



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)

JANUARY 8, 2017 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707) was one of the most revered organists of his day. A young Johann Sebastian Bach so admired Buxtehude that he walked 250 miles from Arnstadt to Lübeck to learn from the great master.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
God of life and new life, you are splendid and strong! You sit enthroned above the floods of life. As Jesus heard you speak to him in his baptism, may we also hear you calling us your beloved, through Jesus Christ, your son, our Savior. Amen.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"My prayers, my God, flow from what I am not;
I think thy answers make me what I am.
Like weary waves thought follows upon thought,
But the still depth beneath is all thine own,
And there thou mov'st in paths to us unknown.
Out of strange strife thy peace is strangely wrought;
If the lion in us pray-thou answerest the lamb."

— George Macdonald, *Diary of an Old Soul*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Praeludium in C, BuxWV 137"

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organist*

Dieterich Buxtehude

*Our worship begins with the Ministry of Music/Prelude.
Please use this as a time for silent prayer and preparation.*

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

Phyllis Coontz, Elaine, Josh and David Bellin

Leader: Come. Worship God. Bring hopes and longings, joy and sadness, everything you are.

People: **Come. Worship God together. Step into God's new world and experience God's promised renewal of life and spirit.**

Leader: This place shall be called the Holy Way and the redeemed shall walk there.

People: Everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Leader: Come! Enter God's future. Step into hope as we worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #159

KINGSFOLD

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

People: God, you show no partiality, yet we are not always as tolerant and accepting as we ought. Forgive our intolerance, and help us to see as you see, that we may be found acceptable in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jan 8 • Baptism of the Lord

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Did you know that scholars assume that the book of Acts was composed by the author of Luke's gospel? This is why the content of Peter's sermon (Acts 10) touches on the life story of Jesus recorded in Luke with the exception of the birth stories. It references Jesus' baptism, his ministry of good works, his crucifixion, and how the disciples are witnesses testifying to his resurrection.

According to Saint Augustine (354-430), we need not pray for what we need because God already knows what we need before we even ask. Instead, we ought to pray, he suggests, to increase our desire for God, and so that we might be able to receive what he is preparing to give us.

Leader: Blessing God, you drowned evil in the waters of the flood and promised a covenant of faithfulness with a rainbow in the sky. In baptism you caused us to die to sin and raised us to new life in Christ. Trusting in your promises for earth and all people, we bring you our prayers for the world.

We pray for the church...

We pray for the world...

We pray for those who suffer...

We pray for your creation...

We pray for those nearing death and for all who grieve...

People: In one baptism with Christ and blessed by your Holy Spirit, we praise and give you thanks, Holy One, for giving us spirit and breath and life. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #399 *(please remain seated; sing 3 times)*

THEMBA AMEN

“God Welcomes All”

God welcomes all, strangers and friends.

God's love is strong and it never ends.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 10:34-43

Winter Rally Day Drama Team

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 3:13-17

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

“Testify!”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in **Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,** born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *(Ecumen. Apostles' Creed)*

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Eternal God”

Richard Shephard

A Prayer of Saint Augustine

Eternal God, the light of the minds that know you; eternal God, the joy of the hearts that love you; eternal God, the strength of the wills that love you. Grant us so to know you, that we may truly trust you. Grant us so to love you, that we may freely serve you. To the glory of your holy name. Amen.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH

The communion bread is being presented by Mark and Barbara DeWitt.

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

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

On or near this date in history, Zora Neale Hurston (1903) and Elvis Presley were born (1935); astronomer Galileo Galilei died (1642); Woodrow Wilson outlined his “Fourteen Points” for peace after World War I (1918); Lyndon Johnson declared a “War on Poverty” (1964); and the Dow-Jones Industrial average closed above 2000 for the first time (1987).

Jesus said: Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. Ask and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.

Please see the bulletin insert for more information about this morning's organ postlude.

— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

SHARING BREAD & CUP

Note: The communion elements are bread and grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are also available. The congregation is invited to come forward by using the center aisle to the communion servers where each may partake of the bread and the cup, placing the used cup in the basket provided, then returning to seats via the side aisles. Those not able to come forward will be served in their seats.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & WHOLENESS

After receiving communion, worshipers may go to one of the prayer stations for intercessory prayers, anointing with oil, and/or the laying on of hands.

COMMUNION HYMN #405

HEYMONYSTRAAT

“Praise God for This Holy Ground”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

God who shows no partiality, thank you for your invitation to this table and this meal. As you have accepted all, may we show your welcoming love to all **and ever do what is right. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.**

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #149

ROCKPORT

“All Hail to God’s Anointed”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

“Dieu Parmi Nous (God Among Us)”

Olivier Messiaen

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. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Elaine, Josh and David Bellin
Phyllis Coontz
Winter Rally Day Drama Team
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Acolytes: Youth
Beadle: Michele Bossers
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us for our Fellowship Time in the McKelvy Room and 3rd floor Music Room. All are welcome!

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

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 \$150 a Sunday.

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.
Jan 15 — 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.
Jan 15 — 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 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 and Music Rooms. 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 February 5 and 12 to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Lunch is provided. Please contact Gloria Knopp for 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.

