SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP
18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TIME OF PREPARATION
“Greatness lies not in being strong, but in the right use of strength.”
— Henry Ward Beecher

MINISTRY OF MUSIC
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ
“Thou Shalt Bring Them In”
G.F. Handel
“Prelude in C”
David Johnson

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.
People: Y también contigo.
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP
Vince Ponder
Leader: We gather to worship this day,
People: To be like the people described in Psalm 1 who delight in the ways of the Lord and prosper like trees planted by streams of water.
Leader: We come together as people of faith,
People: To be like the congregation in Ephesians 1, whose hearts are enlightened and whose hope is in the Lord who knows us well.
Leader: We trust in God this day and always,
People: So we might be mindful of the lessons found in Mark 9, when Jesus tells us that the first ones must be the servants of all.
Leader: Let us learn, pray, and worship God together this day and always.

* PROCESIONAL HYMN #12
St. Denio
“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

CALL TO CONFESSION
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
God of wisdom, forgive our foolishness. We desire what we do not need and corrupt our relationships with envy. You urge us to gentleness, but we stir up conflict. You point us toward the path of humility, but we are drawn to the false promises of worldly greatness. Forgive us this day. Give us your grace that we may be servants of your righteousness, justice and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.
ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón.
¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Praise God!

ELPC HISTORY VIDEO
Joe and Jean Kennedy

SCRIPTURE LESSONS
Psalm 1
Ephesians 1:15-23

Vince Ponder

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

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 #231
Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers
SUO GAN

GOSPEL LESSON
Mark 9:30-37
The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

“Arguments & Answers: Being Great”
The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER
Alex P. McNeill

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

“Jesus Loves Me”
William Bradbury
arr. Doris Nelson

God doesn’t call the qualified; God qualifies the called.

If any seek for greatness, let them forget greatness and ask for truth, and they will find both. (Horace Mann)

Alex Patchin McNeill has served as Executive Director of More Light Presbyterians since 2013. Their mission statement is as follows:
Working toward the full participation of LGBTQ people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.

The verses to Jesus Loves Me were written by Anna Bartlett Warner (1827-1915). William Bradbury (1816-1868) set the words to music in 1862 and added the refrain “Yes, Jesus loves me…”

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.
ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY: Caesar Augustus was born (63 BCE), Harvard College had its first commencement (1642), Lewis and Clark returned from their first successful western expedition (1806), the planet Neptune was discovered by German astronomer Johann Galle (1846), Thurgood Marshall was nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals (1961), and Jane Fonda led an anti-nuke rally in NYC (1979).

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

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.
Leader: Gracious God, we are grateful for all that you have provided. We dedicate these gifts to you – first fruits of the harvest you have nurtured from us. May all we share and all we do ever be in the service of your church and reflect your loving care for the world.
People: Amen.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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.
Leader: Gracious God, we are grateful for all that you have provided. We dedicate these gifts to you – first fruits of the harvest you have nurtured from us. May all we share and all we do ever be in the service of your church and reflect your loving care for the world.
People: Amen.

ELPC HISTORY VIDEO

Joe and Jean Kennedy

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #700

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Postlude

“Fanfare”

William Mathias

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. Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices 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
Alex P. McNeill
Vince Ponder

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/ Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir

Acolytes: Kevin Moon and Emmy Thompson
Beadle: Erich Stein
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ Fellowship Time

Please join us in the Social Hall and Courtyard after worship for our annual Church Picnic. Learn more about the ministries and programs offered at ELPC. 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

The flowers today are in honor of the wedding ceremony of Tim Chaplin and Jim DiGiorgio, held yesterday at ELPC.

♦ Worship Next Sunday


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 110B.

