

ANTHEM

“Variation on Veni Emmanuel”
Children’s Chime Choir

arr. Behnke

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 12:29-40
(Pages 974-975 in the pew Bible)
Lector: Jeff Powell

SERMON

“We Worry”

The Rev. Jason Rea

WE GO IN GOD’S NAME***SONG OF RESPONSE**

(8:30) Hymn No. 276
(11:10)

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”
“In Christ Alone”

Faithfulness

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fulness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

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Keith Getty | Stuart Townend
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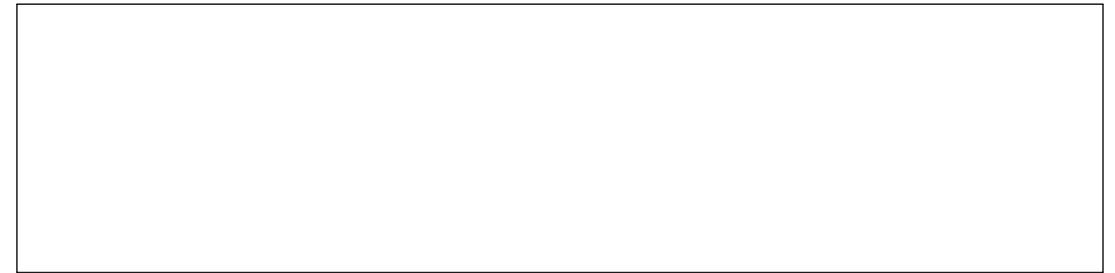
BENEDICTION*SENDING SONG**

O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Leader: Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God!

Adeste Fidelis



Welcome to Elfinwild Presbyterian Church

***Inside you will find our order of service and the activities
of the church.***

***We offer a warm welcome to every worshipper,
and a way to serve for all who are willing.***

***If you need prayer there are elders in the chapel to meet
and pray with you after the service.***

***We believe in a Triune God – Father, Son and Holy
Spirit. United by our love for God
and faith in Jesus Christ, and led by the Holy Spirit, we
will serve the Lord through...***

***...joyful worship as we glorify His name
...committed study and learning of the Word
...faithful mission to our community and
the world.***

CHILD CARE DURING WORSHIP

8:30 and 11:10 A.M.

Cradle Roll (infants)

Location – end of hall from sanctuary.

11:10 A.M. ONLY

Toddlers (ages 2 - 4) are welcomed in the Toddler Room

Location – 1st floor of church building

Discipleship for Children

(ages 4 - 2nd grade)

Location – Green Room, 1st floor C.E. Building

Children 3rd grade and up worship with their families.

Our sympathy to Nancy Kriek and her family on the death of her mother.

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

December 16, 2012

Eight-thirty and Eleven-ten O'clock

To prepare for worship, you may want to reflect on Scripture or pray.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside quiet waters. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and staff, they comfort me. Psalm 23

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE Meditation on Well Known Hymn Tunes Parmentier
(8:30) Meizi Yuan, organist

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

(Please sign the friendship pad that is located near the center aisle of each pew.)

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Veni Emmanuel
O come, Thou branch of David's tree, and close the path that leads to misery.
With light, our way to holiness show, and strength to trust in You bestow.
Rejoice! Rejoice, Emmanuel will come to thee, O Israel.

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 41:8-10 (Page 677 in pew Bible)

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF TRUST Ann Ritter and Jean Schrenker (8:30)
The Davis Family (11:10)

COLLECT (UNISON PRAYER)

Ever-loving God, we thank you for promising to always be with us. Thank you that, through your Son, Jesus our Savior, you have shown us the way to be with you always. By your Spirit, come once again into our hearts and calm our fears. Comfort us through your guiding rod and teaching staff as we walk through the dark valleys of life. In the face of uncertainty, give us strength to trust in you, in the shelter of your presence. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

***SONG OF ADORATION** (8:30) Hymn No. 14 "Savior of the Nations, Come" Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland
(11:10) "The Wonderful Cross"

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride
(Chorus)

See from His head His hands His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown
(Chorus)

Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing so divine
Demands my soul my life my all