Dieu Parmi Nous

(*God Among Us*)

from
La Nativité du Seigneur

(*The Nativity of the Lord*)

1935

Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)



Olivier Messiaen at the organ of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in 1972.

Olivier Messiaen was born in 1908 in Avignon, the son of Cécile Sauvage, the poetess, and Pierre Messiaen, known for his translations of Shakespeare. By the age of eight his piano studies had begun and he had produced his first compositions; when only eleven he entered the Paris Conservatoire as a pupil of Dukas and Dupré, where he carried off a host of first prizes and to which he returned in 1942 as professor. Regarded by many as the most significant composer of his generation, Messiaen was organist at La Sainte-Trinité, Paris, from 1931 until his death. The bulk of his writing is concerned with instruments other than the organ, but all of his music is unified by his personal philosophy: “Emotion and sincerity above all – at the service of Catholic theology.... expressed by melodic and harmonic means.” On account of these closely argued techniques, his music is instantly recognizable, and the pieces in *La Nativité du Seigneur* (1935) are a perfect consummation of his musical ideals.

Dieu parmi nous (God among us): “the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. My soul doth magnify the Lord.” This final reflection, the last of the suite’s nine meditations, gathers everything together into a triumphant close. First comes the descent of God to earth; then a few serene bars telling of the “sweetness of union.” The music becomes increasingly impassioned (“the exulting of the soul”) until a dazzling toccata signals the Incarnation.

Messiaen quotes passages from the Gospels of John and Luke as the basis for this movement:

“Paroles du communiant, de la Vierge, de l’Eglise toute entière: Celui qui m’a créé a reposé dans ma tente, le Verbe s’est fait chair et il a habité en moi. Mon âme glorifie le Seigneur, mon esprit a tressailli d’allégresse en Dieu mon Sauveur.”

“Words of the communicant, of the virgin, of the whole Church: He who created me dwells in my tent, the word was made flesh and lived in me. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit has rejoiced in God my saviour.” - John 1:14, Luke 1:46, 47

With the outbreak of World War II in 1939, Messiaen was assigned as a nurse in the French army. Soon after starting service in a war hospital, he was taken prisoner, and taken to Görlitz in Silesia where he was imprisoned at prison camp Stalag VIII-A, where he was held from 1940 to 1942. It was during this time that he composed the *Quartet for the End of Time* in 1941. Following the war, he was appointed professor of harmony at the Paris Conservatory, and later as professor of composition. During his lifetime, Messiaen was famed as an organist and pianist and frequently performed his own compositions in concerts around the world. He died in Paris in April 1992.

Program notes © 2009, Dame Gillian Weir
Expansion of notes by Edward Alan Moore

TODAY AT ELPC

Nametags

We ask that folks wear a nametag so we can greet one another by name. Pre-made nametags are on the hooks in the Narthex or on the staff picture board in the Highland Lobby. *Don't have a nametag yet?* Please sign up on the list on the Narthex table. Print your name clearly and expect your nametag to be hung on the holders in about two weeks. 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*).

Un-Hanging the Greens

After today's 11 am Sanctuary service, the Worship, Music and Arts Committee will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary. If you are able to stay and help (even if you can only help for a few minutes), it would be greatly appreciated!

DG2!

Doing Good Together! (DG2!) — a service based partnership with youth from Rodef Shalom — will meet today from Noon-3 pm to do service projects that help feed our neighbors. Youth in grades 4-12 are encouraged to join in the fun and the work! Please see Sara Hackett immediately after the service if you are interested.

Today's DODs

Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Mary Figlar**.
The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Karen Beasley**.



PW Bible Study — Jan 9

Join Presbyterian Women (PW) to explore the lesson *Who is Jesus according to Paul?* on Monday, Jan 9 at 7 pm in the 2nd floor Parlor.

Feeling Crafty? — Jan 9, 11 and 25

New helpers are always welcomed in the following groups. Contact Diane Jackson for more info (412.441.6021; dnjcks@verizon.net).

- ✦ *Sewing Group* — Monday, Jan 9, 2:30-6 pm
- ✦ *Toy makers* — Wednesdays, Jan 11 and 25, 9 am-12 pm

Club One Sixteen — Returns Jan 11

Club One Sixteen is our Wednesday night (3:30-7:30 pm) youth group for children and youth in grades 1-12. Students enjoy fellowship and recreation, dinner, a craft or special activity, and an interactive Bible study. This program will resume on Wednesday, Jan 11.

Young Adult Ministry CE Class: Prayer Time — Jan 15

Come connect with other young adults for biblical reflection and group prayer during the Young Adult Ministry's Christian Education class on Sunday, Jan 15 from 9:45-10:45 am in the Pastor's Conference Room.