♦ 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. Available 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 annual Church Picnic in the Social Hall and Courtyard. 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 after worship on Sept 30 and Oct 7 from 12:30-2:30 pm to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Contact Gloria Knopp for more info about the classes (412.441.3800 x122; GloriaK@coh.net).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.
Church Events and Announcements
September 23, 2018 • 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Today at ELPC

Today is Seminary Sunday
ELPC extends a warm welcome to all our guests from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary on this very special Seminary Sunday. Thank you for joining us! Please pick up a gift bag in the West Transept and join us in the Social Hall following the 11 am service for our annual Church Picnic.

Radical Hospitality CE Hour
What does it look like to have a fully-inclusive church that practices the radical hospitality of Christ? Join the discussion with others from ELPC as More Light Presbyterian Executive Director Alex Patchin McNeill joins us to lead the discussion in Room 213 today from 9:45-10:45 am.

Training for Youth Worship Leaders
Any youth in grades 4-12 who is interested in serving as an acolyte, crucifer, or usher during our Sanctuary worship service may attend a training session in the Sanctuary this morning from 10:15-10:45 am.

Church Picnic
The Church Picnic after today’s 11 am service is a wonderful time of food and fellowship—allowing people to get better acquainted with our church friends and members who make ELPC so special. The Christian Ed Committee will provide fried chicken, hot dogs, and potato salad.

LGBTQ Ministry
All are invited to the next LGBTQ monthly gathering today at 1 pm. Grab a plate at the church picnic and join us. Contact Wil Forrest to attend (Wil@coh.net).

Artwork Donation by ELPC Members
The art piece City Church City by Doug Cooper and Stefani Danes is installed at ELPC in the hallway near the South Highland Ave entrance. Doug and Stefani have generously donated this mural that was part of their Sanctuary: Sacred Space in a Secular World exhibit.

Today’s Deacons-On-Duty (DODs)
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 The Rev. Tony Richardson-Eckes. The Sanctuary service DOD is Henry Petrilli.

Chapel Market Donations
The Chapel Market is requesting donations of new or gently-used winter clothing and toiletry items (deodorant, toothpaste, soap, etc.). Please, no men’s suits.

TransPride Conferences — Sept 28 and 29
You are invited to attend and volunteer at the TransPride Professional Conference on Friday, Sept 28 from 8 am-6 pm and/or the TransPride Community Conference on Saturday, Sept 29 from 9 am-6 pm — both at the Persad Center in Lawrenceville. ELPC is co-sponsoring this event. Contact Antwone Wright if you want to help at the ELPC info table (412.225.8154; wrightantwone@yahoo.com).

YAM Event: Getting Your Just Desserts — Sept 30
Next Sunday, Sept 30 after worship, young adults are invited to spend the afternoon together by going to the Melting Pot at Station Square for some delicious chocolate fondue (and perhaps more). The first round of fondue is on the house! Make sure you RSVP to Wil in advance so you get a seat in the van and so we have an accurate reservation (Wil@coh.net). Visit www.meltingpot.com/pittsburgh-pa for restaurant details.

ELPC Tours — Sept 30 and Oct 7
- Learn about intricate design details (large and small) in our Sanctuary and Chapel Tour on Sunday, Sept 30.
- Climb the heights of our central tower at the Tower Tour on Sunday, Oct 7.
Join the tour guides at the Highland Ave entrance following the 11 am Sanctuary worship service.

Bible Study — Oct 1 and 2
All women at ELPC are welcome to join Presbyterian Women for the Bible study lesson God with us in our Uncertainty on Monday, Oct 1 (7 pm), and Tuesday, Oct 2 (10 am). Monday’s group will meet for Bible study and fellowship in the Harambe Room. Tuesday’s group will meet for Bible study in the 2nd floor Parlor, followed by a potluck lunch. Soup will be provided, but please bring a side or salad to share, as well as your own place setting.

