TIME OF PREPARATION

“Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Christ has burst the gates of hell; Death in vain forbids his rise; Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King; where, O death, is now thy sting?

Dying once, he all doth save; where thy victory, O grave?”

— Charles Wesley

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

“Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing”
“Come Sunday”
“Mercy, Mercy, Mercy”

Jazz Combo
Robert Robinson
Duke Ellington
Josef Zawinul

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* 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

Leader: Christ is risen!
People: He is risen indeed!
Leader: Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space! Celebrate God in all places under heaven!
People: Give praise for God’s mighty deeds and God’s resurrecting power!
Leader: Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets, with the harp and cello.
People: Praise God with flutes and guitars and all manner of instruments.
Leader: Let everything that has life and breath praise God!

CALL TO CONFESSION

God of the empty tomb, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, give us the power to show mercy. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join us together with those who are weak so that all may be strong. Touch us with your wounded hands and pass through all locked doors, so that we may be your witnesses for justice, love and peace. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

* PROCESIONAL HYMN #248

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

HYMN TO JOY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the empty tomb, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, give us the power to show mercy. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join us together with those who are weak so that all may be strong. Touch us with your wounded hands and pass through all locked doors, so that we may be your witnesses for justice, love and peace. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.
TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Leader: As God’s people, know that Christ comes to us, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. ¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #243 (remain seated)

“Be Not Afraid”

Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON

Sharron Boddy
The Rev. Schoenewolf

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Strange Man”

Jazz Combo Dorothy Love Coates

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Children of any age are welcome to come to the steps of the chancel for Moments 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 to the first floor Nursery; preschool age through grade 1 to Room 151).

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Presentation of Elders and Deacons
Constitutional Questions
Act of Ordination

* HYMN #252 “Day of Arising” RAABE

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:36-49 The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

“A Surprising Presence”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

“BUILDING OUR FUTURE” RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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. Schoenewolf

We offer our gifts in response to God’s love, and the grace of Jesus Christ, which we seek to make known through the ministries of this congregation.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“TGTT” (Too Good To Title)

Jazz Combo Duke Ellington

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY:
Spanish writer Miguel Cervantes died (1616); the colonies of Maryland and Virginia engaged in a naval skirmish off the coast of Virginia over a boundary dispute (1635); 15th President James Buchanan was born in Franklin County, PA (1791); Hank Aaron hit the first of his record 755 major league home runs (1954); singer-songwriter Marvin Gaye died this day (1984).

April 23 • 2nd Sunday of Easter

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.
* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

**Doxology at the Presentation #607**

* **Leader:** El Señor esté con ustedes.
  * **People:** Y también contigo.
  * **Leader:** Levantemos nuestros corazones.
  * **People:** Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.
  * **Leader:** Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.
  * **People:** Es justo dar gracias y alabanzas a Dios.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication**

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Leader: You promise your peace through the gift and living presence of your Son, Christ the Lord. Make us alive with your Spirit, O God, and send us forth to serve. We offer you the fruits of our labor. Accept them and use them according to your desires. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

**Recessional Hymn #254**

* **Puer Nobis Nascitur**
  * **That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright**

**Charge & Benediction**

* **Postlude**
  * **Alleluia, Sing To Jesus**

Our worship concludes with the postlude. For the benefit of those who wish to listen to the postlude, please refrain from visiting with your neighbors until you have left the sanctuary, or until the postlude has concluded.

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*Strong Son of God, immortal Love, whom we, that have not seen thy face, by faith and faith alone embrace believing where we cannot prove. (Tennyson)*

The tune for That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright can be traced to a Latin hymn from the 15th-century, later adapted by composer Michael Praetorius. Fittingly it is used in our hymnal five times — including a Christmas/Epiphany hymn, an Easter hymn, and a baptism hymn.

*Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. With Christ, may we go to bring peace, forgiveness and new life to the world. (Feasting on the Word)*
Please remember to turn off cell phones during worship. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

Some prayers or liturgy were reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, copyright 2012.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Sharron Boddy
James Eng
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/Music Director
Jazz Combo: Mike Tomaro, Saxophones
Natalie Tomaro, Vocals
Jeff Lashway, Piano
Paul Thompson, Bass
Tom Wendt, Drums
Acolytes: Youth
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us in the McKelvy Room after worship for our Fellowship Time. All are welcome to attend.