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, when we worry about our parent who is ill, our friend who is lonely or our child who has turned from the faith, forgive us for not trusting you. Turn our eyes to Jesus, our Shepherd. Merciful God, when we worry about our to-do list at work, how to pay the mortgage, or if we can stay in our home as we age, show us how to let go of our worry and rely on you. Give us the courage to walk with Jesus without fear. Compassionate God, every time we let worry take over our trust in you, remind us that Jesus calls his sheep by name and leads them. Give us peace and strength to let Jesus guide us like sheep through the questions and uncertainties we face today, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 40:9-11 (Page 675-676 in pew Bible)
Jeff Powell, Lector

ANTHEM "Advent Carol of Hope" Besig/Price
(8:30) Chancel Choir
Rev. Bethany Harbaugh, flute

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY "O Come Little Children" Wachtet Auf
Children's Bell Choir

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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

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JOIN US!
All Church Advent Sunday School Class
12/2-12/23 from 9:45-11AM in Fellowship Hall
Taught by Reverend Dr. Dirk Lesnett
“The Real Christmas Story”

Let’s read the Story revealed to us in Scripture about the birth of Jesus and see how it lines up with our contemporary understanding of the celebration of Christmas. Is waiting a virtue in our instant gratification society? Does the birth of the Savior bring peace to the land? Is there any “holy” left in holy-day? Why and to whom are we giving gifts or receiving them?

Week 1: Silent Night

Week 2: Do You Hear What I Hear

Week 3: Let There Be Peace on Earth

Week 4: O Come Let Us Adore Him

THIS WEEK’S USHERS ARE:

8:30 am

Pat Graham

Mark Connelly

Len Colaizzi

Marilyn Colaizzi

Clay Riegel

11:10 am

Henry Tomer

Margaret Hartley

Don Duncan

Dave Jenkins

Becky Winek

UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday December 23, 2012

The Rev. Dr. Dirk Lesnett preaching

SOUND TECHNICIANS

8:30 – Michael Beal

11:10 – Mike Dolan

1. **ELDER OF THE WEEK** is Marie Bowen.
2. **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** this morning are given in memory of “Bud” Smullin by Dorothy and Family.
3. **HEARING ENHANCING EQUIPMENT**. If you have difficulty hearing during the worship service, please let one of the ushers know prior to the service, and you’ll be given a hearing enhancer to use during the service.

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY, Birth-6th Grade

For more information on these ministries, please contact Rev. Bethany Harbaugh at bethany@elfinwildchurch.org or 412-486-5400.

4. **YOUNG CHILD IN WORSHIP (ages 4 - 2nd grade)** provides an opportunity for children to experience God through an age appropriate and multi-sensory worship service. The wooden figures, desert box and other materials create a visual representation of the Bible. The lighting of candles and discussion of other church traditions introduce children to the meaning of the many symbols seen in the sanctuary. The hands-on experience of the children retelling the stories by manipulating the figures helps the Bible lessons take shape in their minds and hearts. Today's lesson, "Shepherd and Christ Child" is being taught by Sue Anderson, Donna Rae Thompson, and Carolyn Hervey.
5. **SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR PRESCHOOL – GRADE 6** The Sunday School hour begins at 9:45 with music in Friendship Hall (ground floor of the C.E. building). At 10 AM teachers will take their children to the classroom for a lesson, activities, art, and more! All are welcome.
6. **M&ms "MESSIAH & ME"** Join us and bring a friend for Messiah & me – a youth group for 4th -6th graders! We meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8 pm in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar for our winter meeting and activity dates: December 19 (Caroling) and January 16 (Stargazing).
7. **KIDS OF THE KINGDOM:** Every Sunday, the Preschool – 6th grade Sunday school classes have a time of music from 9:45-10 AM in Friendship Hall. The next time they will sing is on December 23, 2012 at the 11:10 AM worship service.
8. **CRADLE ROLL VOLUNTEER NEEDED:** Once a month, on Sunday mornings, we are looking for an adult who enjoys spending time with very young children and babies. The available time slot is from 8:30-10:45 (during the early church service and Sunday School) on the 2nd Sunday of the month. We would love to have you come and care for the young children of the church.

