



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 3, 2017 • 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

How can your life include a faithful response to Jesus' charge that his followers must "deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matt 16:24)? How is that cross related to the cross of Jesus?

GATHERING MUSIC

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" (songbook #1)

"When Peace Like a River" (songbook #2)

"When the Lord Redeems the Very Least" (songbook #3)

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

* SHARING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

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

Sara Hackett

Leader: The God of our ancestors calls us to worship.

People: Let everyone praise the Lord!

Leader: The Savior of our lives calls us to lives of dedication and service.

People: Let everyone worship Christ!

Leader: The Spirit who guides us toward tomorrow calls us to Christian witness.

People: Let everyone trust in the Spirit.

Leader: Together let us worship God.

* HYMN

"Jesus Calls Us" (songbook #4)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Callahan

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón!

¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Praise God!

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11:25-30

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

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.

* HYMN

"Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said" (songbook #5)

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

Sept 3 • 13th Sunday after Pentecost

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:21-26

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

“Crosses and Yokes: Does Christianity Work?”

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.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

Calvin Hampton
text: Frederick William Faber

*There’s a wideness in God’s mercy like the wideness of the sea;
There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in the blood.*

*There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.*

*For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s word;
And our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.*

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH

The communion bread is being presented by the Logan/Krieger family.



Sept 3 • 13th Sunday after Pentecost

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

— 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.
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.

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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy and The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Let Us Break Bread Together” (songbook #6)
“Will You Come and Follow Me” (songbook #7; verses 1-3 only)

PRAYERS FOR HEALING & WHOLENESS

After receiving communion, worshipers may go to the prayer station for intercessory prayers, anointing with oil, the laying on of hands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Holy God, you tell us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. You have also fed us with bread and the cup that we might be sustained in the daily walk of righteousness. To you be glory and honor and praise this day and always. Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN “Will You Come and Follow Me” (songbook #7; verses 4-5 only)

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush



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
The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
Sara Hackett
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Summer Choir
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
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 during our Sanctuary worship services.

◆ WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, Sept 10, is Rally Day! We will resume our regular worship schedule and Sunday school classes.

8:45 am.....Journey. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.
Sept 10 — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service.
Sept 10 — 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 an *Inquirers' Class* on Sundays, Oct 1 and 8 after worship 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

DACA for "Dreamers" Program Under Immediate Threat

The President is being pressured to seriously consider putting an end to *Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals* (DACA) — a highly successful program with strong, bipartisan support that has 800,000 immigrant youth obtain work permits, build lives here, and strengthen the entire country. The PC(USA) Office of Public Witness encourages us all to take action. Stop by the Narthex after the service today to learn more from the Mission Board on this important issue and how to make phone calls or use social media in support of DACA and undocumented immigrant youth. Please visit www.DefendDACA.com for more info.

Return Book Please...

We invite you to please return the book *Race in a Post-Obama America* if you have finished it, so others can read it. Please put books in the basket on the communion table.

Today's Deacon on Duty

Today's summer service DOD is **Matt Stuftt**.



The Chapel Market Needs You!

Volunteers are needed to assist with shopping on Mondays from 10 am-Noon, and with sorting and stocking the store on Wednesdays. A few hours a month will make a tremendous difference in the life of a neighbor. Donations of men's clothing are needed immediately. For more info or to volunteer, please contact Harold and Linda Deiss (deisshl@consolidated.net) or Pastor Patrice (PatriceFS@coh.net).

PW Bible Study — Sept 5 and 11

Join Presbyterian Women for their first Bible Study lesson titled *In Community with Jesus Christ* on Tuesday, Sept 5 at 10 am in the Social Hall and/or Monday, Sept 11 at 7 pm in the McKelvy Room. Please remember to bring your own brown-bag lunch for Tuesday's luncheon. Beverages will be available.

Grab Your Paint Brush — Sept 8 and 9

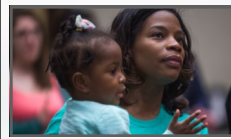
If you can wield a paint brush for a few hours, ELPC's Mission Board needs your help in supporting one of our local partners on Sept 8 and/or 9 from 10 am-3 pm. *Open Door Housing* provides affordable, safe, and supportive housing for individuals living with HIV who are not eligible for more traditional housing programs. This not-for-profit grass roots entity is rehabbing their 15-unit apartment complex on Pittsburgh's North Side and has 15 doors that need painters. Contact Michele Bossers for more info (412.303.9243).

Workday with OHM — Sept 9

All ages and skill levels are welcome to help *Open Hand Ministries* rehab an abandoned house into a quality, affordable home for a family from 9 am-3 pm on Saturday, Sept 9. For info, please contact Emily Rosenthal (EJR116@gmail.com).

SUNDAYS IN *September*

— SEPTEMBER 10 —



Journey Worship returns at 8:45 am in the Social Hall. We will commission church school teachers at the 8:45 and 11 am services.

