TIME OF PREPARATION
“The true measure of our commitment to justice, the character of our society, our commitment to the rule of law, fairness, and equality cannot be measured by how we treat the rich, powerful, privileged, and the respected among us. The true measure of our character is how we treat the poor, disfavored, accused, incarcerated, and the condemned.”
— Bryan Stephenson, Just Mercy

MINISTRY OF MUSIC
“Nocturne Op. 9 #1 in B-flat Minor”
Frédéric Chopin
Our worship begins with the Ministry of Music/Prelude. Please use this as a time for silent prayer and preparation.

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
Gil Hickman
Leader: Let silent tongues find a new voice and let words arise from a renewed spirit.
People: For our God is an awesome God who sees the poor and forgotten, the imprisoned and hungry, and longs for healing in our communities.
Leader: In our times of worship, let us speak out for justice and sing songs of hope.
People: Let our voices soar in praise as we trust in God’s steadfast love now and always.
Leader: Let us worship God!

* PROCESIONAL HYMN #761
“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

CALL TO CONFESSION
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

For I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.
(Matthew 25:36)
Litany of Confession
Leader: Jesus tells us that he has come to bring good news to the poor and has been sent to proclaim release to the captives;
People: Yet we worry that this might increase the crime rate in our neighborhoods, so we hesitate to listen to what he says.
Leader: He proclaims the recovery of vision to those without sight;
People: Yet citing prudence and safety, we close our eyes to the suffering that surrounds us.
Leader: Jesus tells us that the oppressed are to be freed, the indebted to have their debts forgiven;
People: Yet we respond, “Not here, not now. I have bills to pay and need to protect my property values.”
Leader: Our responses speak volumes about what we truly value. We are too often fearful, self-protective, and unable to extend radical hospitality.
People: Forgive us, O God. Help us to follow in the footsteps of our Savior who has promised to set all captives free — whether from imprisonment or sin or fear. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Time of Silent Reflection
Assurance of God’s Pardon
Leader: Beloved in Christ, Jesus did not come to condemn, but to redeem. The past is over and done; everything is fresh and new. 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
Isaiah 42:1-9

Isaiah 42:1-9

Brittany Watson

Moments with Our Children
Children of any age are welcome to come to the steps of the chancel for Moments with our Children. Those who have completed first grade or younger are invited to attend our Extended Session program for the remainder of our worship time in the Nursery Suite on the first floor.

* Hymn #774 “There Is Now a New Creation”

Stuttgart

Gospel Lesson
Matthew 21:23-32

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Special Music
“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”

Arr. Nolan Williams, Jr.

Sermon
“No More Mixed Messages”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord’s Prayer
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.

Stewardship Minute for Mission
Elaine Bellin

Offering Invitation
Elaine Bellin

Justice is the [goal and] end of government. It is the end of civil society. It ever has been and ever will be pursued until it is obtained, or until liberty be lost in the pursuit. (James Madison)
OFFERTORY ANTHEM  “God Be In My Head”  John S. Dixon
text from an old Sarum primer

God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in my eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my singing.  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking.  
God be at my end, and at my departing.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607  OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all creatures here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION  The Rev. Dr. Bush
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: Lord God, full of compassion and grace, long-suffering and overflowing with mercy: receive these gifts that we bring this day. May they be offerings of release, reconciliation, and healing. By your spirit, help us to rejoice together — captive and free, young and old, in the empowering light of your presence. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #451  Open My Eyes
“Open My Eyes, That I May See”  The Rev. Dr. Bush

* CHARGE & Benediction  Gabriel T. D’Abruzzo

POSTLUDE  Domenico Scarlatti

“Fugue in G Minor” (“Cat Fugue”)  
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.
Please remember to turn off cell phones during worship. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

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♦ **Participants In Today’s Service**

  Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush  
  Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy  
  The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf  
  Elaine Bellin, David Bianco  
  Gil Hickman, Brittany Watson  
  Musicians: Gabriel T. D’Abruzzo, Music Associate  
  ELPC Chancel Choir  
  Jon Erik Schreiber, Soloist  
  Denise Sheffey-Powell, Soloist  
  Acolyte: Sonia Degenholtz  
  Beadle: Michele Bossers  
  Crucifer: Youth  
  Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ **Fellowship Time**

Following the service, please join us in the McKelvy Room for our Fellowship Time. All are welcome!

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.  
  11 am..........Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service. Full Inclusion Sunday with the Renaissance City Choir.

