



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)

JULY 9, 2017 • 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TIME OF PREPARATION

"Isn't it amazing that we are all made in God's image, and yet there is so much diversity among his people?"
— Desmond Tutu

"We need to reject any politics that targets people because of race or religion. This isn't a matter of political correctness. It's a matter of understanding what makes us strong. The world respects us not just for our arsenal; it respects us for our diversity and our openness and the way we respect every faith."
— Barack Obama, 44th President of the USA

GATHERING MUSIC

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (songbook #1)

HYMN TO JOY

"Take Me to the Water" (songbook #2)

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

"Woke Up This Mornin" (songbook #3)

WITH MY MIND

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

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

Psalms 98:1-8

Jean Kennedy

Leader: Sing to our God a new song

People: **God has done marvelous things!**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

People: **Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Leader: Let the sea roar and all that fills it,

People: **Let the world and all its people sing together for joy!**

Leader: Let us worship and praise God together.

People: **Hallelujah and Amen!**

* HYMN

"Earth and All Stars" (songbook #4)

EARTH AND ALL STARS

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

1 John 3:16-24

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Lord, have mercy on us. We talk about love, but our actions betray us. We talk about love, but we neglect the poor, the marginalized, people we deem different from ourselves. We talk about love, but we fail to love one another radically and unconditionally. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us and abide in us by the power of your Spirit so that our lives may show in whose body we are all members and in whose name we pray. Amen.

* Indicates where you may please rise in body or spirit.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

SILENT PRAYERS

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: Brothers and sisters, we seek God's grace with boldness because our trust is in Jesus Christ, the One who loves us and laid down his life for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

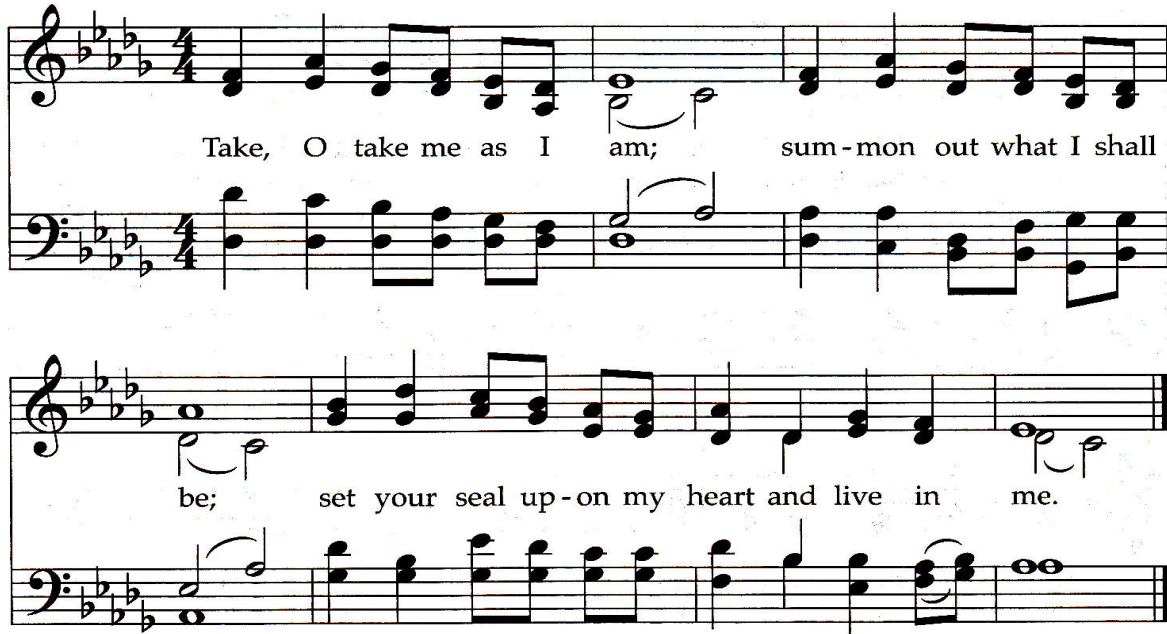
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón!
¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN

"Take, O Take Me as I Am"

TAKE ME AS I AM



SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 53:1-12

Jean Kennedy

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Bob and Erin Starzynski

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

Children of any age are welcome to come to the front of the worship space for Moments with our Children. There is an Extended Session class available in the summer for children who have completed Kindergarten and younger in the Nursery Suite on the first floor near the Highland Ave entrance.

