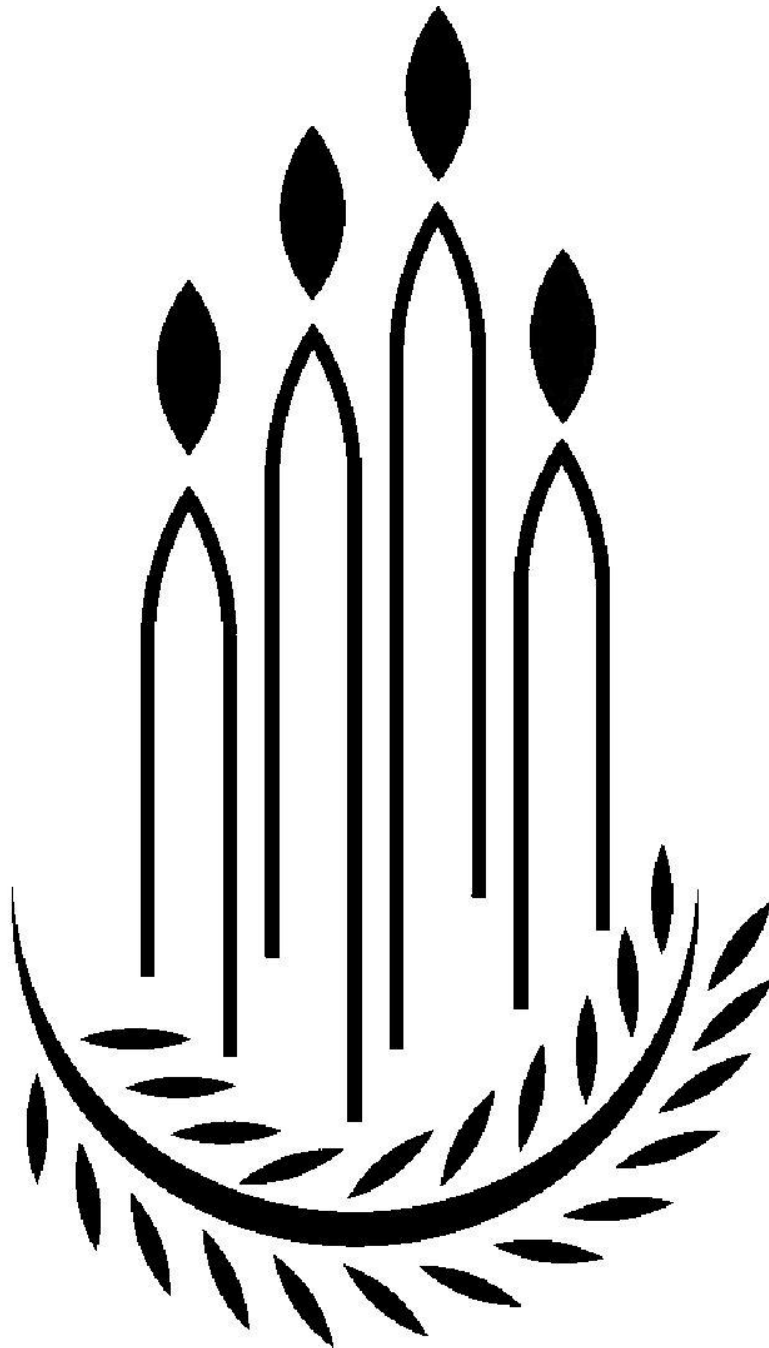


# Sixth Presbyterian Church

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sunday, December 18, 2022

Large Print Bulletin



1688 Murray Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15217  
412-421-2752 / [office@sixthchurch.org](mailto:office@sixthchurch.org)  
[www.sixthchurch.org](http://www.sixthchurch.org)

**Sixth Presbyterian Church**  
Sunday, December 18, 2022, 11:00 am  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

*The Sanctuary is a sacred space. The choral chimes will ring three times to let you know it is time to quiet your hearts, minds, and voices to prepare for worship.*

Prelude "The Holy Boy" John Ireland

Welcome and Announcements

Peace Candle and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Introit "While By My Sheep" arr. Hugo Jungst

While by my sheep I watched at night  
Glad tidings brough an angel bright:  
How great my joy!  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high.