**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 an Inquirers’ Class TODAY in the Music Room to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please see The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf 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.ELPC.church.
Church Events and Announcements  
October 8, 2017 • 18th Sunday after Pentecost

TODAY AT ELPC

Returning Citizens Sunday
Our worship services today have a special focus on returning citizens—those individuals who are returning to society following incarceration. The Justice Committee will provide a program on welcoming and supporting these individuals at ELPC after today’s 11 am service in the Social Hall. A light lunch will be served.

Join Our New Planned Giving Committee
Here’s your chance to leave your mark for the next generation. Carolyn Russ and Tiffany Sudar invite you to an informational session on the newly formed Planned Giving Committee. We will meet following Sanctuary worship today in Room 227. Anyone who would like to learn more is welcome. For info, please contact Carolyn (412.421.7630) or Tiffany (412.527.8804).

Inquirers’ Class
Today’s Inquirers’ Class will be held in the 3rd floor Music Room after the 11 am service. If you are interested in attending, see Pastor Heather immediately after the service.

Today’s Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)
Every Sunday, a DOD (Deacon-on-Duty) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our worship services. Today’s Journey service DOD is Tucker Ferda. The Sanctuary service DOD is Carol Sharp.

The Chapel Market
The Chapel Market is in need of clean, gently used or new fall and winter clothing (men’s clothing especially needed). Please bring your donations to the church ASAP, as the Chapel Market is re-opening on Monday, Oct 23. Contact Pastor Patrice or Linda and Harold Deiss for more info (deisshl@consolidated.net).

Focus on the Environment Tour/Hike/Picnic — Oct 14
Join us on Saturday, Oct 14 at 11 am for a tour of Frick Environmental Center, a net-zero energy building that earned LEED Platinum certification. Bring a bag lunch; after the tour we can walk in the park and have fun. Please RSVP to Linda Harrington (linda0144@gmail.com).

Reel Q: LGBT Film Festival at Harris Theater — Oct 14
The Justice Committee is sponsoring a film called Saturday Church at the Harris Theater (downtown) at 2:30 pm on Saturday, Oct 14. In this coming-of-age drama, Ulysses, a shy, gender-nonconforming teen, flees to New York City and finds an inclusive gathering of trans and queer youths who shepherd him into the sanctuary that is Saturday Church. For info, call Carol Chonoska (724.272.9722).

Full Inclusion Sunday / Circle of Faith — Oct 15
The Renaissance City Choir will be our guest musicians during the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Oct 15 for Full Inclusion Sunday. Then at 2 pm, join ELPC and other faith communities at the annual Circle of Faith at the Schenley Plaza tent. The Circle of Faith is a public witness by various faith communities, designed to welcome and include LGBTQIA persons, as well as their families and allies. ELPC members are invited to gather together for this event and celebrate our congregation’s diversity. Meet there or contact Wil Forrest (412.441.3800 x114) to ride in the church van, which will leave ELPC at 1 pm, and return around 4:30 pm. At church that day, please plan to wear your ELPC rainbow shirt or wear a rainbow outfit or pin. Then wear this at Circle of Faith later that day.

Stained Glass Tour — Oct 15
Join tour guide Steve Evrard for an in-depth tour of the stained glass in our Sanctuary and Chapel. Gather at the front of the Sanctuary following 11 am worship on Sunday, Oct 15.

LGBTQ Ministry Events — Oct 15 and 21
All LGBTQ folks and allies are invited to be part of the LGBTQ Ministry. Much is going on this month: Full Inclusion Sunday on Oct 15, Circle of Faith on Oct 15, and LGBTQ Ministry Day Retreat on Oct 21. Please see Wil for details or to attend. All people are welcome!

PW Fall Social Celebrates Women of All Ages — Oct 21
Get ready for PW’s fall social, a.k.a. Celebrating the Stages of Women from Diapers to Golden Years, held from 4:30-6:30 pm on Saturday, Oct 21, in the Social Hall. Some of the features will be: A tableau portraying some well-known women of the Bible (see how many you can guess), fun games, photos, refreshments, and prizes galore. Come, get in on the fun and contribute to PW’s on-going projects, Women in Liberty and the Western PA Diaper Bank. Invitations with more details are being given out today with the bulletins.

Children’s Sabbath Sunday — Oct 22
The theme for our Children’s Sabbath Sunday on Oct 22 will be Moving Forward with Hope: Love and Justice for Every Child. An advocacy opportunity will be available after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service.