COMMISSIONING OF TEENS AND YOUTH MISSION TEAM AND MALAWI PARTNER

*** HYMN**

"We Are One in the Spirit"
(songbook #5)

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

"Do We Understand?"

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Cantate Domino”
Text: Psalm 96:1-3

Hans Leo Hassler

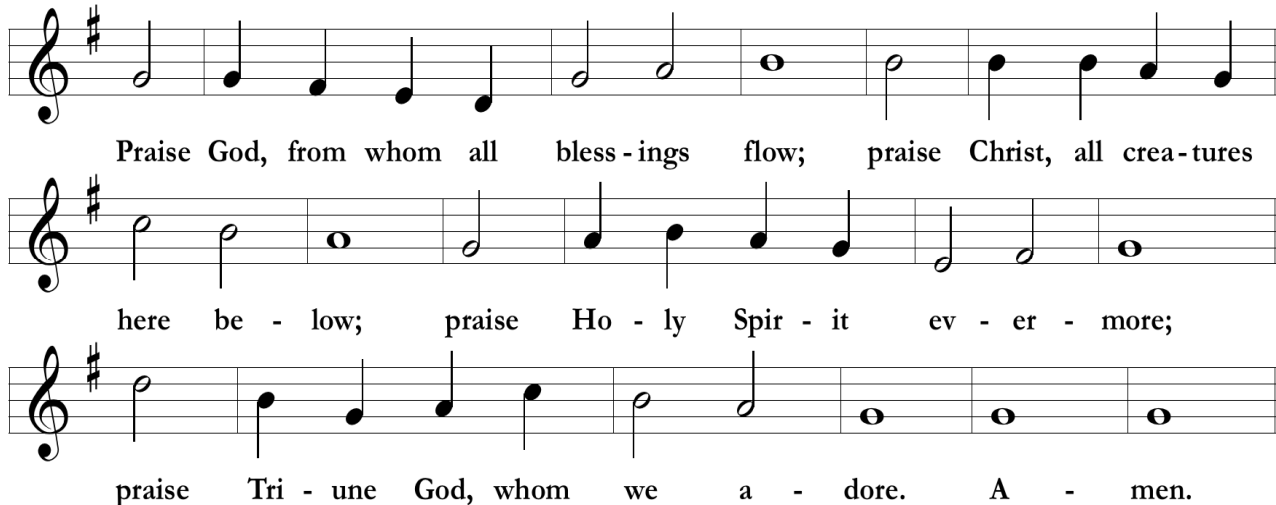
Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord, and bless God's name: announce God's salvation from day to day.

Announce among the nations God's glory, and God's wonders to all peoples.

*** DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION**

OLD HUNDREDTH



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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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: Source of all healing, bringer of wholeness, you enter the world and cause the light to shine, the lame to walk, the sins of all to be forgiven. Everything we bring you is a gift of your graciousness. All that we offer, you have poured out upon us. Use us and mold us to conform to your will for all people. Take our talents and use them to spread the truth of your love.

People: Amén.

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.

*** CLOSING HYMN**

“Let Us Build a House” (*songbook* #6)
(All are Welcome)

TWO OAKS

*** CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy



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.

Citation—Reprinted by permission of the publisher from “When We Gather” by James G. Kirk, Geneva Press. Copyright 2001 and from Westminster John Knox Press from “Feasting on the Word Worship Companion”. Copyright 2014

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Jean Kennedy
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Gabriel T. D’Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us in the Narthex for our Fellowship Time. All are welcome!

