



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 10, 2017 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST RALLY DAY

We welcome our resident brass ensemble, The Brass Roots, back to worship this morning for a fourth season at ELPC. They will be joining us in worship six times from now through next May as well for two concerts in December and May. Read more about them at www.thebrassroots.com.

It is an attribute of God himself, and earthly power doth then show **likiest God's when mercy** seasons justice. (Shakespeare, *The Merchant of Venice*)

Two works of mercy set a person free: forgive and you will be forgiven, and give and you will receive. (St. Augustine)

TIME OF PREPARATION

"O Lord, remember not only the men and women of good will, but also those of ill will. But do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted on us; remember the fruits we have bought thanks to this suffering — our comradeship, loyalty, humility, courage, generosity, and the greatness of heart that has grown out of all this. And when they come to judgment, let all the fruits which we have borne be their forgiveness."

— Prayer written by unknown prisoner in Ravensbrück concentration camp

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Rondeau"

Jean-Joseph Mouret

*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.
People: Y también contigo.

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Erich Stein and Polly McQueen

Leader: Listen! The Lord calls out to us offering life, renewal and hope!

People: O God, teach us, lead us, and turn us once more to your ways.

Leader: In our gathering here and our lives outside these walls, may all we do praise the Lord.

People: **May we ever sing God's praise in the assembly of the faithful,** trusting that the Lord takes pleasure in the communion of the church universal.

Leader: Let us sing for joy and offer God our sincere worship this morning.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #321

AURELIA

"The Church's One Foundation"

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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The text for *In the Midst of New Dimensions* takes both Native American and Hebrew spiritual imagery to emphasize the breadth of God's creative will. The reference to both genders and "all persuasions" in vs. 4 also touches on the important diversity of sexual identity among God's children.

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957) wrote his patriotic *Finlandia* in 1899 and revised it in 1900. In February 1899, a manifesto from Tsar Nicholas II declared Russia's right to rule Finland without the consent of local legislators. Sibelius' choice of *Finlandia* as a title for the composition served as a subtle form of protest against Russian censorship; however, that censorship was so intense that it couldn't be performed publicly as *Finlandia*, so other titles were devised including *Happy Feelings at the Awakening of Finnish Spring*. (C. Michael Hawn)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Erich Stein and Polly McQueen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Erich Stein and Polly McQueen

Lord Christ, you have promised to be present when two or three are gathered in your name. Yet when we come together, we do not always find unity or compassion or love. Forgive us our selfishness and vain desires. Forgive us our irresponsible acts, quarrels and jealousy. Forgive the fact that we have not trusted your word nor followed your example, O Word-Made-Flesh. Forgive us yet again, that all our gatherings may become opportunities to celebrate your presence. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Erich Stein and Polly McQueen

Leader: The apostle Paul has said: Laying aside the works of darkness, we now live in the light of Christ. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 13:8-14 The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

TEACHER COMMISSIONING

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Children of any age are welcome to come to the steps of the chancel for Moments with our Children. Those who have completed Kindergarten or younger are invited to attend our Extended Session program for the remainder of our worship time in the Nursery Suite on the first floor.

* HYMN #315

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

NEW DIMENSIONS

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:15-22

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

"Relentless Reconciliation"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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.

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

"A Song of Peace"

Jean Sibelius/Johnnie Carl
text: Lloyd Stone/Georgia Harkness

Verses 1 and 2: see hymn #340

Verse 3:

*May truth and freedom come to every nation;
May peace abound where strife has raged so long;
That all may seek to love and build together,
A world united, righting every wrong;
A world united in its love for freedom,
Proclaiming peace together in one song.*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:
John Smith assumed leadership of the Jamestown, Virginia settlement (1608); the Western drama *Gunsmoke* premiered on CBS (1955); 20 African-American students entered Alabama public schools after a standoff between federal authorities and Gov. George Wallace (1963); Hungary allowed thousands of E. German refugees to emigrate to W. Germany, effectively ending the Communist hold on Europe (1989).

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation...We are ambassadors for Christ, having been entrusted with the message of reconciliation. (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

Louis Vierne (1870-1937), the famed blind organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, composed six symphonies for organ. The first symphony was composed in 1898-1899. Vierne referred to the final movement of this symphony as his own personal *Marseillaise*. (The *Marseillaise* is the national anthem of France.)

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH



* 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:	Ever-present God, just as Jesus promised to be among us when a few are gathered in his name, be among us now that these offerings may become instruments of your love and justice for all people. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.	

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #297

ST. DENIO

“In Christ Called to Baptize”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

“Final from Symphony I”

Louis Vierne

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
Erich Stein and Polly McQueen
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
The Brass Roots:
Sam Eisenhandler, Carloz Gil, *trumpets*
Rana Jurjus, *horn*
Morgan Wynn, *trombone*
John Caughman, *tuba*
Abby Langhorst, *timpani*
Acolyte: David Bellin
Beadle: Michele Bossers
Crucifer: Charlotte Bush
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us in the McKelvy Room after worship for our Fellowship Time. All are welcome to attend.

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers today are in loving memory of Henrietta and Marie Held and Emma King Held.

♦ 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.
Sept 17 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service. A sign language interpreter will be at this service on this Sunday.
Sept 17 — 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 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 an *Inquirers' Class* on Sundays, Oct 1 and 8 to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more info, or to register (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

Today is Rally Day!