There shall be born, so he did say,  
In Bethlehem a Child today  
How great my joy!  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high.

There shall He lie in manger mean,  
Who shall redeem the world from sin:  
How great my joy!  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high.

Lord, evermore to me be nigh,  
Then shall my heart be filled with joy!  
How great my joy!  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high.

\*Call to Worship Psalm 80:4-7

Leader: O Lord God of hosts, how long will You be angry with Your people's prayers?

**All: You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

Leader: You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.


**ALL: RESTORE US, O GOD OF HOSTS; LET YOUR FACE SHINE, THAT WE MAY BE SAVED! LET US WORSHIP GOD!**

\*Hymn "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?"


## O Lord, How Shall I Meet You 104




1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?  
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;  
 3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!  
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.  
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,  
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace  
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.  
 in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.  
 when your re-newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

Though many Advent hymns address Christ with entreaty and invitation, this more contemplative text considers how an individual prepares for and responds to Christ's coming. It also brings together a recollection of the First Coming with an anticipation of the Second Coming.

## \*Prayer of the Day

### Prayer of Confession

**All:** Shepherd of Israel, God of hosts, we have turned away from You, neglecting the welfare of Your creation, ignoring the plight of Your people, trampling on the creatures and the plants You have made, taking from Earth what we cannot give back. We have not helped our neighbors in need, kept peace within our families, or tended the vine You have planted in our own lives. Forgive us and lead us to a more gracious life. In Your compassion, turn us to Your way. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

### Silent Confession

#### Kyrie

#### "Wait for the Lord" (Psalm 27)

90

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The second staff continues the melody: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!"

### Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Gloria

#### "Canticle of Turning"

100

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the

fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics are: "My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the". The second staff continues the melody: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics are: "fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the". The third staff continues the melody: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics are: "dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn."

Time for Children

Jenny Newman

*Children remain seated with their families during the Time for Children; children third grade and younger are invited to go upstairs for Extended Session after the Exchange of Peace*

\*Exchange of Peace

Leader: Remembering that some of our church family is watching the livestream, let us first turn to the cameras and say, "Peace be with you!" (*Turn and offer the peace.*) Being mindful of the comfort levels and boundaries of those around us, let us pass the peace of Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Moment for the Christmas Joy Offering

Peter Kaplan

Prayer for Illumination

**All: As Your Holy Spirit spoke to Mary, the mother of our Lord, speak to us now through Your Word, that by hearing, we too may receive faith and be strengthened to do Your will. AMEN.**

Hebrew Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16 (pg. 779)

Epistle Reading

Romans 1:1-7 (pg. 184)

\*Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25 (pg. 1)

Sermon

"Choosing Grace"

Rev. Vincent Kolb

\*Hymn

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

144

\*Affirmation of Faith

Second Helvetic Confession, 5.062

**All: We believe and teach that the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, was predestined or foreordained from eternity by the Father to be the Savior of the world. And we believe that he was born, not only when he assumed flesh of the Virgin Mary, and not only before the foundation of the world was laid, but by the Father before all eternity.**