If you would like to make a food or monetary donation in support of our Fellowship Time, please call Pamela Kimmel (412.441.3800 x118).

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase flowers for our worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, please call Norma (412.441.3800 x111). The cost is \$150 a Sunday.

♦ WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

8:45 am.....**Journey Prayer Time.** An extended prayer time and bible reflection with a few songs. In Social Hall.
July 16 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush.

10 am.....**Summer Worship.** Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and music prior to the service.
July 16 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

Summer Extended Session

After the *Moments with the Children* during the 10 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.

There is only one Extended Session class available in the summer for children who have completed Kindergarten and younger — Nursery Suite on the first floor near the Highland Ave entrance. It is available every Sunday.

♦ 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 Narthex. 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** to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please contact Gloria Knopp for info on future classes (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x122).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Summer Worship Schedule

During July and August and the first week in September, the 10 am summer worship service will move into the Courtyard, weather permitting. Additional seating is available on the 3rd floor balcony and Music Room.

Journey Prayer

Now through Labor Day weekend, a **Journey Prayer Time** will be held at 8:45 am in the Social Hall, with a few songs, an extended prayer time and bible reflection.

Today's Deacon on Duty

Today's summer service DOD is **Tucker Ferda**.

Hand Fans

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

New Members and Friends Class — Today

Attend a *New Members and Friends Class* after the 10 am worship service in the McKelvy Room to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology.



Flute Performance — July 14

Join us for an evening of flute music on Friday, July 14 at 7 pm, as we welcome Brittany Trotter to the Hope Academy teaching staff, and say good-bye to teaching artist Kristine Rominski. Instructor Laura Carmichael will accompany on piano.



Young Adult Ministry: Progressive Lunch — July 15

We will rotate locations for different courses of our group's meal and at each location someone will host a discussion topic. The courses will be: appetizers, salad, main course and dessert at different locations. Please consider hosting a discussion topic for the group at one of the four locations. Please RSVP on YAM FB page or directly to Wil TODAY. The church van will leave from ELPC providing a ride for all at Noon.

LGBTQ Ministry: Spiritual Gathering — July 16

God created you. God loves you. Be yourself.

All are invited to attend the next *Spiritual Gathering* of the LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, July 16 at 11 am. See Wil Forrest for details or to attend. All people are welcome!

Summer Service and Fellowship — Aug 8

ELPC is providing dinner for the Open Hand Ministries Circles group on Tuesday, Aug 8. We are seeking people to donate salads, side dishes, and desserts, as well as to help serve the meal. This is a great opportunity to support and meet the OHM families who are preparing for home ownership. If you are able to donate food and/or help serve dinner, contact Henry Petrilli (hlp615@gmail.com) or Pastor Patrice (412.441.3800 x130).

Faith Night and Pirates Baseball — Aug 17

All are welcome for a night of fun and faith when the Pittsburgh Pirates take on the St. Louis Cardinals on Thursday, Aug 17 at the 7:05 pm home game. Immediately following the ballgame, Mgr. Clint Hurdle and Pirate players will share how and why their faith is the driving force in their lives. **The ticket price is \$20 (due by July 9)** and that includes sitting with your church family for the game and a free hat. Join us for a wonderful evening of faith, connections, and baseball. Please contact David Carl (Dbcarl333@gmail.com) or Jan Herzer (412.780.2345).

Summer Film Festival Begins Today

A different film will be shown every Sunday in July:

- July 16: A Justice that Heals, host: Justice Committee
- July 23: Locked in Box, host: Justice Committee
- July 30: Brainwashing of My Dad, host: Peace Committee

ELPC's Mission Board is again hosting a summer film festival, beginning **Sunday, July 9 after the 10 am service with the viewing of *The Secret Life of Your Clothes*.**

In this revealing 1 hour

film, paralympian Ade Adepitan tells the story of the afterlife of our clothes.

