TIME OF PREPARATION

“Surprising God, you come to our lives in ways we do not expect. We ask for success; you teach us acceptance. We ask to be loved; you ask us to love. We ask for ease; you challenge us. We ask for a triumphant Messiah, you come as one obedient to death. Walk among us, surprising God of peace. Sanctify our joys and turn our hearts to you. At the name of Jesus, we bow before you. May your name be glorified in your church and in our lives, now and always. Amen.”

― "Touch Holiness; Resources for Worship," edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, 1990

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ

“Les Rameaux (The Palms)”

Jean-Baptiste Faure

Join all and sing his name declare, let every voice resound with acclamation.

Hosanna! Praised be the Lord! Bless him, who cometh to bring us salvation!

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

* 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

Ray Anthony

Leader: Cry out, people of faith! Rejoice and praise God!

People: If we did not sing praise, the very stones would cry out!

Leader: Cry out, people of faith, for your Savior draws near to Jerusalem.

People: Hosanna! God saves! Blessed is the One who comes in God’s name!

Leader: Blessed is Jesus Christ, who did not turn back for fear of the cross. Let us praise the God who loves us, sharing Christ’s sufferings, and facing with courage our path of faith.

ALL: Hosanna! God saves! Blessed is the One who comes in God’s name.

* PALM PROCESSIONAL HYMNS (please see music insert)

“This is the Day”

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.
Both of the above prayers are from “Touch Holiness; Resources for Worship,” edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, 1990.

O God, we are like the people of Jerusalem so long ago. We are hungry for a hero. We crave some glimpse of greatness. We are starving for the spectacular. We are gathered here like those who watched the Passion -Parade in Jerusalem, craning our necks to catch a glimpse of our Messiah. As we wait here for the Savior to come let us not be disappointed when the special one appears even though we are certain to be surprised, and give us the courage to follow where the one on the donkey might lead.

God of joy and arrival, enter our lives as Christ entered Jerusalem. May we celebrate your coming. May we cry out with the stones so the world might hear your glad arrival. Yet do not leave us in the events to come. This joyous crowd which greets you will turn and flee. From a crowd of hosannas, we turn into a silent, denying crowd at the cross. Do not leave us in the events to come! Even though we may leave you, do not leave us, O Christ! Then forgive us, so we can return to you changed. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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**CALL TO CONFESSION**

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The Rev. Callahan

God of heaven and earth, we give you thanks for sending Jesus Christ in your name. Even though we profess to follow him, we confess that in times of trial we too often deny him. Forgive us and heal us, we pray. Help us to put our faith not in the princes of this world, but in the Prince of Peace. In Jesus’ name we pray.

**HANDBELL ANTHEM**

“O Dearest Jesus”

arr. John Behnke

**ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

The Rev. Callahan

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People:

¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

**PSALMS LESSON**

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

**ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

Elders: Ray Anthony, Michelle Bard, Damon Bethea, Mark DeWitt, Ike Ezekoye, Katelyn Haas-Conrad, Kiara Rockymore, Pam Walaski, Russ Walker

Deacons: Doug Cooper, Elizabeth Gonda, Henry Petrilli, Susan Spangler, Kira Mukogosi

**GOSPEL LESSON**


The Rev. Dr. Bush

The Rev. Callahan

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Pastors: After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

People:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

Pastors: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

**MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN**

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Children of any age are welcome to come forward 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 #196

“All Glory Laud and Honor”

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
SERMON  “Faith + Community”  The Rev. Schoenewolf

HANDBELL ANTHEM  “Were You There”  arr. Sondra Tucker

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.

OFFERING INVITATION
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  arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

“Ride On, King Jesus”
Ride on, King Jesus, no one can-a hinder me.
I was but young when I begun, but now my race is almost done.
King Jesus rides on a milk-white horse. The river of Jordan he did cross.
If you want to find your way to God, the gospel highway must be trod.
Ride on, King Jesus, no one can-a hinder me.

DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH

| 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: Holy One, we give you thanks for the great deeds of salvation that you have done and continue to do. Bless these offerings of thanksgiving that they may further your kingdom in this world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen. |

* RECESSITIONAL HYMN #198  “Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Little Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 553”

Alice Parker (b. 1925) and Robert Shaw (1916-1999) collaborated many times to produce arrangements of folksongs, hymns and spirituals that have become standards in the choral repertoire.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:
The first edition of Noah Webster’s American Dictionary of the English Language was published in the United States (1828); President Abraham Lincoln was shot by actor John Wilkes Booth during a performance of Our American Cousin at Ford’s Theater (1865); the RMS Titanic struck an iceberg and sank the following day (1912); Anne Sullivan Macy, teacher of Helen Keller, was born (1866); Sidney Poitier becomes the first Black actor to win an Academy Award (1964); and testimony concluded in the Iran-Contra trial of former National Security Council staff member Oliver L. North (1989).
As part of ELPC’s mission to extend radical hospitality to all of our brothers and sisters, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on Facebook and archived at www.ELPC.church. This notice is to inform you that by being in attendance, you give permission for incidences where you appear within the video. Should you have any questions, please see one of our pastors.

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♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
Ray Anthony
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
ELPC Ringers
Acolytes: Annie Cowan and Quinn Seif
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

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

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

You are invited to help provide flowers for our Easter services on April 21, or to make a monetary donation to the EECM Food Pantry. Forms are available around the church. Today is the final day to order plants or make a contribution to the Food Pantry.

♦ WORSHIP ON EASTER SUNDAY

Please see a complete listing of our Holy Week worship services in today’s bulletin announcements.

8:45 am........Journey. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall. April 21 — The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy preaching.

9:45 am........Easter Fellowship. Please join us in the Highland Room for fellowship.

11 am...........Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir. April 21 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush 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.
* Pre-school 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. During Holy Week, the labyrinth will be available from 9 am-9 pm Monday thru Friday, and 9 am-1 pm on Saturday.

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

Wednesdays, 7 pm

Prayer Room (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 Fellowship Time in the Fellowship 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 to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Contact Gloria Knopp for more info (GloriaK@coh.net). The class originally scheduled for today is cancelled.

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.
Church Events and Announcements
April 14, 2019 • Palm Sunday

TO DAY AT ELPC

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Received
The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received today. Thank you for your generosity!

Inquirers’ Class Cancelled
The Inquirers’ Class scheduled for today has been cancelled. Please contact Gloria Knopp for info on future classes (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x122).

Heretics, Doubters and Other Saints
Because what we believe has everything to do with how we pray, the Spiritual Life Committee welcomes you to the discussion group Heretics, Doubters and Other Saints following today’s 11 am worship service in the 2nd floor Parlor. A light lunch will be provided.

Middle School Mission Trip Meeting
Youth in grades 6–8 who are interested in attending Mission Possible at Crestfield Camp from July 7-12 are asked to attend an informational meeting today after the Sanctuary worship service in the McKelvey Room. Lunch will be provided. Parents are invited also.

Tower Tour
Join us for a Tower Tour after worship today. The climb requires a bit of stamina; comfortable shoes and pants are suggested. The tour is not recommended for small children. Please gather in the front of the Sanctuary.

Sponsor Flowers for Easter
Today is the last day to sponsor flowers for our Easter services on April 21, or to make a monetary donation to the EECM Food Pantry. Forms are available around the church.

YAM Event
Young adults are invited to Sanctuary’s Pub Talk series, which explores faith, art, culture, politics and justice. We will gather at ELPC at 6:15 pm today to drive to Full Pint Wild Side Pub (5310 Butler St, Lawrenceville) to hear this month’s speaker, Leann Younger. Please contact Kelli Booher for more info (kellib@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x114).

The Arsenal Duo to Perform
The eighth season of ELPC’s Cathedral Concerts series continues today at 3 pm with a performance by the Arsenal Duo, comprised of organist Edward Alan Moore and pianist Nathan Carterette. Featured on the program will be the first movement of Tchaikovsky’s piano concerto and George Gershwin’s iconic Rhapsody in Blue. A freewill offering will be received.

Today’s Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)
The Journey service DOD is Doug Cooper. The Sanctuary service DOD is Trish Buben.

Bicentennial Glass Ornaments & Necklaces Available
As part of our bicentennial celebration, local glass artist Sarah Cohen has made for us glass ornaments and necklaces that contain small palm branches and the words “ELPC 200 years strong.” They cost $25 and we are again accepting orders for these items. If you would like to reserve one or both items, please send an email inquiry to Jim DiGiorgio (JimD@coh.net).

Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

Wed, April 17
Taizé Stations of the Cross • 7 pm
Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

Thur, April 18
Maundy Thursday (Communion) • 7 pm
Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Fri, April 19
Good Friday
12 pm • Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
7 pm • Rev. Patrice Fowler-Seary
Rev. Dr. Randy Bush will preach on the 7th word Jesus spoke from the cross at St. James AME Church (444 Lincoln Ave) from 12-3 pm.

Sat, April 20
Easter Vigil
(Communion) • 7 pm
Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan and Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Sun, April 21
Easter Sunday
(Communion)
8:45 am • Rev. Patrice Fowler-Seary
9:45 am • Fellowship
11 am • Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

During Holy Week, the labyrinth will be available Monday through Friday (9am-5pm) and on Saturday (9am-1pm).

No scented flowers are used at our worship services. Sponsor an Easter plant or contribute to the EECM Food Pantry. Order forms are available in the Narthex and Highland Ave Lobby.
As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:


Condolences to the family of Jack Burley on his passing. Condolences to Gloria Knopp on her mother’s passing. Congratulations to Tucker & Libby Ferda on the birth of Junia Bel.

Committee Meetings This Week

In observance of Easter, the church building will close at 2 pm on Easter Sunday and will reopen at 7 am on Tuesday, April 23.

Finance ......................... Today, 12:15 pm (Highland Rm)
Bicentennial Taskforce ........ Today, 12:30 pm (Trustees Rm)
Justice ............................ Today, 12:30 pm (Rm 211)

YAM Event: Dinner & Taizé Service — April 17

The YAMs (Young Adult Ministry) will meet before the Taizé service on Wednesday, April 17 at 5:45 pm for a meal and to discuss What does it mean to be religious? What is religion? Then we will attend the Taizé Stations of the Cross service in the chapel at 7 pm. Please RSVP to Kelli Booher (kellib@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x114).

Tai Chi Classes — April 23

Tai Chi classes begin on Tuesday, April 23 from 10-11 am, and continue for 10 weeks. Experience flowing movements and a relaxing workout. The cost is $25 for 10 weeks. Please pre-register with Kate Carlson (KateC@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x116).

In our Community

“Reconstruction” on PBS — April 16

View one of the most misunderstood chapters in American history on PBS on Tuesday from 9-11 pm.

Freedom Seder — April 27

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh (5738 Forbes Ave, 15217) will have a Freedom Seder on Saturday, April 27 from 5:30-6:45 pm with snacks that include Passover ritual foods. RSVP by April 24 online at www.tinyurl.com/JCCseder.

Crestfield Camp Gala — May 3

Those wishing to support Crestfield Camp are invited to RSVP by April 19 to attend their Gala on May 3. It will be held at the Carnegie Science Center. Tickets are $100 per person and can be reserved at www.crestfieldcc.org.

Learn more about available parking spaces around ELPC at: www.elpc.church/about-elpc/visiting-elpc/parking

Environmental Book Club — April 25

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to a discussion of The Uninhabitable Earth, Life After Warming by David Wallace-Wells. We will discuss the first half of the book on Thursday, April 25 at 7 pm, and will meet on May 16 to discuss the second half. For more info, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Twen Night — April 26

Tweens in grades 4-6 will get together for dinner and messy games at Twin Night on Friday, April 26 from 6-8 pm. Dress for outdoor weather and a mess!

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — April 28

All are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC’s LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, April 28 at 12:30 pm when we will continue our discussion of the themes in chapters 4-6 of Matthew Vine’s God and the Gay Christian. We will focus on our relationship with Scripture, what it says, what it does not say, and how to embrace it. Previous reading or attendance is not required. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks are welcome. Contact Wil Forrest for more details or to attend (Wil@coh.net).

Bicentennial Talent Show & Pot Luck Dinner — May 4

Mark your calendar for the ELPC Talent Show and Pot Luck Dinner on Saturday, May 4 from 6-9 pm. (This is Pittsburgh Marathon weekend, so there are no regular Sunday morning services.) All kinds of talents are invited: music, drama, comedy, needlework/fabric, and artwork in your favorite medium that we’ll put on display. Please keep your act to less than 3 minutes so we can include as many as possible. We also need an enthusiastic audience, so spectators are very welcome! Chicken, beverages and birthday cake will be provided. RSVP on our Facebook page, or to Heather Lawrence (hlawrence345@gmail.com).

There will be no Sunday School classes on Easter.