



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 24, 2017 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY SUNDAY

Let the wisdom of your
Word rain down on us
like manna and feed us,
that we may be
strengthened to do the
work to which we are
called, for the glory and
honor of your name.
Amen.

John Hughes (1873-1932) composed the hymn tune CWM RHONDDA in 1905 for a Welsh hymn festival. The name comes from the Rhondda Valley in Southern Wales. The original Welsh title for the hymn text *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* is *Arglwydd, arwain trwy'r anialwch*.

TIME OF PREPARATION

“Stop trying. Stop forcing reality. Learn the mystery of surrender and trust, and then it will be done unto you, through you, with you, in you and very often, in spite of you.”
— Richard Rohr, *Things Hidden*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” arr. J. Bert Carlson
“Adagio in A” César Franck

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

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 (Psalm 105:1-4, adapted)

Kalyn Stewwing

Leader: O let us give thanks unto the Lord, call upon God’s name.
People: **Let us make known God’s deeds among the peoples.**
Leader: Sing to God, sing praises to God!
People: **Let us lift our voices to tell of all God’s wonderful works!**
Leader: Glory in God’s name! May our hearts seek God and rejoice!
People: **We gather seeking God and God’s strength. We gather because we seek God’s presence continually.**
Leader: Together, let us worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #65

CWM RHONDDA

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Merciful God, from your abundance you provide for our needs, yet too often we fail to recognize your blessing. We focus on our lack rather than giving thanks for your gifts; we compare ourselves to others rather than noticing how you extend your particular care to each of us. We misalign our priorities and **allow our focus to shift away from you. We complain about life’s challenges** rather than rejoicing in your grace. Forgive us, we pray, and fill our hearts with gratitude. Guide us that we may extend your care to others, trusting that you provide enough to meet all our needs.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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I bring you myself this day – my body, mind and spirit – in worship and praise and service. Send me out in your spirit to do your will in your world; to stand for your truth and purpose and seeking love. Let my humble offering of life contribute to your honor and glory. Amen.
(Rita Snowdon)

The English text *O Lord, Most Holy* is set to the music of the well-known *Panis Angelicus* by César Franck (1822-1890). The Belgian-born composer lived and worked for most of his life in Paris. *Panis Angelicus* is the fifth movement from his *Mass in A Major* composed in 1860.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #820

NADA TE TURBE

“Nothing Can Trouble”

Sung several times as led by the choir.

Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten.

Those who seek God shall never go wanting.

Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten. God alone fills us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: People of God, our sins are forgiven; we are reconciled to God. Therefore, let us love one another with gratitude in our hearts and praise on our lips. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!

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

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 20:1-16

David Jennings Smith

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Children of any age are welcome to come to the steps of the chancel for Moments with our Children.

Those who have completed first grade 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 #39

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 16:2-15

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SERMON

“The Art of Complaining”

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

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

“O Lord Most Holy”

César Franck

*O Lord most holy, O Lord most mighty,
O loving God, thee would we be praising alway.
Help us to know thee; know thee and love thee;
Father, Mother, grant us thy truth and grace;
Father, Mother, guide and defend us.*

*Rule thou our willful hearts,
Keep thine our wandering thoughts;
In all our sorrows, let us find our rest in thee;
And in temptation’s hour,
Save through thy mighty power,
Thine aid O send us; hear us in mercy.
Show us thy favor, so shall we live, and sing praise to thee.*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:

Congress passed the First Judiciary Act, which provided for an Attorney General and a Supreme Court (1789); novelist F. Scott Fitzgerald was born (1896); *Muppets* creator Jim Henson was born (1936); the Brooklyn Dodgers played their last game in Ebbets Field before moving to Los Angeles, defeating the Pittsburgh Pirates 2-0 (1957); and the Trial of the "Chicago Seven" began (1969).

Paul Manz (1919-2009) was a well-known composer of organ and choral music for the church. The festive setting of the hymn tune CWM RHONDDA heard this morning is his best-known organ composition.