Pastoral Prayer

**All: ...God in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**

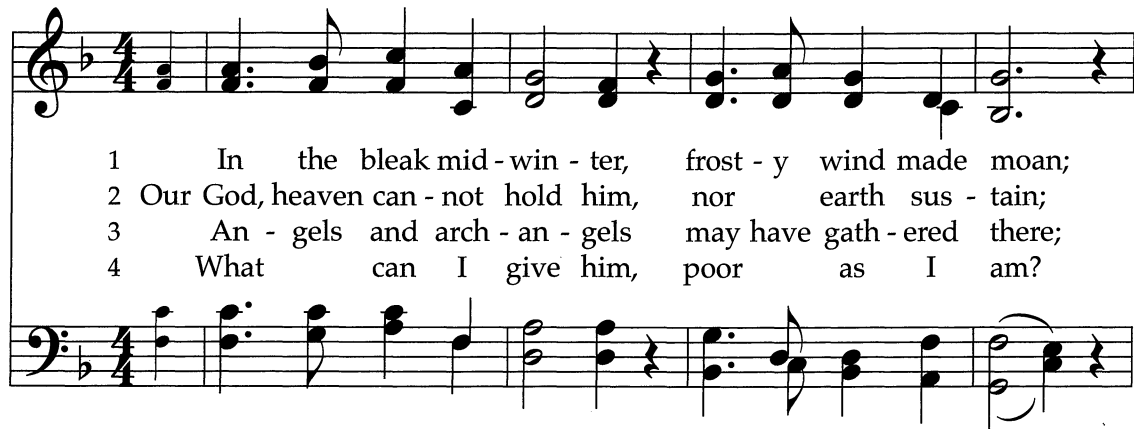
The Lord's Prayer

2019 Vatican Update

**All: 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;**

## In the Bleak Midwinter

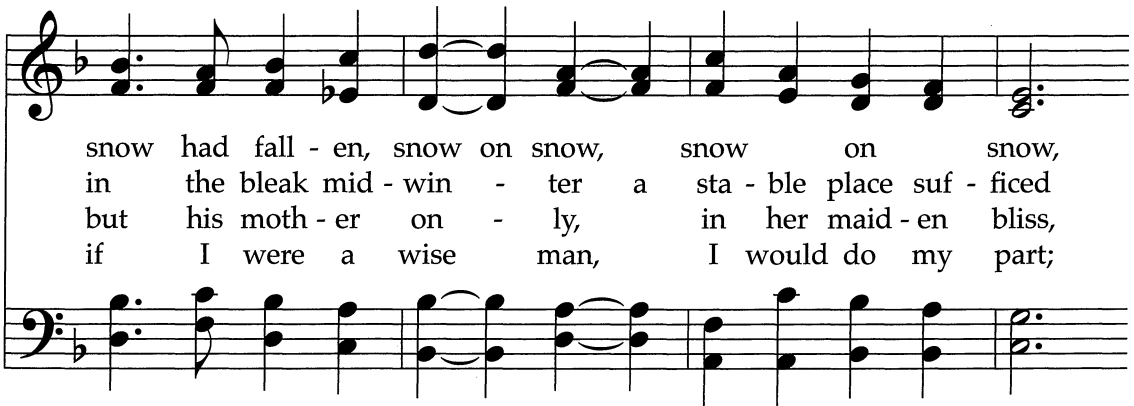
144



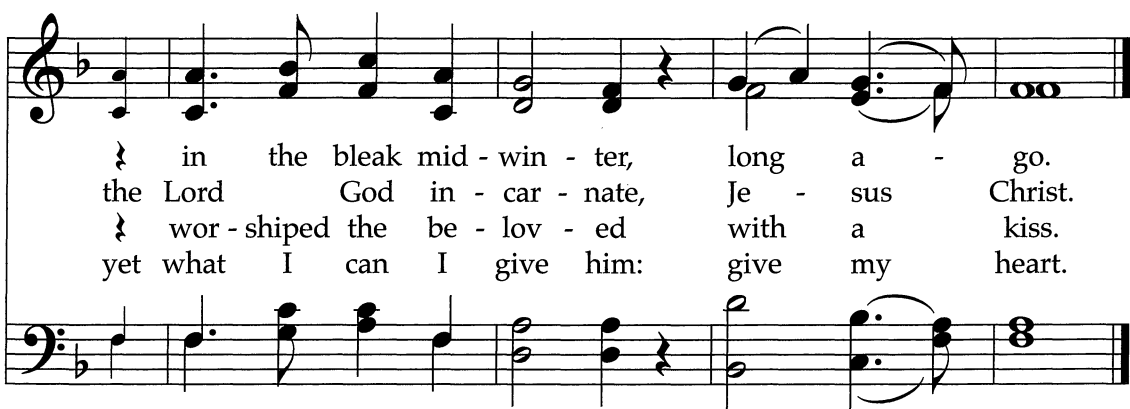
1 In the bleak mid-win-ter, frost-y wind made moan;  
 2 Our God, heaven can-not hold him, nor earth sus-tain;  
 3 An-gels and arch-an-gels may have gath-ered there;  
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i-ron, wa-ter like a stone;  
 heaven and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:  
 cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim thronged the air;  
 If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall-en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid-win-ter a sta-ble place suf-ficed  
 but his moth-er on-ly, in her maid-en bliss,  
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;



