



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

Air

Johann Sebastian Bach

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Traditional French carol

Elisa Kohanski, cello; Mark A. Anderson, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Todd E. Leach

Pastor: The Lord judges the people with righteousness, and the poor with justice.

People: **Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**

Pastor: The Lord defends the cause of the poor of the people, and gives deliverance to the needy.

People: **Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**

Pastor: In the Lord's day, may righteousness flourish and peace abound.

People: **Blessed be God's glorious name forever; may God's glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.**

Adapted from Psalm 72

▲ HYMN 4

Creator of the Stars of Night

Conditor alme siderum

1. Creator of the stars of night, Your people's everlasting light:
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray You, hear us when we call.
2. When this old world drew on toward night, You came, but not in splendor bright,
Not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blameless mother mild.
3. At Your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things on earth with one accord, like those in heav'n, shall call You Lord.

(Hymn continues on page 2.)

4. To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th century. Translation: John Mason Neale, 1851, as in *The Hymnal 1940*; alt.
Alteration © Church Pension Fund. Music: Sarum plainsong, Mode IV, 9th century.
Harmonization: C. Winfred Douglas, 1943. Harmonization © 1943, 1961 Church Pension Fund.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(spoken in unison)*

O promised Christ, we are a world at war; our peace depends upon Your coming. We are a sinful people; our pardon depends upon Your presence. We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping our promises; our only hope is Your grace and Your mercy. Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for Your peace, for Your pardon, and for Your grace. Come, Lord Jesus.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(sung in unison)*

Veni Emmanuel

O come, Desire of na—tions, bind all peoples in one heart_ and mind; bid envy, strife, and dis—cord cease; fill the whole world with heav—en’s peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emman—uel shall come to thee, O Is—rael.

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

Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom, who mourn o’er joys departed and tremble at your doom. Despair not, He is near you, yea, standing at the door, who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.

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 Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY

The Reverend Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith

▲ 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 Todd E. Leach

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 11

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

Valet will ich dir geben

1. O Lord, how shall I meet You, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet You, my Hope, my heart's Delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly all that may please You best.
2. Love caused Your incarnation, Love brought You down to me;
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led You to embrace
In love all loves excelling our lost and fallen race.
3. A glorious crown You give me, a treasure safe on high,
That will not fail nor leave me as earthly riches fly.
My heart 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.

▲ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Traditional English carol

Elisa Kohanski, cello; Mark A. Anderson, organ

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 our guest musician: Elisa Kohanski, cello. 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.

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.

Midweek Music Ministry in Midwinter

..... Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., beginning January 6, 2021

Beginning on January 6, 2021, Shadyside Presbyterian Church's Music Ministry invites you to join us online on Wednesday evenings for a mini-series of musical programs curated by Mark A. Anderson, Artistic Director of the Music in a Great Space concert series. From Epiphany until Lent, enjoy the sounds of organ, piano, and other instrumentalists, as well as vocal soloists. Videos of these intimate presentations will be accessible to view on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. Refresh your spirit with music through these midweek programs!

Note: No midweek vespers will occur on December 23 and 30.

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 worshipping, welcoming, learning, and serving community of faith that is comforted, challenged, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

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