



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South 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)

SEPTEMBER 25, 2016 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP 19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The *Méditation* is a solo for violin and orchestra from the second act of Jules Massenet's (1842-1912) opera *Thaïs*, which premiered in Paris in 1894.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
Loving God, you have created us for life together, and in Christ you have revealed to us that the true riches of faith are good works, generosity, and a desire to serve. Strengthen us this day to pursue all righteousness, godliness, and love with perseverance and gentleness, that we may take hold of the life that is really life, and dwell with you eternally. Amen.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"It is our choices, far more than our abilities, that show what we truly are."

— J.K. Rowling

"Choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods our 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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Adagio in A"

César Franck

"Méditation from *Thaïs*"

Jules Massenet

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 (from Psalm 91)

Jerry and Evie Wrzosek

Leader: All who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

People: When we call to the Lord, God will answer. God will be with us in trouble. God will rescue and honor us.

Leader: God will command the angels to guard you in all your ways.

People: With long life I will satisfy them and show them my salvation.

Leader: Let us worship our triune God — Creator, Savior, and Holy Spirit.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #673 "Jesus, Light of Joy"

LAUDA ANIMA

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jerry and Evie Wrzosek

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jerry and Evie Wrzosek

O God, we bring nothing into the world and can take nothing out of it. Yet while we are here, the things of this world become terribly important to us. We place our trust in money and the things money can buy. We are hesitant to trust your promises of generous providence, grasping tightly to earthly goods rather than sharing liberally and graciously with others. O God, whatever actions or fears are keeping us from you, show us a better way. Have mercy on us and open our eyes to see what is truly important in this life. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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On this day in history, Congress adopted 12 amendments to the Constitution and sent them to the states for ratification; of which 10 passed and became the Bill of Rights (1789); 300 U.S. troops protected nine African American children so they could attend school in Little Rock, Arkansas (1957); Sandra Day O'Connor was sworn in as the first female justice on the Supreme Court (1981).

Pierre Rode (1774-1830) was a French violinist and composer.

On the coin shown to Jesus (as described in Matthew 22) would have likely been this inscription: "Tiberius Caesar, son of the divine Augustus, great high priest." Affirming this statement even by the tacit use of a Roman coin would have been a violation of the 2nd Commandment forbidding idol worship.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

Jerry and Evie Wrzosek

Leader: By recognizing our need and seeking God's help, we can live into a healing and abundant peace that comes to us from God's gracious hands.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel...
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

RESPONSE OF PRAISE "The Storm is Passing Over"

The lyrics to this song are projected on the Sanctuary screens, and also printed below.

Have courage, my soul, and let us journey on
Though the night is dark, and I am far from home,
Thanks be to God, the morning light appears.

The storm is passing over, the storm is passing over,
The storm is passing over, Hallelu.

Have courage, my soul, and let us journey on
Though the night is dark, and I am far from home,
Thanks be to God, the morning light appears.

The storm is passing over, the storm is passing over,
The storm is passing over, Hallelu.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.
The storm is passing over, the storm is passing over,
The storm is passing over, Hallelu. *(repeat once more)*

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON

I Timothy 6:6-12

Sharron Boddy

VIOLIN SOLO

"Caprice for Violin"

Pierre Rode
Cody Conley, *violin*

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 #182

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

KINGSFOLD

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:15-22

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

"TED* Talks: Political Choices in the Light of Day" The Rev. Dr. Bush
(Theologically Edifying Discourse)*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Dolly Parton (b. 1946) wrote the words and music to *Light of a Clear Blue Morning* and recorded it in 1977. The song came out of the pain of her breakup with longtime musical partner Porter Wagoner. Composer and conductor Craig Hella Johnson (b. 1962) arranged the song for his chamber chorus, *Conspirare*, in 2010.

This is the message we have heard and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light as Christ himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.
(1 John 1:5, 7)

André Campra (1660-1744) was a prominent French opera composer and, from 1694 to 1700, music director at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

ANTHEM

Dolly Parton/Craig Hella Johnson

“Light of a Clear Blue Morning”

*It's been a long dark night, and I've been a waiting for the morning.
It's been a long hard fight, but I see a brand new day a dawning.
I've been looking for the sunshine 'cause I ain't seen it in so long.
Everything's gonna work out fine. Everything's gonna be all right, it's gonna be okay.
I can see the light of a clear blue morning. I can see the light of a brand new day.
I can see the light of a clear blue morning. Everything's gonna be all right, it's gonna be okay.
I can see the light...brand new day.
I can see the light...blue, blue morning blue.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

The Lord's Prayer can be found on pg. 35 (English text), on pg. 40 (Spanish text) or on pg. 45 (Korean text) in the Glory to God hymnal.

