



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)

MAY 29, 2016 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
God Most High, ever-present companion, may your constant presence ignite in us a carefree courage that we may boldly take part in your kingdom. We want to flourish in your presence until all that you intend is fulfilled. In us, even in us, may your purposes be accomplished. Amen.

Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the river or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.
(Joshua 24:15)

TIME OF PREPARATION

“Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives. Choice, not chance, determines your destiny.” *(Aristotle)*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organist*
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

“Andante with Variations in D”

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.

The peace of Christ be with you.

People: Y también contigo.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lisa Petrilli

Leader: Choose this day whom you will serve.

People: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Leader: Cry aloud and call upon God's name.

People: **Declare God's glory among the nations.**

Leader: Sing to the Lord, and bless God's name.

People: For the Lord is our God, Creator, Christ, Spirit, whom alone we worship and serve.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #321

AURELIA

“The Church's One Foundation”

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

God of mercy, we bring before you this day our prayers of confession. We have sinned against you and our neighbor. We call upon your name, but then go our own way, apart from your purposes. We are quick to see the fault in others, but do not see our own failings. Forgive us we pray, for any haughtiness or hypocrisy in us. Forgive our distracted spirits and give us faith to trust the sure foundation you have established, through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Grant to me, O Lord, to
know what I ought to
know, to love what I ought
to love, to praise what
delights thee most, to
value what is precious in
thy sight, to hate what is
offensive to thee. Do not
suffer me to judge
according to the sight of
my eyes, but ever to
inquire what is the good
pleasure of thy will.
(Thomas à Kempis)

The two selections by
Jason Robert Brown
(b. 1970) are from his first
produced show, *Songs
for a New World*, which
first appeared off-
Broadway in 1995.

The text of *Grant Us Thy
Peace* is based on a 6th
or 7th century Latin
hymn. Martin Luther
paraphrased the text in
German (*Verleih uns
Frieden*) in 1524.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Henry Petrilli

I Kings 18:20-24, 36-39

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.*

* HYMN #691

"Lord, When I Came Into This Life"

LAND OF REST

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Galatians 1:1-12

The Rev. Schoenewolf
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Stars and the Moon"

Jason Robert Brown

SERMON

"Wrong Choices"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Hear My Song"

Jason Robert Brown

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 ANTHEM

"Grant Us Thy Peace"

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
Text: Martin Luther

*Grant us thy peace, Almighty Lord, O Source of every blessing!
We cannot keep thy saving Word, unless thy peace possessing.
Thy peace O give, by which we live.*

* 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.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY:
Patrick Henry was born
(1736), Wisconsin
became the 30th state of
the union (1848),
Jell-O and Otis Elevators
were first introduced
(1897 and 1900), John F.
Kennedy was born
(1917), and Mount
Everest was conquered
by Edmund Hillary and
Tenzing Norgay (1953).
Tuesday marks the
anniversary of the first
meeting of the National
Negro Committee, now
the NAACP (1909).

We choose our joys and
sorrows long before we
experience them.
(Kahlil Gibran)

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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 of all we have and all we are, what we offer here has already been blessed by your supreme goodness. With these offerings now bless others that they too may know that you are Lord of all they have and all they are, in Jesus' name.	
People:	Amén.	Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #307

CWM RHONDDA

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

Dr. Moore, *organist*

“Allegro Moderato Maestoso” Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

*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.

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
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
Henry and Lisa Petrilli
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
Adam Zagotti, *guest organist*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Soloists: Beth Bush, Billy Wayne Coakley
David Jennings-Smith
Denise Sheffey-Powell
Acolytes: Ian Bush and Margaret Edgecombe
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Charlotte Bush
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us in the 3rd floor Music Room for our Fellowship Time. It is in celebration of Steve and Mary Evrard's May 7th wedding. All are welcome!

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The Chancel flowers today are given in loving memory of Capt. Robert C. Hellman (*U.S. Air Force*) and Mrs. Lillian Hellman, parents of ELPC member Mike Hellman.