Our 8:45 am Journey worship service returns in the Social Hall. The Christian Ed Committee welcomes you back to Church School at 9:45 am as classes for persons of all ages resume. 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.

Please check the signs for the location of each Church School class. Due to the renovations, the adult classes are being held in different rooms.

We also welcome The Brass Roots as our musical guests at today's 11 am Sanctuary worship service.

LGBTQ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering

The next monthly *LGBTQ Ministry spiritual gathering* will be today at Noon in the 3rd floor Music Room. We will have a special focus on allies. All welcome!

Today's DODs

Every Sunday, a DOD (Deacon-on-Duty) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our worship services. Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Mary Evrard**. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Susan Spangler**.



Pathways to a More Contemplative Life

On **Monday** mornings, the *Labyrinth* is available as a walking meditation until 1 pm. *Centering Prayer*, a form of Christian meditation, is offered on **Tuesday** evenings at 7 pm. On **Wednesdays**, experience *Cathedral Yoga* at 6 pm, and meditative moments during and following our *Taizé Prayer Service* at 7 pm. The *Labyrinth* also is available all day on **Wednesdays** until 9 pm.

Qi Gong practice is held on **Thursdays** at 6:30 pm, followed by *Mindfulness Meditation* led by Susan Spangler from 7-8 pm, both held in the Prayer and Meditation Room. On the **second Friday of the month**, Yamuna Morgenstern leads *JourneyDance*, at 7 pm. Please visit the *Prayer and Meditation Room* **anytime** the church is open.

PW Bible Study – Sept 11

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study lesson titled *In Community with Jesus Christ* at 7 pm on Monday, Sept 11 in the McKelvy Room.

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 Threets with questions or for more info (412.441.3800 x117; KarlyT@coh.net).

Faith, Science, and Our Spiritual Life – Sept 28

Interested in the connections between faith and science? Want to meet similarly minded folks? Join in the conversation on the last Thursday of each month (Sept 28 at 6:30 pm) as we read, watch videos, and discuss the faith that we share, ways in which it overlaps with science, and how all of that affects our spiritual life. Please contact the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan for info (MaryLynn@coh.net).

SUNDAYS IN *September*

– 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. Fried chicken, hot dogs, potato salad, macaroni salad, a light dessert, and beverages will be provided, but please bring a side or snack to share.

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 from 10:15-10:45 am.

The YAMs (*Young Adult Ministry*) are invited to spend the day together by sharing lunch at the church picnic. While we eat and visit, we will choose a few afternoon activities. Be prepared for anything, and meet at Noon for the picnic in the Courtyard!



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

Those affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma,

Diana Armstrong, Linda Benedict's parents Tom and Lois,
Tim Benedict's mother Fay, Amy Bialek's cousin Kelly,
David Carl's friend Madelyn and her family,
Carol Hoehn's grandson Caleb,
Pam Kimmel's niece Jen, Lee Lewand, Gail Noden,
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

Stewardship..... Today, 12:15 pm (Session Rm)
Personnel..... Tuesday, 6:00 pm (Session Rm)
Deacons..... Tuesday, 7:00 pm (McKehy Rm)
Worship, Music & Arts..... Tuesday, 7:00 pm (2nd fl Library)

OHM Opportunities to Serve – Sept 30 and Oct 2-6

OHM is currently rehabbing two houses, one in East Liberty and one in Garfield. Please join us on Saturday, Sept 30, the kick-off for a week of painting. Prepare surfaces for painting and start painting from Oct 2-6.

Volunteers are also needed for cleaning framing lumber to reuse for window sills, and accent trim. OHM also welcomes volunteers on Wednesdays and Fridays. For more info, contact Emily Rosenthal (ejr11@gmail.com) or Pastor Patrice Fowler-Searcy (PatriceFS@coh.net).

2017-2018 Cathedral Concerts Series Brochure Available

The printed *Cathedral Concerts* 2017-2018 brochure is available throughout the church. It is also available electronically on the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church/worship/cathedral-concerts.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Sept 17 ♦ 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’s Holiness (Matthew 6:9)” led by Mary Alice Lightle

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) – Exodus 14:19–31; Psalm 114; Romans 14:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Chapel) – “Ripples of Faith and Justice” led by Pastor Randy Bush

Soul Food (3rd floor Music Rm) – A discussion of chapter one of *Everything Belongs* by Richard Rohr, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Liz Gonda and Pam Napier-Barnes

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Synod of the Trinity Celebration – Sept 17

Next Sunday, we celebrate the creation and organization of the first synod in the United States, which met for the initial time on Sept 17, 1717 at First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. Additional info is available on the information tables around the church, or please visit www.syntrinity.org/synod-presbytery-histories-300th.

Electronic Waste Recycle Event – Sept 30

On Saturday, Sept 30 from 10 am-1 pm, you can dispose of computer components, cell phones, typewriters and batteries for free at the electronic waste recycle event in the parking lot of Calvary Episcopal Church (315 Shady Ave, Shadyside). Other items (microwaves, VCRs, consumer electronics) will be accepted for a \$10 fee/item.

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

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

PW Fall Social – Oct 21

Save the date of Saturday, Oct 21 from 4:30-6:30 pm in the Social Hall. The big event is Presbyterian Women’s fall social. The theme is *Celebrating the Stages of Women from Diapers to Golden Years*. Keep watching for more info.



Looking for a way to put your love in action?

iSERVE
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 x114).

♦ **Club 116 Meal Provider** ♦

(11/1, 11/29 and 12/6 still available)