in the bleak mid-win-ter, long a-go.  
 the Lord God in-car-nate, Je-sus Christ.  
 wor-shipped the be-lov-ed with a kiss.  
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
do not let us fall into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power  
and the glory forever. Amen.

### Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Polish carol  
arranged by David Willcocks

Infant holy, Infant lowly,  
For His bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, Little knowing  
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Swift are winging Angels singing,  
Nowells ringing, Tidings bringing,  
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping  
Vigil till the morning new;  
Saw the glory, Heard the story,  
Tidings of a gospel true.

Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow,  
Praises voicing, Greet the morrow,  
Christ the babe was born for you!

\*Doxology

607

**All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures high and low,  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known,  
Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Let us give thanks, for God is good and God's Love is everlasting!

**All: Thanks be to God - whose love creates us!**

**Thanks be to God - whose mercy redeems us!**

**Thanks be to God - whose grace leads us into the future!**

\*Hymn

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

93

# Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.



\*Benediction

\*Amen "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" 141

*\*Id - e - o - o - o, id - e - o - o - o, id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!*

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words in italics.

*Feel free to sit and enjoy the Postlude or quietly leave as you wish*  
Postlude "In dulci jubilo, BWV 729"

J.S. Bach

*\*Those who can may stand*

## Upcoming Meetings and Events in (and around) the Church

### Sunday, December 18

Adult Sunday School (9:30 am, Zoom)  
Sunday School (10 am)  
Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)  
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

### Monday, December 19

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

### Tuesday, December 20

Earth Care Committee (7 pm, Zoom)

### Thursday, December 22

Choir rehearsal (7 pm)

### Saturday, December 24

AA – Turning Point (5 pm)  
Christmas Eve service (7 pm, in-person and streaming)  
NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

### Sunday, December 25

Worship (11 am, streaming only)  
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

### Monday, December 26

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

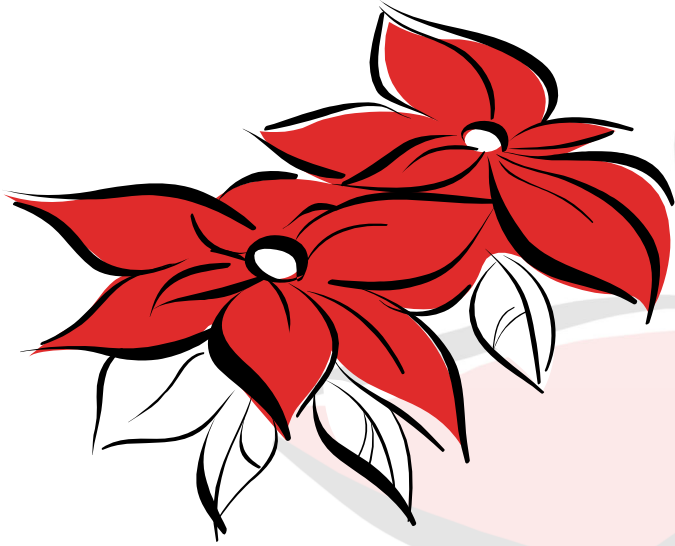
### Saturday, December 31

AA – Turning Point (5 pm)  
NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

### Sunday, January 1

Adult Sunday School (9:30 am, Zoom)  
Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)  
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

# Poinsettia Memorials, Christmas 2022



Ever-faithful God,  
You have knit together as one body in Christ  
Those who have been your  
People in all times and places.

