

Peter F. Bodnar, *Director of Communications*

Jane M. Boyle, *Assistant Children's Choir Director*

Steven M. Bright, *Hospitality Coordinator*

Judy A. Brust, *Accountant*

Robert A. Coder, *Director of Finance*

Wayne W. Diggs, *Sexton*

Stephen M. Donnelly, *Associate for Children's Music  
Education*

Della L. Ellard, *Administrative Assistant*

Ruth E. Garrett, *Assistant to the Senior Pastor*

Mary E. Lang, *Director of the Nursery School*

Dennis H. Martin, *Head Sexton*

Bobby C. Pack Jr., *Sexton*

Nancy M. Shaytar, *Director of Finance Emerita*

Kaysie L. Strickland, *Assistant to the Associate Pastors*

Justin M. Wallace, *Assistant Organist*

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**A Member of the Pittsburgh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (USA)**

*Shadyside Presbyterian Church seeks to reflect God's unconditional love as we proclaim, witness to, and celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ. We strive to be a worshiping, welcoming, learning, and serving community of faith that is comforted, challenged, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.*

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