STUDENT MINISTRIES, Grades 6-12

For more information on these ministries, please contact Rev. Jason Rea at jason@elfinwildchurch.org or 412-486-5400.

9. **PRESENTS FOR PATIENTS DELIVERY: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19TH @ 6:30PM** Whether you have purchased a present for a patient or not, you are welcome to come help us deliver the presents. If you have purchased a present but cannot attend on the 19th please give Jason your present prior to the 19th. On the 19th, we will meet at the Youth House at 6:30 pm and then head over to the Orion Home, returning to the Youth House around 7:45 pm. We may need extra drivers for this event, so parents please contact Jason if you would like to help transport students. This has been a wonderful time the past few years and we encourage as many students to participate as possible.

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	FILL THE TRUCK for Bread of Life Food Bank 9:45 am Sunday School 12:30-1:30 pm Pageant Rehearsal – Kings, Star, Reader(s) 4:00 pm Christmas Caroling for Everyone – Meet in FH 5-7:00 pm Youth Christmas Party - YH 7:00 pm Deacon's Mtg. – Cor. Conf. Rm.
MONDAY	7:00 am Preschool Christmas Programs– C.E.& FH 7-11:00 am Meals Ministry – Cor. Conf. Rm. 6:30 pm CLC #5 – Youth House 7:00 pm Boy Scouts – FH
TUESDAY	7:00 am Preschool Christmas Programs – C.E.& FH 7-11:00 am Meals Ministry – Cor. Conf. Rm. 10:00 am Staff Meeting – Kennedy Library 6:00 pm Pageant Dress Rehearsal with Praise Team - SA
WEDNESDAY	7:00 am Preschool Christmas Programs– C.E. & FH 7-11:00 am Meals Ministry – Cor. Conf. Rm. 6:00 pm Webelos II – Green Rm. 6:30-8 pm M&m's Youth Group – Caroling at DeHaven Court – Meet in FH 6:30 pm Presents for Patients @ Orion Home – Meet in YH 7:15 pm Chancel Choir - CR
THURSDAY	7:00 am Preschool Christmas Parties– C.E. 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Lion's Club - FH 7:00 pm Wolf Den Cub Scouts – Red Rm. 7:15 pm Youth Choir – CR
FRIDAY	7:00 am Preschool Christmas Parties – C.E. 7:00 pm Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service of Healing - Upper Gathering Room 7:00 pm Bear Den (157) – Peach Rm.
SATURDAY	6:00 am CLC #4 - KL

ELFINWILD CHURCH NEWS

17. **WOMEN'S MINISTRIES** We are excited to announce that new study groups will be forming in January and February 2013. Please see the insert for further details. New groups will meet on Monday evenings and Friday mornings, in addition to the existing Thursday morning weekly study and monthly Mary Circle meetings. Questions? Contact Jennifer Clayton or Kristin Coco. Watch for further upcoming opportunities for faith and fellowship together.
18. **BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY** The Bread of Life Food Pantry would especially like any type of crackers, Jell-O, puddings, baking items, such as cake mixes and cookie mixes, and condiments. All monetary gifts help the pantry to provide perishable goods such as turkey and vegetables. Thank you.
19. **THE COST OF FLOWERS.** Effective January 1, 2013, the cost of flowers will increase from \$37 to \$42.
20. **100TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK** The 100th Anniversary Book is now available for pickup in the back of the Sanctuary or in the Church Office. If you signed up for a copy, please purchase/pickup your copy. (If you are picking up your copy in the back of the Sanctuary, please leave your payment in the basket provided.) If you are unable to stop by, feel free to send a check to the Church Office and your copy will be sent to you. The cost for the book is \$25.00; please add \$5.00 to cover the cost of mailing.
21. **2013 OFFERING EVELOPES** Please pick up yours on the tables at the rear of the Sanctuary. Note: Numbers have changed.
22. **IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR THE CHURCH RETREAT! JANUARY 25-27, 2013** You won't want to miss this wonderful weekend retreat at Ligonier Camp and Conference Center. Relax in the beautiful setting of Ligonier valley—no cooking or cleaning, supervised activities and care for the kids (sledding, zip lines, ropes course, climbing wall, games & crafts), fireside chats & evening campfire with s'mores, movies, a quilting session, nature walks, and more. *Everyone has a story—what's yours?* Geneva College's Terry Thomas will be our speaker, leading us in laughter, biblical insight, and the sharing of our own life stories. The all-inclusive cost is \$75 for adults, \$40 kids 10-17, \$30 kids 4-9 with a family cap at \$200. A \$75 deposit is due at time of registration and the remainder payable at the event. Registration forms available at the church entrances and exits. Don't delay—send in your form today! Contact Person: Amy Meyer, littlepine@verizon.net or 412-492-9968