Keep us in communion with your saints,  
Following their examples of faith and life,  
Until that day when we shall dwell with them  
In the joy of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

(from the *Presbyterian Book of Common Worship*)

Scott Bell

*in memory of*  
Dr. and Mrs. Jay Q. Bell

Pamela Bower

*in honor of*  
Chen Qi Shen

Linda Davoli

*in memory of*  
Jeanne Bunje and Walter Bunje

Jim and Grace Kroll; Kirk Miller; Brian Kensley; Lee Velarde; Jim Figert

Sadie, Louie, and Jesse DeLucia

*in memory of*  
Grammie and Grampie Bower

Sara and Joe DeLucia

*in memory of*  
Harlow and Charlotte Bower

Carol Emerson

*in memory of*  
Reuben L. Emerson; Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Sanford; Dr. Kenneth Schuit

*in honor of*  
Millie Barnes

Cyril and Jane T. Fox

*in memory of*  
Mrs. Cyril P. Fox; Dr. and Mrs. Rodney J. Taylor

Frank Guyette

*in memory of*  
Alma Koenig

*in honor of*  
Adele Ruperto

Beth Hazlett

*in memory of*  
My Dad, Bob Hazlett; My Franklin Grandparents;  
My Hazlett Grandparents; My Great Aunts Esther, Mary and Betty

Charles M. Herrold, Jr.

*in memory of*  
Charles M. Herrold; Caroline M. Herrold; John M. Herrold

Brenda Jordan

*in memory of*  
Roy U. Jordan; Florence E. Jordan

Leslie and Peter Kaplan

*in memory of*  
Bruce and Julie Johnson; Maryna Kaplan

Lynn Kawaratani

*in memory of*  
Mark Kawaratani; Dean Matsubayashi

Myra Kazanjian

*in memory of*  
Maggie Ritchey

Sheila Kier

*in memory of*  
Esther Jane Kier; John Caspar Kier; James Montgomery Kier

Peter Koehler

*in memory of*  
Ursula and Wolfgang Koehler; Dorothee Koehler; Anne Koehler

Sue Koehler

*in memory of*  
Louise and Egbert Peeler

Vincent Kolb and Caitlin Schroering

*in memory of*  
Patricia Lee Gaines; Martha Augustus Schroering; Hortensia Singh;  
Charles Paul Gaines; Rev. Jose Gerardo Lugo Alvarez; Susan Lee Shanks

Joan Markert

*in memory of*  
Dorothy and Frank Markert; Sandra Mellen

Linda May

*in memory of*  
Heather Vallone



Jan Myers-Newbury

*in memory of*  
Sam Newbury

Jenny Newman

*in memory of*  
Katie Wolbert; Gianna Miller

*in honor of*  
Sixth Church Sunday School teachers, child care staff, and volunteers

Barbara Parees

*in memory of*  
Jack, Ruth, and Bob Morton; Helen Mae Parees; Sandra Mellen; Sean Parees

Diana and Gardner Patton

*in memory of*  
Diana's brother, Ron Wilkoc; Meta and August Wilkoc; Connie and Miner Patton

Verna Robinson

*in memory of*  
Cydra Vaux; Edwin and Clara Robinson

Dr. Mitchell and Rev. Susan Rothenberg

*in memory of*  
Sheldon and Ruby Rothenberg; Robert and Janet Maxwell

Lori Swensson

*in memory of*  
Richard Gavin Swensson

Pamela and Tom Twiss

*in memory of*  
Ena M. Casey; Herbert T. Casey; J. Albert Twiss; Ruth A. Twiss; Maris Andersons

