**APRIL 2, 2017 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP**

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**TIME OF PREPARATION**

“I am an expression of the divine, just like a peach is, just like a fish is. I have a right to be this way...I can’t apologize for that, nor can I change it, nor do I want to...We will never have to be other than who we are in order to be successful...We realize that we are as ourselves unlimited and our experiences valid. It is for the rest of the world to recognize this, if they choose.”

— Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

“O Waly Waly”

arr. Emma Lou Diemer

“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters (Beach Spring)” arr. Janet Linker

based on Glory to God hymnal #490

**WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS**

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: Y también contigo. And also with you.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Polly and Hallie Mattila

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship God with gladness; enter God’s presence with song.

People: God made us – we are God’s. We rejoice that we are God’s people, the sheep of God’s flock.

Leader: We worship together because God is good. God’s steadfast love endures forever, God’s faithfulness to all generations.

People: Let us worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #3

Raquel

“Womb of Life and Source of Being”

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

God of life, you have created us in your image and claim us as your own. But too often we fail to live into our identity in you. We allow the wounds of our past to breed self-doubt. We allow the lies told through the prejudice of others to distort your truth. In our fear, we have held back from living fully into your call. In our shame, we have hidden our gifts from view. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to trust in the power of your love that we might be shaped by your transforming grace, and dare to profess that your love, in Christ, is for the salvation of all.

**TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION**

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.
ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS
The Rev. Dr. Bush
Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-15, 23-24
Cantor sings verses. Congregation sings refrain as directed.

Lord, you have searched me, you know me through and through.

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN
Sara Hackett
Children of any age are welcome to come to the steps of the chancel for Minutes with our Children. Children who are in first grade or younger are invited to attend our Extended Session program for the remainder of our worship time. Infants and toddlers (up to age 3) are invited to follow the acolyte to the first floor Nursery; pre-school age through grade one are invited to follow the acolyte to Room 151 (adjacent to the Nursery). Parents are asked to either accompany their children to Extended Session to sign them in, or to fill out a Green Ticket (found in the kids corner) so that leaders have necessary contact information for each child and their parents/guardians.

* HYMN #488 “I Was There to Hear your Borning Cry” WATERLIFE

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 15:21-28 The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SPECIAL MUSIC “Mysterious Ways” Brenda Russell, Allee Willis Stephen Bray

SERMON “Unfaithful Phrases: You’re Unloveable” The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

SPECIAL MUSIC “I’m Here” Brenda Russell, Allee Willis Stephen Bray

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
The Lord’s Prayer can be found on pg. 35 (English), on pg. 40 (Español) or on pg. 45 (한국어) in the Glory to God hymnal.

OFFERING INVITATION The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Wondrous Love” Alice Parker/ Robert Shaw

The text can be found in the Glory to God hymnal #215.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all creatures here below; praise Holy Spirit forever; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes. The Lord be with you.
People: Y también contigo. And also with you.

Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones. Lift up your hearts.
People: Lo tenemos levantado al Señor. We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: Es justo dar gracias y alabanzas a Dios. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Loving God, in your goodness, you have blessed us all: with life, with love, with gifts, with a purpose. We dedicate a portion of our gifts and the whole of ourselves to your service – that by your grace we might be a blessing to others in your name. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

* Doxology at the Presentation #607

* Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication

* Closing Hymn #765 (sing twice) “Song of Hope”

* Special Music “The Color Purple” Brenda Russell, Allee Willis

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude “Sing Out Earth and Skies” Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organist

Dr. Mary Beth Bennett is Organist/Choirmaster of Seventh Street Christian Church in Richmond, Virginia and a member of the music faculty at the University of Richmond.

"Here’s the thing, say Shug. The thing I believe. God is inside you and inside everybody else. You come into the world with God. But only them that search for it inside find it...I believe God is everything, say Shug. Everything that is or ever was or ever will be. And when you can feel that, and be happy to feel that, you’ve found it.” (Alice Walker, The Color Purple)
Please remember to turn off cell phones during worship. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
                           The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
                           The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
                           Sara Hackett
                           Polly and Hallie Mattila
                           Dawn (Yamuna) Morgenstern
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/Music Director
                           Gabriel T. D’Abruzzo, Music Associate
                           ELPC Chancel Choir
Soloists: Adrianna Cleveland
                           Denise Sheffey-Powell
                           David Jennings-Smith
                           Mariko Reid
Acolytes: Brianna Allison and Zaida Collins
Beadle: Matt Stufft
Crucifer: Charlotte Bush
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

ELPC’s Membership & Outreach and Health Committees are sponsoring today’s Fellowship Time. Come and learn more about a free program called Better Choices, Better Health for adults with on-going health issues and/or caregivers. All are welcome!