COMMUNITY EVENTS

23. **SNOW SHOVELING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** There are times when a senior is trapped at home by heavy snow and needs to get out for a medical appointment. Or maybe the senior needs to have his snow cleared so that a home health worker or meal delivery can get to the door. Volunteer now to help shovel snow for seniors this winter! To learn more please contact Open Your Heart to a Senior at 412-307-0071 or seniors@nhco.org.

10. **STUDENT MINISTRIES CAROLING AND CHRISTMAS PARTY, TONIGHT!** Join us at 4 pm for caroling, which will be directly followed by our Christmas party from 5-7 pm. We will meet for caroling in Fellowship Hall. The party will be at the Youth House. Even if you can't make caroling you can still come for the party, but you should try to come caroling as it will be fun. We will have dinner at the party and each student should bring one wrapped gift (valued at \$5 or less) for our annual gift exchange/game. We hope you will join us for this wonderful time of celebration.
11. **SUMMER TRIP DEPOSITS DUE SOON!** *Jr. High trip: Surf City, August 4-9th*; Sr. High Trip: YouthWorks Adirondack Mts, June 21-28. While the trips themselves are still months away we need to know who is planning to go in January! Both the Jr. and Sr. High trips require a \$50, non-refundable deposit to ensure you will have a spot for the trip. The Sr. High deposit deadline is January 13th. The Jr. High deadline is January 20th. For more information about the trips please see our Student Ministries Calendar on the church website: www.elfinwildchurch.org. *We are not guaranteed the week of August 4-9th but that is our first choice. We will most likely get that week but we won't know for sure until they let us know some time in February. The other possible week is July 28- August 2nd. However, we will do everything in our power to ensure we get the week of August 4-9th.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

12. **NEW MUSIC ANNOUNCEMENTS LINE!** If you missed rehearsal, or you didn't write down a date, or can't remember if your group is leading in worship on Sunday, just call! Call the church office number (412) 486-5400, and dial *300 for Adult Music announcements or *301 for Children's Music announcements. You will be transferred to a recorded message containing all the pertinent information you need! If you call during office hours, just ask to be transferred to extension 300 or 301. If you call after church hours, enter *300 or *301 when the recorded message begins. Easy!
13. **PARENT'S MEETING FOR ALL CHILDREN'S (K-6TH) CHOIR, BELLS AND CHIMES GROUPS: SUNDAY, JANUARY 13,** after the 11:10 AM service in the choir room. An activity and snack will be planned for the kids so parents can attend. PLEASE mark your calendars so you can make every effort to attend this important meeting.
14. **CHILDREN'S BELLS AND CHIMES CHOIRS ARE NOW ON BREAK!** First rehearsal of the new year is Thursday, January 17.
15. **ELEMENTARY AND YOUTH CHOIRS ARE SINGING FOR THE 7:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.** Please plan to be in the choir room by 6:15 PM (Youth Choir) and 6:30 PM (Elementary Choir) and keep in mind that parking will fill up early, so allow yourself a little extra time.
16. **CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS RECEPTION** will be held from 8:15 PM to 9:00 PM in the choir room on Christmas Eve. Come enjoy some fellowship, coffee and cookies, and my thanks for your generosity of talent and time in worship to God before we prepare to sing for the 10:00 PM service