Peter and Peg Watt-Morse

*in memory of*  
Aldora Watt; David Morse; Anna Grace Watt-Morse

Amy and Malakai Whipple

*in memory of*  
Ann and Andrew Putignano; Maggie Ritchey; Hòà Generazio

## Church Information and Announcements

*We are an open and affirming community of faith in Jesus Christ. At home in an urban neighborhood of many faiths, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. In worship, study, and fellowship, we celebrate our Presbyterian roots and find joy in our diversity. We strive for the grace to love one another as we seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit, working for justice and serving as stewards of God's wondrous creation.*

**Sixth Is a More Light Church:** A network of people seeking and affirming the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

**Inclusive Language:** Words matter. Jesus Christ, the living Word, reached out to all people to bring them into God's fold. The kingdom of God includes all people; therefore our language should reflect the inclusivity and equality among the people of God. To that end, when possible, we seek to eliminate the inherent bias of the English language toward the masculine gender without altering passages that reflect the historical situation of ancient patriarchal culture, out of which the Bible originated.

**Masks:** Masks are required in the building while Allegheny County is in a "medium" or "high" CDC community risk designation; N95 or similar masks are preferred while in "high." Masks are welcome while in "low."

**Assistive Hearing Devices:** Assistive Hearing Devices – compatible only with hearing aids equipped with a T-Coil – are available at the Murray Avenue entrance

**Large Print Bulletins:** If you would like a large print bulletin, please see an usher for a paper copy or, if you would like to use your personal device, for guidance on how to find a digital copy on our website.

**Prayer Cards:** If you would like to have a person named and prayed for during the pastoral prayer, please fill out one of the white cards by the bulletins/ushers and give it to Vincent prior to the service.

**Recording Notice:** This service is being livestreamed and is available online in perpetuity

**Seating:** While distancing is not required, we do encourage people to leave space as attendance allows and to be mindful of people's continued need for distance

**Church Nursery:** Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available during the worship service. Our childcare staff are required to be vaccinated.

**Sunday School and Extended Session:** Sunday school is held upstairs at 10 am for children in preschool through high school. Extended Session for children in preschool through third grade is held upstairs during worship following the Time for Children. Our teachers and staff are vaccinated.

**Adult Sunday School:** Bill Guy's class meets Sundays at 9:30 am over Zoom. Contact Bill or the church office to receive the Zoom link and to be added to his email list.

**Water of Baptism:** Each Sunday we pour water into our baptismal font to reaffirm the covenant that God makes through this community of faith

**Candles for Peace, Justice and Personal Prayers:** You are welcome to come forward to light a candle anytime during worship when words are not being spoken. Please maintain physical distance while waiting your turn.

**Children and Candles:** We love having children participate in the service, and we ask that—in order to maintain everyone's safety—you accompany your child while lighting candles.

**Coffee Hour:** We will be having Coffee Hour after worship on the first Sunday of each month

**Today's Service:** TK, TK (acolyte and water pourer); Patty Halverson (liturgist); Liam Greenley (livestreaming); Bill Beggs, Carol Beggs, Ray Dittner (ushers)

**Christmas Eve Worship Service:** Our annual candlelight Christmas Eve service will be at 7 pm, both in-person and streaming

**Christmas Eve Readings:** Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

**Christmas Eve Message:** "Love Came Down"

**Christmas Day Worship Service:** Our Christmas Day worship service will be **streaming only**

**Christmas Day Reading:** John 1:1-5

**Christmas Day Message:** "Holy Evolution"

**COOKIES! COOKIES! COOKIES!:** Once again the Fellowship Committee will be packaging Christmas cookies and distributing them after the Christmas Eve Service. Can you be part of the bounty? Bake an extra dozen or two (or three!) of your favorite Christmas cookies and drop them off at church. We will be packaging them on Saturday morning, December 24, for distribution that evening. Amy will be in the church office Tuesday-Thursday, 12/20-12/22 from 9am to 2pm. If you are unable to get your cookies to church during this window, we will happily come and get your cookies. Email [janmyersnewbury@gmail.com](mailto:janmyersnewbury@gmail.com) or [barbaraparees6@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraparees6@gmail.com) to arrange for a pickup before the end of Friday, 12/23. THANKS!

