



# The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch

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**Pastor**

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Kelly Diorio

**Minister of Music**

Georgia Marshall Schrom

**Ministers**

Members of the Congregation

## OUR MISSION

The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch is an inclusive Christian community whose members have been: saved by God’s grace, united by God in Jesus Christ, and given by God as a light to the nations. Our mission is patterned after the example of Jesus Christ, who came "not to be served but to serve." To that end, we seek to think with the mind of Christ, to love with the heart of Christ, and to act as the Lord requires, doing justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God.

## WELCOME!

We are grateful that you are choosing to worship with us! Worship at “Llanerch” is our signature event each Sunday, and we hope and pray that you find today’s service meaningful and that you experience authentic fellowship with our faith community. Child care for younger children is provided in our nursery (ask one of our ushers if you need directions) and a time of fellowship with coffee and treats follows our worship service. Information about our ministry and activities is included in our bulletin and in the brochure in your pew. You may also connect with us online at www.llanerchpres.org or find us on Facebook (The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch).

## KNOW YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US IN THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES:

Today, 12/11 We will be celebrating The Third Sunday of Advent. Rev. Bill Searight will be the guest preacher.

Handbell Choir – 9:30am

Pot-luck luncheon and carol sing following worship

Thurs., 12/15 Senior Choir rehearsal – 7:30pm

NEXT SUNDAY, 12/18 We will celebrate The Fourth Sunday of Advent. Rev. Bill Searight will be the guest preacher.

9:30am – Handbell Choir rehearsal



Direct your phone or tablet computer to our Church’s website by scanning the image on the left.



Search for “The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch, then click on “Like.”



# The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch

Celebrating the Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 11, 2016

11:00 a.m.

## The Gathering

As you come to worship, take a few moments to bring yourself before God—your present state of mind and preoccupations, as well as your desire to meet God during this time.

*[Our service begins when the voluntary begins, and we turn our attention toward God, in worship.]*

The \* indicates the parts of the service where the congregation is invited to stand; **bolded responses** indicate congregational responses.

**VOLUNTARY** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”—*Veni Emmanuel*, setting by Frank Speller  
“Light Dawns on a Weary World” – *Temple of Peace* (Hymn 79), setting by Michael Burkhardt

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Scripture Reading: James 5:7-10

*After the candle is lit:*

O People of God, come!

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord!**

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

\* OPENING HYMN

88 [verses 1, 5, 6, and 7]

*Veni Emmanuel*

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS (continued on next page)

(After the reading, please offer silently a confession of pride.)

Come, Lord Jesus.

**Forgive and restore us.**

(After the reading, please offer silently a confession of greed.)

Come, Lord Jesus.

**Guide and deliver us.**

(After the reading, please offer silently a confession of your choosing.)

Come, Lord Jesus.

**Heal and renew us. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

What has come into being, in Christ Jesus was life, and the life was the light of all people.

**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.**

**SUNG RESPONSE**

108 verse 6

*Divinum Mysterium*

♪ **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.** ♪

**\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ comes, and resides with you!

**And also with you!**

*Word*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 35:1-10 [Page 663]

**A TIME OF WORSHIP ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN**

**ANTHEM**

"Heartily Rejoice"

--Suzanne Toolan

[R] Heartily rejoice, shout for joy, O Sion, O, heartily rejoice, O daughter of Jerusalem. A herald's voice in the desert. Make ready the way of the Lord. His path make straight. The Lord will come to us; make ready the way of the Lord. [R] Ev'ry valley shall be filled. Make ready the way of the Lord. His path make straight. The rough ways will be smooth; make ready the way of the Lord. [R] Ev'ry mountain shall be leveled. Make ready the way of the Lord. His path make straight. And we shall see our God! Make ready the way of the Lord. [R]

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 11:2-11 [Page 11]

The words of Scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

--Rev. Bill Searight

**"A Lack of Foolish Wandering"**

# **POINSETTIA FOR CHRISTMAS – 2016**



In keeping with our Christmas tradition, we will again use donated poinsettia to decorate the church.

This year the price of each poinsettia will be **\$7.00.**

If you would like to order a plant, please complete the form below and return it with your payment by **TODAY**, by placing it in the offering plate. Checks should be made payable to the Presbyterian Church of Llanerch with a notation "Poinsettia."

If you have any questions please call Kelly in the church office at 610-789-1639. Thank you.

## **POINSETTIA ORDER - \$7.00 each – Order due TODAY**

Donor \_\_\_\_\_ Date of order \_\_\_\_\_

Number of poinsettias: red \_\_\_\_\_ white \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of / In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I will take my poinsettia after the 11:00 AM service on December 18th

\_\_\_ I will take my poinsettia after the Christmas Eve service December 24th

\_\_\_ I will take my poinsettia after the 11:00 AM service on December 25th

\_\_\_ My poinsettia may be delivered to someone unable to attend worship services

## **ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TODAY**

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP OUR MINISTRY... and take part in it:

### PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP WITH US:

11 a.m. on Sunday Mornings

### PARTICIPATE IN HELPING OTHERS:

We receive gifts for CHESTER EASTSIDE MINISTRIES food and outreach ministries on the third Sunday of each month. **Our next offering is December 18th!** Please bring your gifts to worship and include them in the special dedication during worship!

