



# EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 [www.ELPC.church](http://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)*

## OCTOBER 8, 2017 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUSTICE FOR RETURNING CITIZENS SUNDAY

**Frédéric Chopin's**  
(1810-1849) set of three  
nocturnes in his opus 9  
were composed  
between 1830 and 1832  
and dedicated to  
Madame Camille Pleyel,  
the wife of a famed  
French pianist and  
owner of the Pleyel  
piano company.

For I was naked and you  
gave me clothing, I was  
sick and you took care of  
me, I was in prison and  
you visited me.  
(Matthew 25:36)

### TIME OF PREPARATION

**"The true measure of our commitment to justice, the character of our society, our commitment to the rule of law, fairness, and equality cannot be measured by how we treat the rich, powerful, privileged, and the respected among us. The true measure of our character is how we treat the poor, disfavored, accused, incarcerated, and the condemned."**  
— *Bryan Stephenson, Just Mercy*

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

**"Nocturne Op. 9 #1 in B-flat Minor"**

**Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo**  
Frédéric Chopin

*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. Heather Schoenewolf

### \* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

Gil Hickman

Leader: Let silent tongues find a new voice and let words arise from a renewed spirit.

People: For our God is an awesome God who sees the poor and forgotten, the imprisoned and hungry, and longs for healing in our communities.

Leader: In our times of worship, let us speak out for justice and sing songs of hope.

People: **Let our voices soar in praise as we trust in God's steadfast love now and always.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #761

BEECHER

**"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

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

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Over 10,000 ex-prisoners are released from America's state and federal prisons every week; more than 650,000 ex-offenders are released from prison every year. The high volume of returnees is a reflection on the tremendous growth in the U.S. prison population during the past 30 years.

Justice is the [goal and] end of government. It is the end of civil society. It ever has been and ever will be pursued until it is obtained, or until liberty be lost in the pursuit. (James Madison)

## LITANY OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy and David Bianco

Leader: Jesus tells us that he has come to bring good news to the poor and has been sent to proclaim release to the captives;

People: Yet we worry that this might increase the crime rate in our neighborhoods, so we hesitate to listen to what he says.

Leader: He proclaims the recovery of vision to those without sight;

People: Yet citing prudence and safety, we close our eyes to the suffering that surrounds us.

Leader: Jesus tells us that the oppressed are to be freed, the indebted to have their debts forgiven;

People: **Yet we respond, "Not here, not now. I have bills to pay and need to protect my property values."**

Leader: Our responses speak volumes about what we truly value. We are too often fearful, self-protective, and unable to extend radical hospitality.

People: Forgive us, O God. Help us to follow in the footsteps of our Savior who has promised to set all captives free – whether from imprisonment or sin or fear. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

## TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: Beloved in Christ, Jesus did not come to condemn, but to redeem. The past is over and done; everything is fresh and new. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!

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

### HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 42:1-9

Brittany Watson

### 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 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 #774

"There Is Now a New Creation"

STUTTGART

### GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 21:23-32

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

arr. Nolan Williams, Jr.

### SERMON

"No More Mixed Messages"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

*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.*

### STEWARDSHIP MINUTE FOR MISSION

Elaine Bellin

### OFFERING INVITATION

Elaine Bellin

*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.

The Sarum Rite is a variant of the Roman Rite originating in the Diocese of Salisbury, England in the 11th Century. It was largely abandoned after the Protestant Reformation, but was influential on the Anglican liturgy.

Justice is an unassailable fortress, built on the brow of a mountain which cannot be overthrown by the violence of torrents, nor demolished by the force of armies.  
(The Qu'ran)

Legend has it that **Domenico Scarlatti's** (1685-1757) *Cat Fugue* was inspired by his pet cat, Pulcinella, walking across the keyboard of his harpsichord.

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“God Be In My Head”

John S. Dixon  
text from an old Sarum primer

*God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in my eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my singing.  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking.  
God be at my end, and at my departing.*

## \* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH



## \* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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:	Lord God, full of compassion and grace, long-suffering and overflowing with mercy: receive these gifts that we bring this day. May they be offerings of release, reconciliation, and healing. By your spirit, help us to rejoice together – captive and free, young and old, in the empowering light of your presence. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.	

## \* RECESSIONAL HYMN #451

OPEN MY EYES

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

## \* CHARGE & BLESSING

The Rev. Dr. Bush

## POSTLUDE

Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo

“Fugue in G Minor” (“Cat Fugue”)

Domenico Scarlatti

*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 Bellin, David Bianco  
Gil Hickman, Brittany Watson  
Musicians: **Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo**, *Music Associate*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
Jon Erik Schreiber, *Soloist*  
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *Soloist*  
Acolyte: Sonia Degenholtz  
Beadle: Michele Bossers  
Crucifer: Youth  
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Following the service, please join us in the McKelvy Room 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 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 15* — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service. Full Inclusion Sunday with the Renaissance City Choir.  
*Oct 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 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* TODAY in the Music Room to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Please see The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf after the service if you are interested in attending today's class.