**Love Will Win:** Thank you to everyone who has made their Stewardship pledge for 2023! We are currently at 94% of our Campaign Goal of \$358,037. If you have not submitted your pledge, please contact Amy ([office@sixthchurch.org](mailto:office@sixthchurch.org)) with your pledge amount. — The Stewardship Committee



The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectal church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

## WAYS TO GIVE



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



Text  
**CHRISTMASJOY**  
to 91999  
to give or visit [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



Cover: Communion by Debby Hudson; Minerals by Orfeas Green

12136-22-306

**THANK YOU, GOD**  
for connecting us.

Thank you for neighbors,  
each with needs and gifts  
to share, and for our church,  
the Whole Church, together,  
and for Jesus Christ,  
Amen.



When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future.

**50%**  
of your gifts assist  
current and retired  
church workers  
and their families  
with critical  
financial needs.



Retired since 2007, Rev. Ben Franklin Whitfield suffered a stroke in January 2021. Facing financial hardships after a lifetime in ministry serving primarily rural congregations, Ben and his wife Helen, received help from the Presbytery of Wabash Valley and the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions in the form of an Emergency Assistance grant and a monthly Housing Supplement for Retirees receiving Home Health Care. As he recovers, Ben — who had earlier served as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools and Indianapolis Public Schools — is working toward regaining enough strength to start tutoring out of their home.

*“How greatly we understand the uniqueness of the Presbyterian Church in its call to help people as Christ commands. And now, having so carefully laid out the importance of giving to the Christmas Joy Offering in the rural area congregations where Ben was pastor, we are so grateful to directly benefit from such financial assistance.”*

— Helen Whitfield



**50%**  
of your gifts  
make it possible  
for students to learn  
and grow in faith at  
Presbyterian-related  
schools and colleges  
equipping communities  
of color.

Growing up in a low-income family in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Kyle Thompson was determined to follow in her grandmother's footsteps of receiving a college education, so she enrolled, even with the prohibitive cost. Stillman College, a small, close-knit community right there in her own backyard became Thompson's whole world. Her teachers helped her secure financial support for her studies and sometimes, her rent. Thanks to this support, Kyle graduated with honors — and with a presidential fellowship to do historical research at Stillman waiting for her.

*“The money you give goes directly to students and keeps them in college. Like me, many students often feel like they are hanging by a thread. Your donation fills in the threads and makes a rope — a lifeline of financial assistance.”*  
— Kyle Thompson

**PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY...  
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,  
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!**





## **Session Members**

### Class of 2023

Larry Chan  
Frank Davoli  
Beth Hazlett  
Pam Howe  
Mary Lang

### Class of 2024

Joe Ashenden  
Lori King  
Tom Juring  
Greg Winner

### Class of 2025

Peter Kaplan  
Barb Parees  
Marcus Robinson  
Peter Watt-Morse

## **Deacons**

### Class of 2023

Kyle Esbin  
Lynn Kawaratani  
Eliot Kennedy  
Judy Schryer

### Class of 2024

Martha Funderburgh  
Patty Halverson  
Gwen Harcar

### Class of 2025

Linda Davoli  
Chuck Herrold  
Brenda Jordan

Vincent Kolb, *Pastor*

Jenny Newman, *Director of Children and Youth Ministry*

Douglas-Jayd Burn, *Director of Music*

Amy Whipple, *Office Manager*

Harry Kirk, *Building Administrator*

Myra Kazanjian, *Parish Associate*

John S. McCall, *Pastor Emeritus*