LGBTQ Ministry Gathering — Jan 15

The next LGBTQ Ministry spiritual gathering will be on Sunday, Jan 15 after the 11 am service. To learn more or to attend, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

Silent Retreat — Jan 20 to 22

In the midst of winter, it is easier to see the beautiful and intricate pattern of the trees and, in the silence of retreat, it is easier to see the beautiful and intricate pattern of God's presence in our lives. Share the silence with others and begin to trace that pattern for yourself at a *Silent Retreat* from Friday-Sunday, Jan 20-22 at the Martina Spiritual Renewal Center (Northside). We will gather for dinner on Friday evening, and depart after brunch on Sunday. Registration is required and includes an opportunity to meet with a spiritual director. The cost is \$120 (scholarships available). Registration forms are on the Spiritual Life bulletin board.

Tween Bowling — Jan 27

Youth in grades 4-6 are invited to a night of bowling, pizza, trophies, and fun on Friday, Jan 27 from 6-8 pm. Please bring a beverage or snack to share, and your friends! Contact Sara Hackett to participate (SaraH@coh.net).




**Experience a
Choral
Fantasy**

Sunday, Jan 29 ♦ 3 pm

Join us on Sunday, Jan 29 at 3pm as the Duquesne University Choirs, directed by Dr. Caron Daley, perform with The Arsenal Duo (*Nathan Carterette on the piano and Dr. Edward Alan Moore on the organ*) for the next Cathedral Concert in the Sanctuary.

The performance is free, but a freewill offering will be received.



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

Ray Anthony,
John Bavaro,
Kathy Callahan's mother Ginny,
Patricia Fountain and her daughter Summer,
Sharon Geibel, Barbara Goodwin's husband John,
Jan Herzer's friends Francine, Bob and Mick,
Eric Kalsey, Nancy Latshaw,
Heather Lawrence's sister Christine,
Lee Lewand, Pen Lytle's friend Kelly, Gail Mallory,
Deborah Marx's friends Monica and Chris,
Polly McQueen's brother Clay,
Sonya-Marie Morley's friend and Deborah Marx's
cousin Eileen and her family,
Sandra Owen's son-in-law Russell,
Jan Pressman's daughter Caryn,
Heather Schoenewolf's cousin Louise, and
Pat Valoon and her friends Robert, Steven and David.

*Our condolences to Charma Dudley and Yvette
Dudley-Morrissey on the passing of their mother
ELPC member Louise B. Dudley.*

Our condolences to Pam Napier-Barnes on her mother's passing.

*Our condolences to Kay Shissler on her friend
Eleanor Schultz's passing.*

*Congratulations to Tim and Linda Benedict on the birth of
their first grandchild Leah.*

There are **Prayer Boxes**, with cards for prayer requests, available on the tables in the Narthex and East Transept entrances to the Sanctuary.

Committee Meetings This Week

Neighbors *Today, 12:15 pm (Session Rm)*
Health Ministry *Monday, 5:30 pm (2nd fl Library)*
Personnel *Tuesday, 6:00 pm (Pastor's Conf Rm)*
Deacons *Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Rm 234)*
Worship, Music & Arts..... *Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Rm 244)*

i SERVE
LOVE IN ACTION

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

◆ Club 116 Dinner Provider ◆

Still needed for
Feb 15, 22, March 29, April 19 and May 3

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/serve-2 to learn about other service opportunities.

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



"Rhythm of Justice" Lecture – Jan 14

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS) is hosting the 3rd Annual Lecture and Community Conversation on Race and Faith and The Kelso Lecture titled *Rhythm of Justice*. This lecture and community conversation will be held at PTS (616 N Highland Ave) on Saturday, Jan 14 at 2 pm. For more info about this free event, visit www.pts.edu/Race_and_Faith_2017, or call 412.924.1345.

Kick Off Party for OHM's JUST Run Event – Jan 14

Have a new year's resolution around health and service? Join us for the kick-off party of Open Hand Ministry's marathon event on Saturday, Jan 14 from 4-6 pm at BFG Cafe (5335 Penn Ave) for pizza, info, and fellowship! Anyone interested in participating in the marathon as a runner (5k, 10k, relay team, full and half marathon) or as a volunteer supporter (pasta party, race day cheer squad, fundraising) are welcome! Please RSVP at www.facebook.com/events/101757060318050. For more info, contact Emily Rosenthal (ejr116@gmail.com; 412.963.0139).

Solarize Allegheny – Feb 2

Help us build a bridge to the new energy future. Be a part of the climate solution-Go Solar! Join us for a solar seminar at ELPC in Room 234 on Thursday, Feb 2 from 6:30-8:30 pm. This event is sponsored by Solarize Allegheny (advocates for solar) and by 350 Pittsburgh (climate action group). For more info or to register, please visit www.solarizeallegheny.org, or call Sharon Pillar (412.215.5995). Registration is required to attend this free event.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Jan 15 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Contemporaries – "Luke-Acts: the Early Church (part 1)" led by Tucker Ferda

Journey with Scripture – Isaiah 49:1–7; Psalm 40:1–11; 1 Corinthians 1:1–9; John 1:29–42 led by Jan Irvin

Seekers – "Introduction to Teilhard de Chardin" led by the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

Soul Food – A discussion of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s sermon *Loving Your Enemies*, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Michele Bossers, and Pam Napier-Barnes

YAM – "Prayer Time" facilitated by Wil Forrest