

Order of Worship

We invite you to create a worship space for yourself by preparing Communion elements in advance. Consider gathering grape juice and bread; another beverage, crackers, or matzo also work. At the point that we celebrate the Lord's Supper, the pastor will guide you. We also invite you to light a candle in your worship space if it is safe to do so. Even as we are physically distanced, it is the same light of Christ that shines in all our darkness.

PRELUDE

Sonata III in D minor

Antonio Vivaldi

Chatham Baroque

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith

Pastor: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His faithful, to those who turn to Him in their hearts.

People: **Surely His salvation is at hand for those who fear Him, that His glory may dwell in our land.**

Pastor: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

People: **Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

Pastor: The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

People: **Righteousness will go before Him, and will make a path for His steps.**

Psalm 85:8-13

▲ HYMN 12

People, Look East

Besançon

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way.

(Hymn continues on page 2.)

3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way.
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love the star is on the way.
5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), as in *Oxford Book of Carols*, 1964. Text © David Higham Assoc., Ltd. All rights reserved. Music: French folk melody. Harmonization: Martin Shaw (1875-1958). Harmonization © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(spoken in unison)*

Lord Jesus, as You have come to us, let us now come to You. Our hearts are cold. Warm them with Your selfless love. Our hearts are sinful. Cleanse them with Your precious blood. Our hearts are weak. Strengthen them with Your joyous Spirit. Our hearts are empty. Fill them with Your divine presence. Lord Jesus, our hearts are Yours. Possess them always and only for Yourself.

St. Augustine

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(sung in unison)*

Veni Emmanuel

O come, Thou Wisdom from_ on high, who ord'rest all things mi—ghtily; to us the path of know—ledge show, and teach us in her ways_ to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Text: Latin, ca. 12th century. Translation: John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1854.

Music adapted by Thomas Helmore, 1854.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Believe the good news of the Gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(sung in unison)*

Valet will ich dir geben

A glorious crown You give me, a treasure safe on high, that will not fail nor leave me as earthly riches fly. Our hearts shall bloom forever for You with praises new, and from Your name shall never withhold the honor due.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1653. Translation: Catherine Winkworth and others, 1863; alt.

Music: Melchior Teschner, 1614. Harmonization: William Henry Monk, 1861.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Reverend Lynn M. Portz

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40:1-11

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY

The Reverend Lynn M. Portz

▲ HYMN OF RESPONSE

Carol

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart; O Christ, abide with us, and spread Thy table in our heart. There sup with us in love divine; Thy body and Thy blood, that living bread, that heav'nly wine, be our immortal food.

Text: James Montgomery, 1825; alt. Music: Richard Storrs Willis, 1850.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Reverend Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

We embody our unity in Christ through the action of partaking. Along with the pastor, please partake of the bread and then the cup.

PRAYER OF RESPONSE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

▲ HYMN 3

Comfort, Comfort You My People

Psalm 42

1. Comfort, comfort you my people, tell of peace, thus says our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load.
Speak you to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.

(Hymn continues on page 4.)

2. For the herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near,
Bidding us to make repentance since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.
3. Make you straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain:
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign,
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1671. Translation: Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt.

Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551.

▲ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Chaconne in D Major

Chatham Baroque

Nicolas Clèrambault

Soli Deo gloria!

*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

We welcome Chatham Baroque: Andrew Fouts, violin; Patricia Halverson, viola da gamba; and Scott Pauley, theorbo. This evening's music is made possible by a grant from the William E. Saul Fund of Shadyside Presbyterian Church.

Singing in the Chancel Choir Ensemble this evening are Dr. Kathy Linger, soprano; Lauren Boyle, alto; Ben Werley, tenor; and Hayden Keefer, bass.

The Communion Chalice, Flagon, and Plate used today are dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of Momoko Hayase Mills, who faithfully prepared the Lord's Table in this Sanctuary with humble reverence and deep love for decades. Commissioned by Shadyside Presbyterian Church, the Communion set was fashioned by Deacon Garret B. Smith. We give thanks to God both for Momoko's caring service and for Garret's talented craftsmanship.

We extend our deepest thanks to Stephen Donnelly for his videography and editing work on this evening's video. We also thank Jesse Naus for his assistance in recording the audio of the Chancel Choir Ensemble.

We gratefully acknowledge the helpful contributions of the Session's task force for online worship: Elders John E. B. Baldrige, Brigetta P. Del Re, and Victoria L. Potter, who assisted in coordinating the logistics of presenting a virtual service of worship on the Internet.

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.

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Virtual Vespers in Advent

..... Wednesday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m.

Shadyside Presbyterian Church invites you to join us for an evening of music and reflection on Wednesday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. when we offer our final virtual vespers of the Advent season. This online-only candlelight Communion service includes a homily, the Lord's Supper, and music offered by cellist Elisa Kohanski and a chamber choir. To connect remotely, visit www.shadysidepres.org.

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.

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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