The Christian Education Committee welcomes you back to *Church School* at 9:45 am, as classes resume for all ages. Before class, stop by the McKelvy Room for a light breakfast. Greet old friends and make new ones. Breakfast will be served at 9:30 am.

Sanctuary Worship will be at 11 am on this Rally Day!

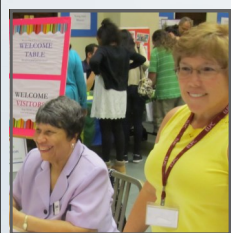
The next monthly *LGBTQ Ministry spiritual gathering* will be at Noon. We will have a special focus on allies. All welcome!



— SEPTEMBER 17 —

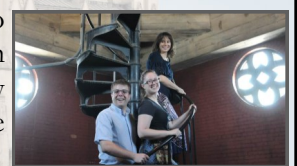
Welcome new people at the 11 am service during *Visitor's Sunday*.

As part of our intentional outreach to the entire community, a *sign language interpreter* will be present and signing during the 11 am worship service.



Following the service, a *Church Life Sampler* will be presented in the Social Hall, consisting of a multitude of displays showcasing the wide range of spiritual, educational, mission, fellowship, and liturgical programs offered by the church.

Join *tour guide* Steve Evrard to climb the heights of the church tower following the Sanctuary service. Meet at the Highland Ave entrance.



— SEPTEMBER 24 —

The *Church Picnic* follows the 11 am service with seating in the Social Hall and Courtyard.



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

People affected by Hurricane Harvey,
Diana Armstrong,
Linda Benedict's parents Tom and Lois,
Tim Benedict's mother Fay,
David Carl's friend Madelyn and her family,
Patrice Fowler-Searcy's mother,
Pam Kimmel's niece Jen,
Lee Lewand, Jean Thomas' brother Bill,
Jamee Todd, Pat Valoon,
Anthony White, and
Andrew Wilkinson's mother Leslie.

Condolences to Tim and Linda Benedict on his aunt's passing.

Condolences to Sonya-Marie Morley on the passing of two of her family members.

Committee Meetings This Week

The church building will be closed tomorrow for Labor Day.

Neighbors Today, 11:15 am (Workroom)
Session..... Today, 11:15 am (Chapel)
Christian Ed..... Tuesday, 6:30 pm (McKehy Rm)
Property..... Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Session Rm)
PW Planning..... Thursday, 6:00 pm (Session Rm)

Property & Worship, Music & Arts: Screen Test – Sept 12

We invite the entire Property and Worship, Music & Arts committee members to be present in the Sanctuary on Tuesday, Sept 12 at 6:15 pm to see a mock-up and presentation of two monitors/screens set up near the pillars located behind the cross-aisle pillars. After this, we can make decisions on how to move forward with this new screen project.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Sept 10 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

During our renovations, the location of our Sunday School Classes will change. Thank you for your patience!

Contemporaries (Harambe Rm) – “God Our Father (Matthew 6:5–9)” led by Mary Alice Lightle

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) – Exodus 12:1–14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8–14; Matthew 18:15–20 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Chapel) – “The Spirituality of Place” led by Pastor Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Soul Food (3rd floor Music Rm) – A gathering and preview session, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members

Young Adult (Session Rm) – Biblical reflection and group prayer led by Wil Forrest

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Hurricane Harvey Relief

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) program is working on mission responses to the crisis in Texas and Louisiana caused by the floods associated with Hurricane Harvey. They are coordinating efforts with the Presbyteries of New Covenant, Mission, and South Louisiana. Continue to be in prayer for the many families and congregations affected by this natural disaster.

If you would like to make a monetary contribution, you have several options. When making a contribution, please designate it for **DR000169-Harvey**.

♦ **MAIL:** Presbyterian Church (USA)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

♦ **CALL:** 1.800.872.3283

Please visit <http://pda.pcusa.org> for other ways to give or more info on the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program.

Free Mammography Event – Sept 16

UPMC Magee Hospital will offer free mammograms to women over 40 on Saturday, Sept 16 from 10 am–2 pm. Transportation to and from the event will be provided. Refreshments will also be offered. Please call Lajuana Fuller, Director of Breast Imaging, to register or if you can help with transportation (412.641.5837).

Hope Academy's Fall Term Kicks Off – Sept 19

Hope Academy's theater, music, and dance classes, and private lessons begin on Tuesday, Sept 19. Course brochures and registration forms are available online or at the front desk. Please contact Karly Threats with questions or for more info (412.441.3800 x117; KarlyT@coh.net).

Youth Worship Leader Training – Sept 24

Any youth in grades 4–12 who is interested in serving as an acolyte, crucifer, or usher during our Sanctuary worship should attend this training session in the Sanctuary on Sunday, Sept 24 from 10:15–10:45 am.

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 x114).

Renovations Office Move #2 Packers Needed:

Tuesday, Sept 5 from 10 am–3 pm
Wednesday, Sept 6 from 10 am–3 pm