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

“Be Thou My Vision”

John Rutter

The text is a modified version of the one found in the Glory to God hymnal #450.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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:	We give you thanks and praise, generous God, for every good gift that comes from your hand: for family and friends, for freedoms and worthy challenges, for opportunities that are richer than we imagine and more generous than we deserve. Use these gifts for the healing of the nations according to your perfect will. In Jesus' name. Amen.	

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #363 “Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”

DARWALL'S 148TH

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organist*
André Campra

“Rigaudon”

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
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Sharron Boddy
Jerry and Evie Wrzosek
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Carly Noel Black, *soloist*
Adrianna Cleveland, *soloist*
Cody Conley, *violin*
David Jennings Smith, *soloist*
Acolytes: Kiara Rockymore and Robert Sykes
Beadle: Laura Ristau
Crucifer: Akil Turner
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us in the Social Hall for our annual *Church Picnic*. Additional seating will be available in the Courtyard. All are welcome!

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The Chancel flowers today are in loving memory of Joseph Bellin, presented by Elaine, Josh and David Bellin and Phyllis Coontz.

♦ 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.
Oct 2 — 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. World Communion Sunday.
Oct 2 — The Rev. Paul Roberts, president of the Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary in Atlanta, 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 annual *Church Picnic* in the Social Hall. 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* TODAY (in Small Dining Room) and Oct 2 to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Lunch provided. Please contact Gloria Knopp to register or for more info 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 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 join us in the Social Hall following the 11 am service for our annual *Church Picnic*.

Join us at the Church Picnic

The Christian Education Committee invites you to our annual *Church Picnic* after today's 11 am service. The picnic will be held in the Social Hall and Courtyard, with games in the gym and bowling alley. Fried chicken, hot dogs, potato salad, macaroni salad, and a light desert will be provided; bring a side dish or salad to share. Carts will be available at every entrance before each worship service this morning so that the food you bring can be refrigerated until the picnic.

New Members and Friends Class — Today and Next Sunday

If you registered to participate in today's class, please meet Andrea DeVries at the East Transept side door during the final hymn (door to the left if you are facing the chancel). She will escort participants to get their lunch first from the picnic before gathering in the Small Dining Room for our class.

If you are interested in becoming an ELPC member or friend and want to participate in next Sunday's class, please contact Gloria Knopp (412.441.3800 x22).

Nametags

Today is *Seminary Sunday* and we ask that everyone wear a nametag so we can greet one another by name. Stick-on nametags are available as you enter worship in the Narthex. Pre-made nametags are either on the hooks in the Narthex or on the staff picture board in the Highland Lobby. Hang yours where it works best for you. If you wish to have one made for you, please sign up on the list in the Narthex. Visitors are encouraged to get a stick-on nametag found in the basket on the Narthex table (where you can also find rainbow stickers for your nametag).

Today's DODs

Every Sunday, a DOD (Deacon-on-Duty) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our worship services. During the 11 am Sanctuary service, the DOD will be seated in the East Transept wearing a Deacon stole. Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Mary Evrard**. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **George Clark**.

Handbell Choir Rehearsals — Resume Sept 27

ELPC's Handbell Choir rehearsals resume on Tuesday, Sept 27 at 6 pm in Dr. Ed Moore's office. Contact him with any questions (EdM@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x24).

Ysaÿe Barnwell Community Sing — Oct 1

Dr. Barnwell, former member of *Sweet Honey in the Rock*, returns to ELPC on Saturday, Oct 1 after last leading an inspirational *Community Sing* here in 2013. Please join us at 7 pm in the Social Hall for this event, which is part of the 2016-2017 Cathedral Concerts Series. Brochures are available throughout the church and online at www.ELPC.church.

Cookies for the Community Sing — Oct 1

We will be serving cookies following the *Community Sing* with Ysaÿe Barnwell on Saturday, Oct 1. If you would like to donate cookies for this fellowship time, please bring them with you that evening and take them to the Social Hall. If you are unable to attend, but would still like to donate cookies, please drop them off at the Highland Ave desk and clearly label them *Community Sing Cookies*. Contact Dr. Ed Moore for info (EdM@coh.net).

Local Mission and Service Opportunities — Oct 1

Please join ELPC youth and other volunteers for an *Intergeneration Workday* with Open Hand Ministries and Garfield Community Farm on Saturday, Oct 1. You can work a full day (9 am—3 pm) or a half day (9 am—Noon). Sign up in the Social Hall today after the 11 am service, or contact Emily Rosenthal (ejr116@gmail.com).

Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation — Oct 1

Susan Spangler will lead us as we learn about *Mindfulness Meditation* and engage in this ancient prayer form together in the Prayer and Meditation Room (Room 135) on Saturday, Oct 1 from 9 am-1 pm. Mindfulness is the moment-to-moment awareness of our experience with an accepting, non-judgmental, kind attention. Our time together will include meditation instruction, guided meditations and everyday practices.

YAM CE Class: Bible Study — Begins Oct 2

Young adults are invited to study the Gospel of Mark during a 5-week bible study series on all the Sundays in October (2, 9, 16, 23, 30) from 9:45-10:45 am in the Pastor's Conference Room. See Wil for your study guide booklet, but it is not necessary to enjoy this series.