He follows the trail to Ghana, the biggest importer of our castoffs, where thousands of tons of our old clothes arrive.

Ade meets the people who make a living from our old clothes, from wholesalers and market traders to the importers! Neighbors Committee is hosting this viewing in the Social Hall.



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

Ray Anthony,
Kathy Callahan's mother Ginny,
David Carl's friend Madelyn and her mother,
Martha DeMarzi,
Patrice Fowler-Searcy's mother and grandmother,
Pam Kimmel's friend Molly,
Gloria Knopp, Lee Lewand,
Gail Mallory's friend Ailene,
Chris Markwell, Marti Moore,
Jon Nelson's cousin Rayna,
Pat Valoon, and Jon Walker.

*Our condolences to the family of Alan Patterson on his passing.
Our condolences to Barbara Goodwin on her husband's passing.*

Committee Meeting This Week

Personnel..... *Tuesday, 6:00 pm (Session Room)*
Deacons..... *Tuesday, 7:00 pm (McKelvy Room)*
Worship, Music & Arts..... *Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Room 244)*

Save the Date to Celebrate – Aug 24

All who have served in our church and community this year are invited to our *Summer Celebration of Service and Volunteers* on Thursday, Aug 24, from 6–7:30 pm in the Courtyard. Save the date and plan to share food and fellowship. Visit ELPC.church/programs/iSERVE to learn more about becoming a member of the weSERVE list or other service opportunities. For more information or to ask questions, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x114).

Young Adult Ministry is for YOU

ELPC's *Young Adult Ministry* welcomes all adults post-high school through about age 40—we are students, professionals, married, single, partnered, with or without children and from different races, sexual orientations, gender identities, abilities, backgrounds and with varied beliefs. We join together to take part in this dynamic ministry and to seek to better understand, worship and serve the holy. Throughout the entire year, we offer a range of opportunities to come together, share, learn, explore and grow as Christians. For details, contact Wil Forrest, YAM Coordinator (Wil@coh.net; 412.260.2554).

Looking for a way to put your love in action?



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

♦ **Want to serve on a flexible schedule?**
Join the weSERVEList today! ♦

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Free Dental Clinic – July 28-29

A free dental clinic is coming to Pittsburgh Thursday and Friday, July 28 and 29, 7 am-4 pm at the AJ Palumbo Center, 1304 Forbes Ave. No eligibility or income requirements. No appointments or registration necessary. Visit <http://www.mompgh.org/> for more info.

Trinity Youth Conference “TYC” – July 23 to 29

TYC is a regional Presbyterian leadership conference for youth who have completed grade 9 through college-age students at Living Waters Camp (Schellsburg, PA). More info can be found at www.TrinityYouthConference.org.

Paid Research Opportunity

Would you like to join a study testing the effects of a stress reduction class for healthy aging? For more info on this paid research opportunity at Carnegie Mellon University, please call 1.866.627.1923.

Fill Backpacks to Address Summer Hunger – July 19 and 26

FOCUS, the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and the Pittsburgh Public Schools collaborate to fill and distribute 1500 backpacks to address summer weekend hunger. Volunteers are needed to fill the backpacks on Wednesdays, July 19 and 26 from 12:15-2:15 pm at Martin Luther King school on the North Side (near Hazlett Theater). Please contact Nancy Heastings (412.930.0879; n.heastings@comcast.net) if you are interested.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

If you walk around the Ground Floor or Second Floor of our church, you can see that construction work is well underway now. Current work is focused on two main areas and one secondary area. Primary work is happening around the Whitfield St church entrance and up on the Second Floor, including demolition/renovation work in the bathrooms, flooring removal in many of the classrooms, removal of the stage area in Room 234, and some necessary asbestos remediation.

Secondary work continues on the Third Floor regarding some duct work needed to supply air-conditioning/air improvements on the floor below it.

The current schedule is to have the bulk of work done on these two floors by the beginning of September, with work on the First Floor to commence thereafter.