DG2! — Oct 22
Doing Good Together! (a service based partnership with youth at Rodef Shalom) is starting back up on Sunday, Oct 22 at ELPC from 12:30-3 pm. Youth in grades 4–12 are encouraged to come and serve in a variety of ways, make new friends, and have fun together. Lunch will be served.
As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

Those affected by recent hurricanes,
Linda Benedict’s parents Tom and Lois,
Tim Benedict’s mother Fay, Amy Bialek’s cousin Kelly,
David Carl’s friend Madelyn and her family,
Carol Chontos’ father David, Aura Jirau, Gloria Knopp,
Lee Lewand, ELPC employee Mike Maiolo,
Dr. Ed Moore’s father Bill, Gail Noden,
Henry Petrelli’s father Larry,
Jean Thomas’ brother Bill, and Pat Valoon.

Committee Meetings This Week
The church will be closed until 7 pm tomorrow in observance of Indigenous People’s Day.

Planned Giving……………………………Today, 12:15 pm (Rm 227)
Personnel…………………………………….Tuesday, 6:00 pm (Rm 250)
Deacons……………………………………….Tuesday, 7:00 pm (McKelvy Rm)
Officer Nominating……………………….Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Rm 227)
Mission Board Planning………………….Thursday, 5:00 pm (Rm 250)
Neighbors ………………………………..Next Sunday, 12:15 pm (Rm 250)

Faith, Science, and Our Spiritual Life — Oct 26
Not sure what to believe in a scientific world? Join in the conversation on the last Thursday of each month (Oct 26, 6:30-8 pm) as we consider the possibilities for holding faith and science together.

Reformation Sunday — Oct 29
On Sunday, Oct 29 during 11 am worship, we will remember our Reformation roots and celebrate through word and music the legacies of Luther, Calvin, and so many other people of faith. Join us for a special service with bagpipes, readings, and commemorative celebrations.

Adult Sunday School Classes
Oct 15 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Contemporaries (Harambe Rm) — “The Four Freedoms: Religion, Part 1” led by Dr. Ron Stone

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) — Exodus 32:1–14; Psalm 106:1–6,19–23; Philippians 4:1–9; Matthew 22:1–14 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Chapel) — “Mission Malawi” led by Pastor Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Soul Food (3rd floor Music Rm) — A concluding discussion of chapter two of Everything Belongs by Richard Rohr, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Linda Harrington, and Michelle Bard

Young Adult (2nd floor Parlor) — Combined class with Senior High Youth during October, focusing on race

In our Community

Donate to Assist with the Hurricane Restoration Efforts
In addition to giving to the Presbyterian Disaster Agency Designated Relief Accounts (for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma relief—DR000169; and Atlantic Region Storms—R000194), you can donate your time by joining the Pittsburgh Presbytery East Branch on Sunday, Oct 15 from 3-4 pm at Waverly Presbyterian Church (590 S Braddock Ave, 15221) to assemble hygiene kits. Please contact the Rev. Dr. Beverly James for more info (412.323.1404).

Documentary Screening and Panel Discussion — Oct 12
PublicSource, an independent, nonpartisan news nonprofit dedicated to public service journalism and the Pittsburgh Center for Autistic Advocacy are hosting the viewing and panel discussion of the documentary Deej, the story of a nonverbal autistic, abandoned by his birth parents and abused in the foster care system until he is adopted by a loving couple and given needed help. The Carnegie Library Lecture Hall will be the location of this event on Oct 12 at 7 pm. Tickets: $15; $8 student/military. Please contact Tim Randall for more info (412.580.3137).

Free Workshop for Families Affected by Addiction — Oct 14
Bridge to Hope, Passavant Hospital Foundation and UPMC Health Plan are sponsoring a free workshop on Saturday, Oct 14 from 7:30 am-12:30 pm to help family members develop the knowledge and skills needed to become more effective in their efforts to help a loved one struggling with substance use. Pre-registration is requested by Oct 11 (412.748.5120; sidorukj@ph.upmc.edu) for this workshop at 700 Cumberland Woods Dr, 15237.

Music Therapy — Oct 29
Join the Spiritual Life Committee this year as we explore the science and spiritual dimensions of sound in both our own tradition and that of other faiths. Our study begins on Sunday, Oct 29 following the 11 am Sanctuary worship service, as we are joined by Dr. Elaine Abbott, director of the Music Therapy department at Duquesne University. She will demonstrate the healing effect of music. A light lunch will be served.

Looking for a way to put your love in action?

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

♦ Join the weServeList today! ♦