Justice Committee Meeting — Oct 2

The Justice Committee will meet after the 11 am service next Sunday, Oct 2 to continue planning ELPC's response to those incarcerated and their families. If interested, please meet in Room 224. For more info, contact Carol Chonoska (carolchonoska@gmail.com; 724.272.9722).



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

Dwayne Elliott,

Mike Dillon's sister Carole and her husband Ken,

Karen Fraser, Mary Beth Gladis, Joe Heckel,

Jan Herzer's friends Francine, Bob and Mick,

Buzz Hutchison, Bill Johnson, Morris Jordan,

Sandy Kalsey, Pam Kimmel's niece Jen,

Deborah Marx's friends Monica and Chris,

Polly McQueen's brother Clay,

Jon Nelson's friend Clair, Gail Noden,

Jan Pressman's daughter Caryn,

Heather Schoenewolf's cousin Louise, Loretta Shade,

Kay Shissler and Marilyn Castle's sister Linda,

Matt Stufft's mother, Jamee Todd,

Anthony Williams' wife's grandmother, and

Pat Valoon's friends Barbara and Robert.

Our condolences to the family of Kathy Middleton on her passing.

Committee Meeting This Week

Heritage Tuesday, 6:30 pm (Heritage Rm)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Paul Roberts – Oct 2

Next Sunday, Oct 2 is *World Communion Sunday*. On this day, we will welcome the Rev. Paul Roberts, president of the Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, Atlanta, as our guest. Rev. Roberts will lead a combined adult Church School class at 9:45 am, and preach at our Sanctuary worship service at 11 am. We also will receive the *Peace and Global Witness Offering*, which supports a range of PC(USA) ministries devoted to peacemaking and reconciliation.

Modern Mystic and Symbol of a Century – Oct 2

The biographical facts of Merton's life are an apt metaphor for the 20th century, but his inner life was shaped by a series of remarkable prayer experiences. Join us in the Music Room on Sunday, Oct 2 from 12:30-3 pm as Bonnie Thurston examines both aspects with a view to what our own lives and prayer might be "saying." A light lunch will be served.

Church School Classes

Oct 2 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Most adult Church School classes will combine to hear guest speaker **the Rev. Paul Roberts**, president of Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, Atlanta, who will share a bit about the unique opportunities and challenges associated with the Presbyterian Church's only historically African American seminary.

Journey with Scripture – Lamentations 1:1–6; Psalm 137:1–9; 2 Timothy 1:1–14; Luke 17:5–10 facilitated by Jan Irvin, Lora Bethea and other members

YAM – "The Gospel of Mark" facilitated by Wil Forrest

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Discussion: The Place Where We Are Right – Sept 29

Join Rabbi James Gibson (Temple Sinai) and the Rev. Liddy Barlow (Christian Associates of Southwest PA) for a discussion of the challenges of relationship and "rightness" in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on Thursday, Sept 29 from 7-9 pm in the Knox Room, Long Hall at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. All are welcome to this free event.

September is Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month

Sickle Cell Disease affects approximately 100,000 Americans of various ethnicities, primarily (but not exclusively) African Americans. Millions throughout the world are born with this serious chronic disease. There is currently no universal cure for Sickle Cell Disease. To find out more, please visit www.sicklecelldisease.org or, for local information, www.upmc.com/services/sickle-cell.

"Freedom Rising" Rally – Oct 2

The recent General Assembly powerfully endorsed an overture to uplift the plight of African American males and for our denomination to pursue concerted efforts on this matter in five cities, including Pittsburgh. A kick-off rally for this initiative will be held at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary's Hicks Chapel on Sunday, Oct 2 at 6 pm. The event's title of *Freedom Rising* is to honor the ministry legacy of Eugene "Freedom" Blackwell, who was a pastor in Homewood and the overture advocate for this issue at General Assembly. All are welcome!

Looking for a way to put your love in action?

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

♦ Club 116 Dinner Providers Still Needed on Oct 12 and Nov 9 ♦

Tai Chi – Begins Oct 4

Tai Chi classes begin on Tuesday, Oct 4 from 10–11 am and 6–7 pm. The cost is \$25 for 10 weeks or \$3/session. Pre-register with Kate (412.441.3800 x16).

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering – Oct 8

The next LGBTQ Ministry *spiritual gathering* is on Saturday, Oct 8 at 4 pm. To attend or learn more, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x14).

Indigenous People's Sunday – Oct 9

In recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day, the Mission Board will present *Indigenous Pittsburgh: Christian Doctrine, Small Pox Blankets, and Native Populations* on Sunday, Oct 9 at 12:15 pm in the Social Hall. This presentation will provide a foundational framework for understanding U.S. policy and how they impacted our local history and treatment of natives. A light lunch will be served.