* 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:	Gracious God, you provide all of our needs and some of our wants. You bless us all. Make us truly thankful and empower us to bless others from the gifts you have given us. Use these gifts for the advancement of your kingdom; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.	

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #722

CANONBURY

"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

"CWM Rhondda"

arr. Paul Manz

(Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah)

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. Heather Schoenewolf
Liturgy: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
David Jennings Smith
Kalyn Stevwing
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Gail Mosites, *soloist*
Acolytes: Emmy Thompson and Duncan Rieger
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us in the Social Hall for our annual *Church Picnic*. Take the stairs or elevator to the basement level to reach the Social Hall. Seating is available in the Courtyard and Social Hall. 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 x111). The cost is \$150 a Sunday.

♦ 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 1 — 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. World Communion Sunday.
Oct 1 — The Rev. Dr. David Esterline from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary will be 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 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 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 pick up a gift bag in the West Transept and join us in the Social Hall following the 11 am service for our annual *Church Picnic*.



Please Wear a Nametag

The *Church Picnic* follows today's 11 am service with seating in the Social Hall and Courtyard. All are welcome! 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. *Don't have a nametag yet?* If you wish to have one made for you, please sign up on the list on the Narthex table. Print your name clearly and your nametag will be hung on the holders in about two weeks.



Sale in the Bookstore!

Stop by the ELPC bookstore from Noon-1:30 pm for a liquidation sale during our church picnic. Get something for yourself or perhaps an early holiday gift! All merchandise will be discounted.

Karl Sellner Memorial Scholarship Benefit

Please join us from 6-8 pm this evening for a benefit concert for the *Karl Sellner Memorial Scholarship Fund*. Performers include The Billy Price Band, Afro Yaqui Music Collective, Hope Academy students and more. Food trucks will be onsite from 5-8 pm for dinner on the square. Use this QR code to RSVP (you can also make a credit card donation). This is a free event with a suggested donation of \$20 adults and \$10 students.



YAM Event

The YAMs (Young Adult Ministry) are invited to spend the day together by sharing lunch at today's *Church Picnic*. Grab food first and gather at a table in the courtyard to eat and make afternoon plans.

Inquirers' Classes — Oct 1 and 8

If you are interested in becoming a member or friend of ELPC, or learning more about Presbyterian theology, please attend an *Inquirers' Class* on Sundays, Oct 1 or 8 from 12:15-2:30 pm. Lunch is provided. Contact Gloria Knopp to register or for more info (GloriaK@coh.net).

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Mary Evrard**.
The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Kathy Kiewra**.



Last Call: Dinner Bell Rings

Have fun and get to know other ELPC members through our *Connection Gatherings* starting very soon. These small groups consist of 8-10 people who join together for potluck dinners or outings in the area. Contact Elaine Phillips (412.668.2989; connectelpc@gmail.com) to sign up. All ELPC members and friends are welcome!

Faith, Science, and Our Spiritual Life — Sept 28

Interested in the connections between faith and science? 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.

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. OHM also welcomes volunteers on Wednesdays and Fridays. For more info, contact Emily Rosenthal (ejr11@gmail.com) or Pastor Patrice (PatriceFS@coh.net).

YAM & Senior High CE Classes Combine — Sundays in Oct

The Young Adult Ministry (YAM) and Senior Highs will focus on the topic of race as they study the word and build relationships during the October Sunday School classes from 9:45-10:45 am. Oct 1 is an all-adult combined class in the Chapel, and Oct 8, 15, 22 and 29 will be in the senior high classroom.

Guest Speaker: Madam Achol Majols Kur Kier — Oct 1

Join the ELPC Peace Committee and Presbyterian Women on Sunday, Oct 1 following the 11 am service in the Social Hall to hear Madam Achol Majols Kur Kier, who is visiting the Pittsburgh Presbytery as part of the PC (USA)'s *International Peacemakers' Program*. A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP to Kay Shissler (412.681.2047).