If you would like to make a food or monetary donation in support of our Fellowship Time, please call Pamela Kimmel (412.441.3800 x118).

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase flowers for our Sanctuary worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, please call Norma (412.441.3800 x111). The cost is $150 a Sunday.

♦ WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

8:45 am.........Journey. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall. April 30 — Sharron Boddy, seminary intern from PTS preaching.

11 am.........Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service. April 30 — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy preaching.

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.
* Preschool 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 TODAY or next Sunday, April 30 to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please see Rev. Dr. Randy Bush immediately after the service if you are interested in attending today’s class.

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.E LPC.church.

April 23 • 2nd Sunday of Easter
TODAY AT ELPC

A Warm Welcome to Our Musical Guests!
This morning we welcome Mike Tomaro and his jazz combo to ELPC as they share their musical talents with us during the 11 am service. Joining the combo on vocals will be Mike’s daughter, Natalie Tomaro.

The Great Exchange: Travel
All are invited to a fun, interactive event, The Great Exchange, after today’s 11 am service in the Social Hall where we will explore questions centered around the topic of travel, and have a simple lunch. Hosted by the Young Adult and Health Ministries.

Touring ELPC Below Ground
Join ELPC member Regis Will in the hospitality area (Highland Ave entrance) immediately after the 11 am worship service to tour ELPC’s lowest level. Discover the huge boilers and see the blowers that feed air to the more than 7,000 organ pipes! Allow 30–45 minutes for the tour.

New Members & Friends Classes
Join us for an opportunity to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology today in Room 244 and next Sunday, April 30 after the 11 am service. Lunch is provided. Please see the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush immediately after the service if you’d like to attend, or call Gloria Knopp to register for next week’s class (412.441.3800 x122).

Mother's Day Cards Available
Honor your mother or another beloved woman in your life with a special Mother’s Day card that will transform lives of women and children around the world. Your gift will help promote health, education, and development in impoverished communities. Mother’s Day cards are offered by Presbyterian Women and will be available for purchase today and next Sunday, April 30, after Journey worship in the Social Hall and at Fellowship Time after the Sanctuary service. Cards also may be purchased from Kate Carlson in the church office during the week until Mother’s Day.

Free Blood Pressure Screenings
Free blood pressure screenings are available after today’s 11 am service in the 1st floor Library. All are welcome!

Today’s Deacons on Duty
Today’s Journey service DOD is Mary Evrard. The Sanctuary service DOD is Sonya-Marie Morley.

Building Renovations Beginning Soon!
The long-awaited ELPC renovations are scheduled to begin later this month. We anticipate holding a Groundbreaking Event following the 11 am worship service on May 14. The entire project will ideally be completed in a 10-12 month period of time, with initial work beginning soon on the Whitfield St entrance and the ground floor corridor. Join us for these special events and continue to hold this process in prayer.

Contemplative Prayer — Wednesdays after Taizé
Following the 7 pm Taizé prayer service each Wednesday, you are invited to the front of the Chapel, where we will sit together in silence for 20 minutes. If you have never practiced Centering Prayer, someone will be there to help get you started. Meditation cushions and back jacks will be provided, or you can sit in the front pew.

ELPC Chapel Market Reopens — April 24
The Chapel Market will reopen on Monday, April 24 from 10 am-Noon. For more info, please contact the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Scary (PatriceFS@coh.net). No clothing donations are being accepted at this time.

Buzzword Perform & Play Event — April 25
Buzzword Pittsburgh will have a live performance and workshop for young children (ages five and under) and their families on Tuesday, April 25 in the Social Hall. Led by Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, this interactive and child-friendly event is short enough to hold the interest of toddlers, and engaging enough for their older brothers and sisters. Food will be served and fun will be had! Space is limited, so please reserve your spot by emailing HopeAcademyArts@gmail.com.

Spring Cleanup — April 29
All are welcome to help at ELPC’s annual Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 29 from 9 am-Noon. No gardening experience is necessary. For more info, please contact Chuck Lukehart (412.782.6447).