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

Today’s flowers are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of Linda Deiss’ birthday. They are given with love by her children and grandchildren.

♦ WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Eco-palms will be distributed next week, April 9, during our Palm Sunday worship services.

8:45 am..........Journey. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall. April 9 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

11 am..........Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service. April 9 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching. Palm procession.

Extended Session

After the Moments with the Children during the 11 am Sanctuary service, a children’s ministry is offered with songs, Bible or mission stories, prayer, sharing and creative activities. A simple snack is served. In an effort to best know and care for your child, we ask that all families fill out a green Extended Session “Ticket” and that your child bring it with him/her to Extended Session every week.

* Young Children’s Ministry for infants and toddlers (up to age 3) — First Floor Nursery. Every Sunday.
* Pre-school age children (through grade 1) — Room 151.

♦ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

A 35-foot floor mat with curved paths leading inward; an ancient tool for walking and seated meditation.

Mondays, 7 am to 1 pm
Wednesdays, 9 am to 9 pm

Taizé Sung Prayer

Chants and periods of meditative silence modeled after the Taizé community in France.

Wednesdays, 7 pm

Prayer Room (Room 135, in Highland Ave hallway)

Come to sit and pray in silence. Come to experience the quiet in the midst of the wonderful busyness that is ELPC. Open everyday

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this morning and ask you to register your name in our Friendship Book.

To learn more about our programs, church activities and volunteer services, we invite you to:

Stay after today’s service for our Fellowship Time in the McKelvy Room. Identify yourself as a newcomer, and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have about ELPC.

Pick up a copy of our newsletter, the Reaching Out, either in the Narthex or at the Hospitality Desk near the Highland Avenue doors.

Attend a New Members and Friends Class on Sundays, April 23 and 30 to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more information, or to register (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x122).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.
**TODAY AT ELPC**

**Today We Celebrate Gifts of Women Sunday**
Today’s 11 am worship service includes a special celebration of the *Gifts of Women*. Thank you for joining us for worship.

**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Received**
ELPC will receive the *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering* today and next Sunday, April 9 (Palm Sunday).

**Today’s Fellowship Time**
ELPC’s Membership & Outreach and Health Committees are sponsoring an information and registration sign-up in the McKelvey Room after the 11 am worship service. Come and learn more about the FREE program called *Better Choices, Better Health* for adults with on-going health issues and/or caregivers. Light refreshments will be served.

**DG2! Event**
ELPC and Rodef Shalom youth in grades 4–12 will be showing acts of loving kindness for DG2! (*Doing Good Together*) by assisting in the coordination of a “Classic Hollywood” themed Senior Prom for the residents of Charles Morris Nursing and Rehabilitation Center today. Meet at ELPC in the Harambe Room for lunch immediately following the 11 am worship service and we will return to the church for pick up at 3:15 pm.

**Sign a Letter of Support**
In response to the hateful and negative communications and actions recently received by our friends, sisters and brothers of the Islamic community in general and specifically the members of the Islamic Center of Pittsburgh (ICP), the ELPC Justice Committee is requesting we demonstrate our love and concern by signing the letter of support available today. Our letter of love will be delivered to the members of ICP during Holy Week. For more info, please contact Michele Bossers or Pastor Patrice Fowler-Searcy.

**Today’s DODs**
Today’s *Journey* service DOD is *Liz Gonda*. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is *Cami Teacoach*.

**Purchase an Easter Tulip Today!**
We invite you to purchase a tulip plant in honor or memory of someone that will be used at our 11 am Easter Sanctuary worship service, or to make a donation to the EECM Food Pantry. All donors will be recognized in a special Easter Sunday bulletin insert. Donation forms are available on the information tables around the church.

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**PALM SUNDAY**
April 9 | 8:45 and 11 am
Distribution of eco-palms at both services.

**TAIZÉ STATIONS OF THE CROSS**
April 12 | 7 pm
Journey through the stations of the cross with sung prayers, a time of silence, spoken and silent prayers.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**
April 13 | 7 pm
Communion service led by Rev. Heather Schoenewolf.

**GOOD FRIDAY**
April 14 | 12 Noon and 7 pm
Rev. Heather Schoenewolf will preach at Noon. Rev. Dr. Randy Bush will lead worship at 7 pm.

**SATURDAY VIGIL PROCESSION**
April 15 | 7 pm
Communion service led by Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan.