### PARTICIPATE IN THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER:

Our congregation believes and attests to the power of prayer. We pray “together” in church and we pray “together” as individuals. Here are some of the things we are praying:

**For the victims of violence and terrorism | for the victims of sexual assault (in all its forms) | For Gerard Schrom’s father who has health concerns in Florida | | For Michelle Siegle** (Eleanor Siegle’s daughter-in-law), | **For Gail Bellwoar** (Jack passed away on November 21<sup>st</sup>) | **For Steven Joachim** (Eleanor Siegle’s great-grandson) | **For Vicki Murphy and her family** as they cope with the continuing serious illness of her brother and sister-in-law | **For Doris Woodside** as she recovers in the rehab unit at Lankenau Hospital | **For the Thonges Family | For Phoenix Hoyle, June Hoyle’s grandson** (June is our Preschool Director) | **For Cindy Guilfoil | For Barbara Wright (Kelly Diiorio’s Mother** who is fighting lung cancer) | **For Matthew | For Ben | For Harry**, who is moving into a new house with his family | **For Alma**, for food | **For Lise**, whose daughter is struggling with addiction | **Thanksgiving and safe-keeping for first responders, good neighbors, helping people, and disaster planning | For our congregation in our New Beginnings discernment small group meetings | For our congregation, our elders and deacons, our pastor | Our Church Staff:** Kelly Dilorio, Georgia Schrom, David Pokorny | **Our Preschool staff, students, and families | For the Families, Friends, Communities enduring violence and bloodshed--that justice may roll down like waters.**

By adding these prayers to your personal prayers, we engage God together.

### WE REALLY DO WANT TO HEAR YOUR FEEDBACK:

Our hope and prayer is that our worship services, programs, and ministry opportunities are both meaningful and helpful to you, and we’d appreciate knowing how well or how not-so-well that we’re doing. Comments, feedback, and helpful criticisms are welcome—please make notes or suggestions, and sign them. You can drop them off, mail them to the church office, or e-mail them to the church office or pastor. Please be aware we can only consider signed responses. Thank you for your help.

### Response

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

– from the Iona Community *Worship Book*

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

\* HYMN

79

*Temple of Peace*

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR LORD’S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Gracious God, we thank you for the blessings of our lives...

And now let us continue to pray as Christ taught us to pray:

**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.**

### Our Offering

INVITATION TO PRESENT GOD’S TITHES, OUR GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "The Lord Shall Come and Not Be Slow" --Zebulon Highben

The Lord shall come and not be slow; his light is soon appearing. Prepare, you sinners, here below who are these tidings hearing: Arise, O sleepers, trim your lamps! Their flames so swiftly burning reveal the path to hope and peace, the dawn for which you're yearning. Come forth, you weary, meek, and poor! Forget your strife and labor. Messiah comes to those who toil, bestowing God's own favor. Your king eternal, Lord on high, in humble form and lowly, transforms a simple oxen stall into a throne most holy. For Christ shall come and not be slow; his light is now appearing. Rejoice, you saints on earth below! His reign of love is nearing.

\* DOXOLOGY *Conditor Alme Siderum*

[Our familiar words for the Doxology will be sung to the tune of Hymn 84 "Creator of the Stars of Night" as indicated below.]

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise \*Him, all crea-tures  
 here be - low; Praise \*Him a - bove, ye heavn - ly host;  
 Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho ly Ghost. A - men.

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

\* HYMN 106 *Bereden Vag For Herran*

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

\* BLESSING & CHARGE

\* VOLUNTARY "O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly" --setting by Camil Van Hulse

While our worship service ends, our Christian service is just beginning...

**Leading This Morning's Worship Service Are:** Georgia Marshall Schrom, Minister of Music; Rev. Bill Searight, Guest Preacher; Paul and Phyllis Gibson & family, Worship Leaders; and the Senior Choir.

**Service Notes:** We welcome the Rev. Bill Searight to the pulpit throughout the month of December and look forward to his time with us.

## ALTERNATE GIFT GIVING

Keep "Alternative Gift Giving" in mind when you are considering a far reaching gift to give loved ones this Christmas season.

Remember, there are two ways that your gift can be given. You may purchase a whole animal, or a share of an animal which can be considerable cheaper. Prices vary by animal. We have goats, water buffalo, pigs, sheep, llamas, heifers, rabbits, bees, a flock of chicks, a flock of ducks, 3 schools of fish, tree seedlings or irrigation pumps to choose from.

Here are a couple of examples:

1. Gift of a pig: \$120 OR Share of a pig: \$10 (same for goats)
2. Gift of rabbits: \$60 OR share of rabbits: \$10
3. Gift of honeybees: \$30
4. Gift of chicks: \$20

For each \$10 spent you will receive an "Honor Card" to send to your loved ones.

Please see the display that is set up in the Fellowship Room during the month of December. Contact Joanne Janos if you have questions (610-446-0165).

### CHRISTMAS EVE—Saturday, December 24, 2016

Candlelight ~ Carols and Music

Scripture ~ Holy Communion

**STARTING AT 7:00PM!**



### "300 DAYS FOR 300 YEARS"

To celebrate its 300 year Anniversary, The Presbytery of Philadelphia is offering a beautiful hard-bound book of Devotions for the 300 days from Ash Wednesday, March 1, to Christmas Day, 2017. Daily lectionary reflections were written by representatives from the 130 churches and other ministries throughout the Presbytery. The two entries from our church were written by Rev. David Stipp-Bethune (May 14) and Georgia M. Schrom (November 30). The Early-Bird purchase price of \$30 lasts until December 15. After that it will be \$32.99. shipping is \$5 per book. A Christmas Gift Card can be downloaded to announce that the book will be forthcoming, arriving in late January. Orders can be made on the Presbytery's website presbyphl.org or by phone at 215-242-1400.