



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 S. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412/441-3800 www.ELPC.church

As a diverse community of believers, we strive to follow God — the Creator who calls us, Jesus who teaches us, and the Spirit who empowers us. We show God's unconditional love by providing a refuge for spiritual growth, ardently pursuing justice, and extending Christ's radical hospitality to all. (Strategic Vision mission statement, 2011)

APRIL 17, 2016 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

John Knowles Paine
(1839-1906) was
appointed Harvard
University's first organist
and choirmaster in
1861.

On this date in history,
Christopher Columbus
signed a contract with
King Ferdinand and
Queen Isabella to
commission a westward
voyage to Asia (1492);
Martin Luther made his
first appearance to
answer charges about
his writings at the Diet of
Worms (1521);
Benjamin Franklin died
at home in Philadelphia
(1790); Cuban forces
repulsed an invasion at
the Bay of Pigs (1961);
the Dow Jones industrial
average closed above
3000 for the first time —
it is now over 17,000
(1991); and Alice
Walker wins the Pulitzer
Prize for *The Color
Purple* (1993).

TIME OF PREPARATION

"To persecute makes a faith hated, and is furthermore
No perfect witness of a perfect faith in him who persecutes."

— Lord Alfred Tennyson

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organist*

"Prelude on Slane"
(Be Thou My Vision)

Healey Willan

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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

Sandy Edgecombe

Leader: Lord Christ, you are the Shepherd of our souls.

People: **Open now our hearts to feed on your goodness and to trust where
you lead.**

Leader: By the power of your Holy Spirit, may the scales fall away from our eyes
and we recognize ourselves as instruments of your will, mercy and justice.

People: **Abide with us in this time of worship and along life's journey yet to
come. Come, Lord Jesus!**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #450

SLANE

"Be Thou My Vision"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Sonya-Marie Morley

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sonya-Marie Morley

**We come before you, O God, confessing our sins and misdeeds. We have
judged others by our own standards, not yours, and lived by our own designs,
not your laws of justice. We have denied our kinship with those who disagree
with us, and isolated ourselves away from those in need. Remove the scales
from our eyes and the hardness from our hearts. By your grace, lead us on the
way of true faithfulness and righteousness. Hear our prayers of confession.**

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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The story of Saul's conversion is told three times in the book of Acts: Acts 9:1-19, 22:5-16, and 26:12-18. In all three accounts, Saul saw a great light and heard the words, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" This happened within a few years of Jesus' crucifixion (about 33 CE).

Egil Hovland (1924-2013) was a Norwegian composer, organist and choral conductor. His compositions include works for orchestra, wind orchestra, piano, chorus and organ. *Saul* was composed in 1971 and employs aleatoric elements, with the individual chorus members repeating certain lines at various and random tempos.

"Persecution, wherever it occurs, establishes only the power and cunning of the persecutor, not the truth and worth of his belief."

— H.M. Kallen

"The right of persecution is absurd and barbarous; it is the right of tigers, tho' so much the more horrid, for the tigers have a plea for hunger, while men destroy each other for the sake of mere paragraphs."

— Voltaire

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Sonya-Marie Morley

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!

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:11-16

Dick Edgecombe

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Our Extended Session program is provided for infants and toddlers up to age 3 in the first floor Nursery and pre-school age through grade 1 in Room 151.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:1-19

The Rev. Dr. Bush

HYMN #294 (sing 2 times) "Within Our Darkest Night"

DANS NOS OBSCURITÉS

ANTHEM

"Saul"

Egil Ovland

text from Acts 8:1-4, 7 and 9:1-4

SERMON

"Complex Persecution"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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.

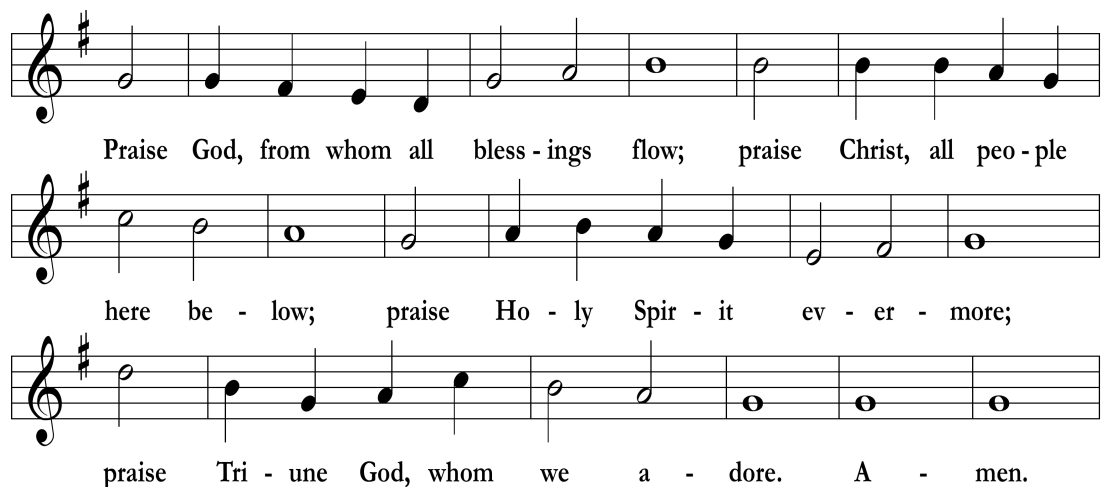
OFFERTORY

"Meditation" (Adore te, Devote)

arr. Don Michael Dicie

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Evening Prayer:

O Shepherd of all, you have brought us to the close of another day; for this gift and so many blessings we've received, we give you thanks. All that we have and all that we are come from you. Trusting in the goodness of your divine care, I lie down this night in peace, that tomorrow I may rise to greet you in resurrection joy. Amen.

Ethan Matthew LaPlaca is Director of Choral Activities at Andrew W. Mellon Middle School in the Mt. Lebanon School District and Assistant Organist at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Highland Park.

CHARGE:

Go forth to follow paths of righteousness; go forth to follow paths of peace; go forth not to persecute but to protect, preserve and promote the fullness of God's realm made known here on earth. And may God's goodness and mercy follow you as you serve the risen Lord.

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION**

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: Almighty God, you have gathered a people from every nation and language to praise your name eternally. May these gifts and the offerings of our lives become part of the song of heaven, echoing forth this day throughout all the world; for it is in Christ's name we pray.

People: Amén.

The Rev. Schoenewolf

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Amen.

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN #295**

SINE NOMINE

"Go to the World!"

*** CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

Ethan Matthew LaPlaca, *organist*

"Grand Choeur"

Théodore Dubois

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. Heather Schoenewolf
Dick and Sandy Edgecombe
Sonya-Marie Morley
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
Ethan Matthew LaPlaca, Guest Organist
ELPC Chancel Choir
ELPC Ringers
Acolytes: Youth
Beadle: Matt Stuftt
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 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 x18).

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers today are in loving memory of Gibson P. and Cathryn G. Buchanan and John G. and Charity P. Buchanan.

♦ 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 24 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.

11 am **Sanctuary Worship.** Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service.
April 24 — The Rev. Patrice 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.*
- * *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 for an opportunity to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more information on future classes (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x22).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Today's Deacon-On-Duty

The *Journey* service DOD is **Beth Minnigh**. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Cami Needle**.

Free Blood Pressure Screenings

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

The Great Exchange: Holidays

Folks of all ages are invited to *The Great Exchange: Holidays* today at 12:30 pm in the Social Hall. This interactive event will explore some fun and intriguing discussion questions centered around the topic of holidays. We will have a simple lunch while sharing our stories with one another.

Justice Committee Meeting

The ELPC Justice Committee meets today in Room 224 after the 11 am worship service to discuss plans for working with the Islamic Center, Criminal Justice, Circle of Faith, PrideFest, the next book study and our summer film festival. All are welcome.

Mother's Day Cards Available

Mother's Day cards are offered by Presbyterian Women and may be purchased today and April 24 after Journey worship in the Social Hall and at Fellowship Time after Sanctuary worship. Cards also may be purchased from Kate Carlson in the church office during the week.



Yarn Donations Requested for Club 116

Club 116 is doing a yarn sewing project on April 20. If you have any leftover or unwanted yarn, we would love to put it to good use! Yarn can be dropped off in the front office before April 20.

Mission Overnight Event — April 22 to 23

Youth in grades 8–12 who are interested in attending the *Sr. High Mission Trip* this summer are required to attend the *Mission Overnight* event from 7 pm on Friday, April 22 to Saturday, April 23 at 7 pm. We will learn about mission, play group building games, worship and plan for the trip.

Cathedral Concert Cancellation — April 23

Our *Cathedral Concerts* performance scheduled for Saturday, April 23 has been postponed until a future date.

Confirmation Class Meetings — April 24

There will be a *Confirmation Class* meeting on Sunday, April 24 from 12:30-2:30 pm.

LGBTQ Ministry Event — April 24

The next LGBTQ Ministry event will be the *Learning and Discussion Session: Understanding LGBTQ Basics* on Sunday, April 24 after the 11 am worship service. To learn more about this session or to attend, as seats are limited, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x14). All allies and LGBTQ folks are welcome!

Forum on Sudan and South Sudan — April 24

The ELPC Peace Committee is hosting the *4th Annual Forum on Sudan and South Sudan* on Sunday, April 24 in the Small Dining Room from 2-5 pm. Presented by the Pittsburgh Darfur Emergency Coalition, the event will include special remarks by House Representative Mike Doyle and City Councilman Dan Gilman and many others. Lunch will be provided by members of the Sudanese Community Pittsburgh. The event is free, but RSVP to David Rosenberg (jumphook@gmail.com).