**EASTER SUNDAY**
April 16 | 8:45 and 10:45 am
Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy will preach at the 8:45 am Journey service in the Social Hall. Rev. Dr. Bush will preach at the 11:00 am service in the Sanctuary. Special Easter Fellowship Time from 9:45 – 10:45 am.
As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

Ray Anthony, Lora Bethea’s friend Carla, Amy Bialek’s cousin Kelly, Carol Chonoska’s brother Jeff, David Carl’s co-worker Linda and her grandson Kain, Doris Dick’s mother Mary, Mary Beth Gladis-Johnson, Barbara Goodwin’s husband John, Ronald Kemp, Lee Lewand, Gail Mallory’s friend Ailene, Judy Mancini’s sisters June and Joan, Polly McQueen’s brother Clay, Mary Randolph’s mother Cecilia, Cameron Teacoach’s friend Britany, and Pat Valoon.

Our condolences to Tim Engelhardt on his grandmother’s passing.

Our condolences to Steve Evrard on his mother’s passing.

Our condolences to Deborah Marx on her cousin’s passing.

Our condolences to Pat Valoon on her friend’s passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Justice ................................................ Today, 12:15 pm (Rm 244)
Spiritual Life Plan Retreat ...... Today, 12:15 pm (2nd fl Parlor)
VCS Planning ...................................... Tuesday, 5:00 pm (Rm 244)
Christian Education ................. Tuesday, 6:30 pm (Rm 244)
Property ........................................... Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Session Rm)

PW Bible Study — April 3 and 4
Join Presbyterian Women to continue the study Who is Jesus according to the Other Abrahamic Faiths? on Monday, April 3 at 7 pm or Tuesday, April 4 at 10 am. A potluck lunch follows the Tuesday study; bring a side to share.

Pastor Randy’s Preaching Invitations — April 4 and 14
On Tuesday, April 4, as part of a Lenten Preaching Series organized by the local Episcopal Churches, Pastor Randy will preach at St. James Episcopal Church (11524 Frankstown Rd, Penn Hills). A simple supper will begin at 6 pm, followed by the Eucharist worship service at 7 pm. Then on Friday, April 14, Pastor Randy will join with the congregation of St. James AME Church (444 Lincoln Ave) for their Good Friday service from 12–3 pm. He will preach on the second word Jesus spoke from the cross.

TRAIL Young Adult Event — April 7
Spend the evening of Friday, April 7 playing games with friends at the TRAIL young adult event First Friday@Games with Friends at 7 pm at the Quaker Meeting House (4836 Ellsworth Ave, Shadyside 15213). Bring a board game to share. Contact Wil for info (Wil@coh.net).

Looking for a way to put your love in action?

Visit the i.SERVE webpage at www.ELPC.church/programs/iserve-2 to learn about other service opportunities, or contact Wil Forrest (412.441.3800 x14).

♦ New Member Hosts ♦

In Our

Community

34th Annual Sponsorship Concert — Today
Today at 4 pm, the Fox Chapel Festival Chorus and The Academy Chamber Orchestra will perform Mendelssohn’s Christus and Dubois’ Seven Last Words of Christ at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church (384 Fox Chapel Rd, 15238). Please call 412.963.8243 for more info.

Reflection on African American Male Needs — April 5
Grace Memorial Presbyterian Church (1000 Bryn Mawr Rd, 15219) is presenting a 2017 Lenten series on Wednesdays from 6-8 pm. The next program on April 5 will focus on Is the Church Relevant to the Black Male Struggle for Freedom Today? The panel includes Rev. Dr. John Welch (Bidwell Church), Dr. John Wallace (Bible Center Church), Rev. Victor Grisby (Central Baptist Church), Dr. R. Drew Smith (Urban Ministry Professor, PTS), and moderator Rev. Dr. James Gilchrist.

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — April 9
LGBTQ Ministry’s next spiritual gathering will be on Sunday, April 9 after the 11 am service. During this monthly meeting we will share food, fellowship and our stories as we welcome local college students and plan for summer events. To learn more or to get involved, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net). All welcome!

Youth Ministry: Mission Overnight — April 21 to 22
Youth in grades 8–12 who are interested in attending the Sr. High Mission Trip to New York City this summer are required to attend this Mission Overnight. Beginning at 7 pm on Friday, April 21, we will learn about mission. On Saturday, April 22 we will complete mission work. Contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) for info.

Adult Sunday School Classes
April 9 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Contemporaries — “What it Means to be Free in Christ” led by Dr. John Burgess

Journey with Scripture — Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29; Philippians 2:5–11; Matthew 21:1–11, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers — “The Triumphant Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem” led by Tucker Ferda

Soul Food — A concluding discussion of Week 5 of Open the Door by Joyce Rupp, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Steve Evrard, and Michele Bossers

YAMs — “YAM-led discussion and Prayer Series throughout Lent” facilitated by Wil Forrest