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 x11). The cost is \$100 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.
June 5 — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy preaching.
11 am Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service.
June 5 — Youth 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.*

* *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 3rd floor Music 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* on June 26 after the 10 am worship for an opportunity to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please contact Gloria Knopp to register or for more info (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

Hand Fans

Keep cool while at worship this summer with the new ELPC colorful hand fans available near each entrance to the Sanctuary. Please leave them at the exit when worship is over.

Vacation Church School Needs

- ✦ *Volunteers*—While we need helpers in a range of roles, we are in particular need of: recreation leader, and several pre-school assistants. Adults and youth are welcome to sign up using the forms on the bulletin board or on the website.
- ✦ *Supplies*—Needed items can be found on the bulletin board behind the front desk. Please return supplies to the front office by Sunday, June 12.

Thanks for your help with this dynamic children's ministry of ELPC!

Today's Deacon-On-Duty

The *Journey* service DOD is **Mary Evrard**.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Paul Miller**.



Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Every home should have smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to safeguard against fire and CO poisoning. If you are in need of a CO detector and unable to secure one, the church has purchased a limited number. Please see or contact Pastor Patrice (PatriceFS@coh.net) or Kate Carlson (KateC@coh.net) to receive one.

Young Adult Ministry: First Friday Event — June 3

The First Friday @ Garfield Community Farm event will be held on Friday, June 3. We will spend an evening serving on a reclaimed urban garden lot. Meet in the ELPC lobby to travel together at 6:45 pm or meet at the farm at 7 pm. Dress to work in the dirt. Learn more at www.garfieldfarm.com, or please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net). This is a TRAIL young adult event.

Neighborhood Mission Opportunities — June 4

Join us on Saturday, June 4 when we partner with Open Hand Ministries to put the finishing touches on the rehab house in East Liberty. Projects will include painting and other finishing work, both inside and out. There will also be work opportunities at Garfield Community Farm. Projects will involve planting beds and maintenance. No special skills are needed. For more info, please contact Emily Rosenthal (412.963.0139; Ejr116@gmail.com) or Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy (412.441.3800 x30).

Youth Sunday — June 5

Join us at 11 am worship on Sunday, June 5 for a special service led by our youth! Members of our senior high Church School class will prepare the liturgy, and our graduating seniors will share their reflections. Please be a part of this special service, as we give thanks for the gifts of our youth and praise God together!

Summer Worship Schedule — Begins June 12

We will switch over to our summer worship schedule on Sunday, June 12 with one Sunday service at 10 am. In July, August, and on the first Sunday of September, this service will be held in the Courtyard (weather permitting). Indoor seating will be available in the 3rd floor Music Room. Journey and Sanctuary worship, as well as Church School classes, will return on Rally Day Sunday, Sept 11.



Young at Heart Luncheon — June 12

The ELPC Deacons invite you to our annual *Young at Heart Luncheon* on Sunday, June 12 following the 10 am Sanctuary worship in the Social Hall. This is a special opportunity to celebrate and honor our senior congregants for their contributions and participation over the years. Lunch will be followed by entertainment. The event is free for members who are 65 and over; \$10 for all others. We will be collecting oral histories about your experiences in the church. To ask questions, make reservations, or share memories, please contact Kate Carlson (KateC@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x16).

ELPC to Receive Humanitarian Award — June 12

The Islamic Center of Pittsburgh (ICP) has selected ELPC as one of six organizations to be honored on Humanity Day, Sunday, June 12 at 7 pm. ICP invites friends and neighbors of all faiths to join in the celebration while sharing the Ramadan tradition with our Muslim sisters and brothers. The event is free, but to assure there are seats and refreshments for all, reservations are necessary and can be made at eventbrite.com.

Book Study: The Search for Truth about Islam — June 18

Join Michele Bossers as she leads a book study on Ben Daniel's *The Search for Truth about Islam*, sponsored by the Justice Committee, on Saturday, June 18 from 9-11 am. The book is available for \$10 online, and two copies are in the ELPC library. In his book, Presbyterian pastor Ben Daniel tackles common stereotypes and misconceptions that tend to define Islam in the popular imagination. Daniel also looks at Christianity's own history of violence and explores what he calls "the American cult of fear."