Tween Retreat — April 29 to 30
If your tween (grades 4-6) is interested in the Tween Retreat at Crestfield Camp from April 29 to 30, RSVP to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net). More info can be found at ELPC.church
As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

Joseph Adjaye, Ray Anthony,
John Bavaro, Carol Chonoska’s brother Jeff,
Mary Evrard’s aunt Laura,
Barbara Griffin’s brother Jim,
Barbara Goodwin’s husband John,
Joe Heckel, Lee Lewand,
Gail Mallory’s friend Ailene,
Polly McQueen’s brother Clay, Pat Valoon,
Fran Wilson, and
Jerry and Evelyn Wrzosek’s daughter-in-law Jessica.

Our condolences to Chuck Knoles on his mother’s passing.

Our condolences to the family of Karen Bancroft on her passing.

Our condolences to the family of former ELPC staff member
Rev. Miriam Chamberlain on her passing. A memorial service will be held today at 4 pm at Christ Episcopal Church in Magnolia, NJ.

There are Prayer Boxes, with cards for prayer requests, available on the tables in the Narthex and East Transept entrances to the Sanctuary.

Committee Meeting This Week

Centennial Fund....................Monday, 6:00 pm (Session Rev)

Forum on Problems of Sudan and South Sudan — April 30
The ELPC Peace Committee is hosting Famine, Political Breakdown and the Trump Travel Ban, a forum on the problems of Sudan and South Sudan on Sunday, April 30 from 1:30-4:30 pm in the Music Room. The panel includes Congressman Mike Doyle, Rubani Trimiew, Hawa Abdullah Salih and others. A light lunch will be provided by members of the Sudanese Community in Pittsburgh. All are welcome to this free event, but you must RSVP (jumphook@gmail.com; 412.992.0102).

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
April 30 • 9:45 to 10:45 am

Contemporaries — “Reformed Faith and Politics” led by Dr. Ron Stone


Seekers — “Allegheny County Immigrant Integration Plan” led by Betty Cruz

Soul Food — A concluding discussion of Week 6 of Open the Door by Joyce Rupp, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Pam Napier-Barnes, and David Carl

In Our

COMMUNITY

Church Hall Spaghetti Dinner — April 29
Northmont Presbyterian Church (8169 Perry Highway) is hosting a spaghetti dinner from 4:30-7 pm on Saturday, April 29. All proceeds from the free will offering will benefit the work of Northside Common Ministries. Take-outs and gluten free noodles will be available.

Book Sale — May 5, 6 and 8
Wilkinsburg Public Library (Eastridge Branch, 1900 Graham Blvd) is having a book sale on Friday, May 5, Saturday, May 6 and Monday, May 8, from 10 am-5 pm.

Help for Caregivers — April 30
Care coaches from the United Way’s Caregivers First Initiative will offer a guide to finding community resources, problem-solving, and managing the stress of trying to help a loved one at 12:30 pm on Sunday, April 30 in Room 234. Light refreshments will be served.

Better Choices, Better Health Workshop Series — May 2
Do you have an on-going condition such as arthritis, diabetes, asthma, high blood pressure, low back pain or any other condition that affects your life? This 6-week FREE course is being offered at ELPC, starting Tuesday, May 2. There are currently 3 spots remaining. Please contact Carla Coles to reserve your spot (412.661.1363).

Book and Video Study — May 4 and 18, June 1
Join us for an ongoing conversation on Thursday, May 4 from 6:30-8 pm to explore the connections between science and religion while we read Teilhard’s Mysticism: Seeing the Inner Face of Evolution by Kathleen Duffy and watch videos by Ilia Delio and Brian Swimme. This Spiritual Life offering continues on May 18 and June 1.

Register for our All-Church Retreat — May 5 to 7
Due to the Pittsburgh Marathon, we will not have worship services on Sunday, May 7. Instead, everyone is welcome to join us at our All-Church Retreat at Crestfield Camp from Friday–Sunday, May 5–7. Our theme is Road Trip: Our Journey Together. Registration is now open and rooms will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. Transportation and partial scholarships are available.

LGBTQ Ministry — May 20
God created you, God loves you. Be yourself.
LGBTQ Ministry’s next spiritual gathering will be held on Saturday, May 20 at 4 pm. During this monthly meeting we will share food, fellowship and our stories as we make final plans for summer events. To learn more or to attend, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.260.2554). All people are welcome!