Food 4 Thought Begins — Oct 4
Food 4 Thought is a no-cost learning support and enrichment program for youth in grades 6-8, which equips and encourages them by exploring and enjoying food. For more info about how your child can participate in our Food 4 Thought program, call Sara Hackett (412.673.2926). The program begins Oct 4 from 4:30-6:30 pm. If you are interested in becoming an adult mentor or a meal team member, call Wil Forrest (412.260.2554).
As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

Michele Bossers’ cousin Laura,
David Carl’s aunt Yvonne,
Kate Carlson’s niece’s friend Kaitlyn,
Carol Chontos’ father David,
Molly Dimond-Stephany’s sister-in-law Andrea,
Wil Forrest and his brother Loren, Lee Lewand,
Sonya-Marie Morley’s cousin Dee’nice
and Schell family friends, and Russ Overfield.

Condolences to the family of
Gail Noden on her passing.
A celebration of her life will be held on
Nov 20 at 11 am at ELPC.

Condolences to the family of Donna Stephens on her passing.

Committee Meetings This Week
Peace............................... Thursday, 5:30 pm (2nd fl Library)
Air Pollution Group............ Thursday, 7:00 pm (Highland Rm)

Blessing of the Animals Service — Oct 6
Our service of the Blessing of the Animals will be held on Saturday, Oct 6 at 3 pm. Please bring your pets (on leashes!) to the Penn Ave steps of ELPC. A part of the service will be devoted to our pets who are no longer with us, but remain in our hearts and at our sides. You are encouraged to bring a collar or toy to be blessed. Water will be provided. We look forward to welcoming you all! In case of rain, our service will move into the Narthex.

Cathedral Concert — Oct 7
The eighth season of ELPC’s Cathedral Concerts series kicks off with Grammy Award-winning artist Nathan Laube in concert on Sunday, Oct 7 at 3 pm. This concert will be presented in cooperation with the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh (OAS). As part of his performance, Mr. Laube will premiere a new composition by Craig Phillips, celebrating the OAS’ 40th season. Complimentary tickets are available to ELPC members from Dr. Edward Alan Moore (EdM@coh.net). A freewill offering will be received.

World Communion Sunday — Oct 7
ELPC will join sibling congregations around the world to celebrate our oneness in Christ as we partake of the bread and cup at the Table and receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, Oct 7. Following our 11 am worship service, Kendall Pelling, director of land recycling at East Liberty Development, Inc., will give an update on the redevelopment in our community. A light lunch will be served and a limited number of seats will be available for a short tour of our community.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES
Sept 30 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am
♦ ADULTS ♦
Contemporaries (McKelvy Room) — “Theology for Presbyterians: Jesus Christ” facilitated by the Contemporaries Steering Committee
Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) — Esther 7:1–10; 9:20–22; Psalm 124; James 5:13–20; Mark 9:38–50 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin
Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) — “The poet Rumi: Selections and Islamic Insights” led by Aliya Khan
Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A beginning discussion of chapter two of Surrender to Love by David Benner, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Steve Evrard, and David Carl
♦ CHILDREN & YOUTH ♦
Located in the 1st floor nursery suite and 2nd floor — Find rooms, teachers and curriculum at www.ELPC.church
Looking for a way to put your love in action?
If you have something to share, visit the iSERVE webpage at www.ELPC.church/programs/iserve-2, or contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x114).
♦ Needed: Meal Providers for Club 116 this Fall ♦
Dates still needed: Oct 10, Nov 28 and Dec 5 + 12

Energy Efficiency Workshop — Sept 25
Representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold an Energy Efficiency Workshop at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (616 N Highland Ave, 15206) on Tuesday, Sept 25 from 7-9 pm. Register for this free event by contacting B. David Smith at Clean Air Council (dsmith@cleanair.org; 412.954.8494).

Hannah Price Exhibit — Through Nov 17
Hannah Price, a photographic artist and filmmaker, has her new series Semaphore on exhibit at the Silver Eye Center for Photography (4808 Penn Ave, 15224) through Nov 17. Semaphore is a collection of black and white photographs, concrete poems and video interviews that explore the overt and subtle ways we signal identity to the world. Visit www.silvereye.org for details. Hannah Price’s “Cursed by Night” photo exhibit was on display at ELPC in Spring 2017.

In our Community