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

Carol Bonner,

Linda Benedict's parents Tom and Lois,
Christa Brown's nephew Darrin, Mike Dillon's sister Carol,
Dave and Bobby Egelston's niece Tina, Cathie Hajdu,
Jan Herzer's friends Bob, Sharon and Francine,
Deborah Marx's friends Monica and Chris,
Nicole Molinaro-Karaczun's friend Chris,
Marti Moore, Jan Pressman's daughter Caryn,
Heather Schoenewolf's friend's nephew Jacob
and cousin Louise, Jon and Cami Teacoach,
and Pat Valoon's friend Kristen.

Our condolences to Joe Kennedy on his uncle's passing.

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

*The church will be closed all day on
Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day.*

Prison Ministries *Wednesday, 5:30 pm (Pastor's Conf Rm)*

Buzzword Perform and Play Event – June 22

The Opera Theater of Pittsburgh will present performances for young children, from birth to age 5, and their families from 6-7 pm on Wednesday, June 22. Interactive and child-friendly, these shows are short enough to hold the interest of toddlers and engaging enough for their older brothers and sisters. Food will be served, but space will be limited. Please RSVP by calling Norma (412.441.3800 x11).

Summer Celebration of Service – Aug 18

Join us for the sixth annual *Summer Celebration of Service and Volunteers* on Thursday, Aug 18 from 6–7:30 pm in the Courtyard.

Notecards to Support Women and Children are Available

Blank notecards featuring women and children will be on sale all year, benefiting women and children around the world. They are available from Kate Carlson in the office. You may purchase five cards for \$10.

Church School Classes

June 5 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Final day of Church School Classes until Rally Day, Sept 11.

Contemporaries – Year-End Review and Planning for Fall

Journey with Scripture – Kings 17:8–24; Psalm 146:1–10; Galatians 1:11–24; Luke 7:11–17 led by Jan Irvin

Seekers – “Supporting Newly Arriving Refugee Families” led by Jill Fronk

Soul Food – A discussion of a meditation by Richard Rohr, led by Rev. Joe Hajdu, Judy Roberts, Sel Whitaker

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Fran and Isaiah Wilson Honored by Torchbearers – June 4

The Pittsburgh Chapter of National Black Presbyterians will celebrate the contribution of torchbearers at its third annual *Torchbearers Appreciation Luncheon* from 11 am–2 pm on Saturday, June 4 at Bidwell Presbyterian Church (1025 Liverpool Ave, 15233). Our own Teaching Elders Fran and Isaiah Wilson will be honored as ELPC Torchbearers. Tickets are \$25 and will benefit the Robert Coleman/LeRoy Patrick Scholarship Fund. Please see Lenore Williams for tickets.

Circle of Faith – June 5

Please join the ELPC family at the Circle of Faith event on Sunday, June 5 at 2 pm as we show our love for all of God's people at the Schenley Plaza tent. The Circle of Faith is a public witness by various faith communities 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 own congregation's diversity. Transportation will be provided to and from Schenley Plaza.

For more info on the Circle of Faith, contact Carol Chonoska (724.272.9722; carolchonoska@gmail.com). To reserve a seat in the church van, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.260.2554).

PrideFest March and Booth – June 12

As a faith family, we will witness God's love for all people at PrideFest on Sunday, June 12. We will head downtown together after worship, and ride in/walk beside the ELPC van in the Equality March, beginning at Noon. Afterwards, we will staff the ELPC booth, where we will greet people and tell them all about the amazing things that are happening at ELPC. Transportation will be provided to and from downtown.

To work a shift at the PrideFest booth, sign up after worship today or contact Liz Gonda (412.657.7823; egonda@gmail.com). To reserve a seat in the church van or to help decorate the van for the Equality March, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.260.2554).

iSERVE
LOVE IN ACTION

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

♦ **PrideFest Booth Volunteer** (June 12 afternoon) ♦

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 to learn about other service opportunities.