Blessing of the Bikes — April 30

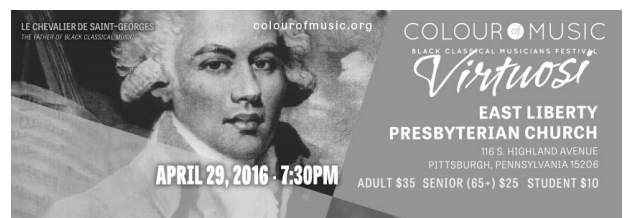
ELPC is hosting a *Blessing of the Bikes* on Saturday, April 30 at 1:30 pm. People are encouraged to ride their bikes to church and gather on the Penn Avenue side of our church for a time of prayer, dedication, and celebration. (Non-bike riders also welcome!) Participants of all ages can take part in a short bike ride up to Highland Park and back. Please see Pastor Randy if you are willing to be a bike "tour guide" for this special event.

ELPC Updates in Your Inbox

Would you like to have updates on ELPC news, events, and worship services delivered to your inbox every Friday morning? Sign up to receive our weekly e-flash by visiting www.ELPC.church and entering your email address in the sign-up box at the bottom of the homepage.

The Colour of Music Virtuosi — April 29

Enjoy the 20-piece Virtuosi perform this innovative repertoire incorporating the works of composers of African descent alongside traditional classical works on Friday, April 29 at 7:30 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary. They will be highlighting the impact and historical significance of black classical composers and performers on American and world culture. Cost: Adults \$35, Seniors (65+) \$25, Students \$10.





As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

Sue Bailey,
Linda Benedict's parents Tom and Lois,
Tim Benedict's sister-in-law Marilyn, Darleen Burke,
Kate Carlson's friend Patsy and husband Tom,
Carol Chontos (ELPC employee),
Dave and Bobby Egelston's niece Tina, Cathie Hajdu,
Bill Johnson, Gloria Knopp's brother-in-law Dave,
Mike Maiolo (ELPC employee),
Paul Martin's friend Carol and her family,
Deborah Marx's friends Monica and Chris,
Jon Nelson's friend Chloe, Mary Jo Pettengill,
Janet Pollard's brother Calvin,
Vivienne Selia's friend Pam,
Nancy Thomas, Al Valentine's son Marc,
Pat Valoon and her friend Kristen, and Sel Whitaker.

Our condolences to Mark Roth on his father's passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Justice..... Today, 12:15 pm (Rm 224)
YAYA..... Tuesday, 5:30 pm (Rm 244)
Session..... Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Rm 234)

Justice Committee Book Study and Discussion – April 30

The book *Far From the Tree: Parents, Children, and the Search for Identity* will be discussed by the Justice Committee on Saturday, April 30 from 9–11 am. The book explores what it's like for parents of children who are profoundly different or likely to be stigmatized. Book copies are available in the ELPC Library or bookstores. Read one chapter or all of them. For details, contact Carol Chonoska (724.272.9722; carolchonoska@gmail.com).

Centering Prayer – Tuesdays

Jon Nelson will lead *Centering Prayer* on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Prayer and Meditation Room. Please note the day and time changes from Wednesdays. All are invited to attend.

Church School Classes

April 24 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Contemporaries – “Witness to the Church in South East Asia” led by Kelli Booher

Journey with Scripture – Acts 11:1–18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1–6; John 13:31–35 led by Mark Blank

Seekers – “How acquainted are you with the Holy Spirit?” led by Dr. Lois Lang

Soul Food – A discussion of a meditation by Richard Rohr, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Vivienne Selia and Reed Williams

In Our Community

Art All Night: Lawrenceville—April 23 and 24

This public art show and annual celebration of arts and community is **FREE** from 4 pm April 23 until 2 pm on April 24 at 3901 Butler Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201! We also invite you to submit one piece of artwork to hang in our show. There is no fee, no jury, and no censorship of the artwork created by local artists of all ages, types, and abilities. To learn more about the event, including how to register artwork, information about handicap accessibility, and volunteer opportunities, please visit www.artallnight.org or follow us on Twitter or Facebook.

Double the Impact of your Gift to World Mission

A group of committed *Presbyterian World Mission* donors has pledged to match all gifts sent for mission personnel support, up to \$30,000, through April 30. This means your gift of \$50 today will be matched with another \$50. We urge you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to double the impact of your gift. Please go to the *Presbyterian Mission* website (www.presbyterianmission.org) to make a donation online, being sure to note that it is to be doubled through the “matching gift” program—and if you wish, that it is to support our ELPC Mission Co-Worker Chenoa Stock with her ministry in Bolivia.

Mindfulness Meditation – Thursdays

Susan Spangler will lead *Mindfulness Meditation* on Thursdays at 7 pm in the Prayer and Meditation Room. Please note the day change from Mondays. All welcome.

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.

Cathedral Yoga – Wednesdays

Experience yoga in our beautiful, gothic Sanctuary on Wednesdays from 6–7 pm. All are welcome! The class is free, but donations are appreciated. Bring your own mat.

iSERVE
LOVE IN ACTION

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

♦ Club 116 End of the Year
Cookout Food Provider ♦

Looking for a way to put your love in action?

Contact Wil (412.441.3800 x14). Visit the iSERVE webpage at www.ELPC.church/programs/iserve-2