Upcoming Church Tours — Oct 1 and 15

- ♦ **Tower Tour** — Sunday, Oct 1 after worship
Join tour guide Regis Will to climb the heights of our central tower. Comfortable shoes and pants are suggested; not recommended for small children. Gather at the Highland Ave entrance following 11 am worship.
- ♦ **Stained Glass Tour** — Sunday, Oct 15 after worship
Join tour guide Steve Evrard for an in-depth tour of the stained glass in our Sanctuary and Chapel. Gather at the front of the Sanctuary following 11 am worship.



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 Chontos' father David, Ruth Donalson, Aura Jirau,
Pam Kimmel's niece Jen, Gloria Knopp, Lee Lewand,
Gail Noden, Henry Petrilli's father Larry,
Jean Thomas' brother Bill, and Pat Valoon.

Condolences to Mary Ruth Johnson on her brother's passing.

A Note of Thanks...

John Baravo would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards while he was recovering from his recent surgery.

Diana Armstrong thanks everyone for their prayers and cards during her recent recovery time. She will be having another surgery mid-October.

Committee Meetings This Week

Stewardship.....Today, 12:30 pm (Rm 217)
Mission Board Tuesday, 5:00 pm (McKelvy Rm)
Peace..... Thursday, 5:30 pm (2nd floor Library)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. David Esterline – Oct 1

The Rev. Dr. David Esterline, President and Professor of Cross-Cultural Theological Education at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, Oct 1 at the 11 am Sanctuary service for *Anti-Racism Sunday*. Please join us!

Peace & Global Witness Offering – Oct 1

The *Peace and Global Witness Offering* will be received on Sunday, Oct 1 at all worship services, which supports local, mid-council, and global peacemaking efforts.

Confirmation Class Informational Meeting – Oct 1

Students and parents should join us for this *Confirmation Class Informational Meeting*, which will include lunch, on Sunday, Oct 1 at 12:15 pm. Please RSVP to Gloria Knopp (412.441.3800 x122).

Blessing of the Animals – Oct 7

All are welcome to join us for a *Blessing of the Animals* service on Saturday, Oct 7 at 4 pm, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu. Bring your animal friends to this special service, held on the Penn Ave steps. Bring a toy or other item to be blessed if your pet can't attend. There will be a time of remembrance for those pets who are no longer with us.

Combined ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

for

Oct 1 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am ♦ Chapel

RACE, RACISM, AND WHITE PRIVILEGE

led by the Rev. Dr. David Esterline

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



LGBTQ Refugees Conference – Oct 20 and 21

All are invited to a conference on Oct 20 to 21 at The First Presbyterian Church in NYC titled *Love Welcome: A Faith-Based Forum on Supporting LGBTQ Refugees*. This is a national PC(USA) conference co-sponsored by the PC (USA) Office of Public Witness, Office of Immigration Issues, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, and More Light Presbyterians. Learn about the challenges facing LGBTQ refugees and asylum seekers and examine how congregations can provide support. Register online at www.fpcnyc.org/lovewelcome. Contact Nicole Stansifer for info (212.675.6150; nstansifer@fpcnyc.org).

LGBTQ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering – Oct 7

The next monthly *LGBTQ Ministry spiritual gathering* will be on Saturday, Oct 7 at 2 pm in the 2nd floor Parlor, with a special focus on allies. All welcome! Contact Wil Forrest for more info (Wil@coh.net).

PW Fall Social Celebrates Women of All Ages – Oct 21

Get ready for PW's fall social, a.k.a. *Celebrating the Stages of Women from Diapers to Golden Years* on Saturday, Oct 21 from 4:30-6:30 pm in the Social Hall. The fun event of the season will feature: A tableau portraying some well-known women of the Bible, games, and great refreshments. Presbyterian Women will provide chicken salad, rolls, dessert and beverages and your pot-luck donations of salads, and snacks will complete the buffet. We'll have an opportunity to contribute feminine care products for *Living in Liberty*, or a package of diapers (all sizes, including adult pull-ups) for *Western PA Diaper Bank*. More details will be available on Sundays, Oct 8 and 15.



Looking for a way to put your love in action?

i SERVE
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).

♦ Club 116 Meal Provider ♦

(11/29 and 12/6 still available)