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church).

## TODAY AT ELPC

### Returning Citizens Sunday

Our worship services today have a special focus on returning citizens—those individuals who are returning to society following incarceration. The Justice Committee will provide a program on welcoming and supporting these individuals at ELPC after today's 11 am service in the Social Hall. A light lunch will be served.

### Join Our New Planned Giving Committee

*Here's your chance to leave your mark for the next generation.* Carolyn Russ and Tiffany Sudar invite you to an informational session on the newly formed *Planned Giving Committee*. We will meet following Sanctuary worship today in Room 227. Anyone who would like to learn more is welcome. For info, please contact Carolyn (412.421.7630) or Tiffany (412.527.8804).

### Inquirers' Class

Today's *Inquirers' Class* will be held in the 3rd floor Music Room after the 11 am service. If you are interested in attending, see Pastor Heather immediately after the service.

### Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

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 **Tucker Ferda**. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Carol Sharp**.



### The Chapel Market

The *Chapel Market* is in need of clean, gently used or new fall and winter clothing (men's clothing especially needed). Please bring your donations to the church ASAP, as the *Chapel Market* is re-opening on Monday, Oct 23. Contact Pastor Patrice or Linda and Harold Deiss for more info (deisslh@consolidated.net).

### Focus on the Environment Tour/Hike/Picnic – Oct 14

Join us on Saturday, Oct 14 at 11 am for a tour of Frick Environmental Center, a net-zero energy building that earned LEED Platinum certification. Bring a bag lunch; after the tour we can walk in the park and have fun. Please RSVP to Linda Harrington (linda0144@gmail.com).

### Reel Q: LGBT Film Festival at Harris Theater – Oct 14

The Justice Committee is sponsoring a film called *Saturday Church* at the Harris Theater (downtown) at 2:30 pm on Saturday, Oct 14. In this coming-of-age drama, Ulysses, a shy, gender-nonconforming teen, flees to New York City and finds an inclusive gathering of trans and queer youths who shepherd him into the sanctuary that is *Saturday Church*. For info, call Carol Chonoska (724.272.9722).

### Full Inclusion Sunday / Circle of Faith – Oct 15

The Renaissance City Choir will be our guest musicians during the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Oct 15 for *Full Inclusion Sunday*. Then at 2 pm, join ELPC and other faith communities at the annual *Circle of Faith* at the Schenley Plaza tent. The *Circle of Faith* is a public witness by various faith communities, designed to welcome and include LGBTQIA persons, as well as their families and allies. ELPC members are invited to gather together for this event and celebrate our congregation's diversity. Meet there or contact Wil Forrest (412.441.3800 x114) to ride in the church van, which will leave ELPC at 1 pm, and return around 4:30 pm. At church that day, please plan to wear your ELPC rainbow shirt or wear a rainbow outfit or pin. Then wear this at *Circle of Faith* later that day.

### Stained Glass Tour – Oct 15

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 on Sunday, Oct 15.

### LGBTQ Ministry Events – Oct 15 and 21

All LGBTQ folks and allies are invited to be part of the LGBTQ Ministry. Much is going on this month: Full Inclusion Sunday on Oct 15, Circle of Faith on Oct 15, and LGBTQ Ministry Day Retreat on Oct 21. Please see Wil for details or to attend. All people are welcome!

### 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*, held from 4:30-6:30 pm on Saturday, Oct 21, in the Social Hall. Some of the features will be: A tableau portraying some well-known women of the Bible (see how many you can guess), fun games, photos, refreshments, and prizes galore. Come, get in on the fun and contribute to PW's on-going projects, *Women in Liberty* and the *Western PA Diaper Bank*. **Invitations with more details are being given out today with the bulletins.**

### Children's Sabbath Sunday – Oct 22

The theme for our *Children's Sabbath Sunday* on Oct 22 will be *Moving Forward with Hope: Love and Justice for Every Child*. An advocacy opportunity will be available after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service.

### DG2! – Oct 22

Doing Good Together! (a service based partnership with youth at Rodef Shalom) is starting back up on Sunday, Oct 22 at ELPC from 12:30-3 pm. Youth in grades 4-12 are encouraged to come and serve in a variety of ways, make new friends, and have fun together. Lunch will be served.



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

*Those affected by recent hurricanes,*

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, Aura Jirau, Gloria Knopp,  
Lee Lewand, ELPC employee Mike Maiolo,  
Dr. Ed Moore's father Bill, Gail Noden,  
Henry Petrilli's father Larry,  
Jean Thomas' brother Bill, and Pat Valoon.

### Committee Meetings This Week

*The church will be closed until 7 pm tomorrow in observance of Indigenous People's Day.*

Planned Giving.....Today, 12:15 pm (Rm 227)  
Personnel.....Tuesday, 6:00 pm (Rm 250)  
Deacons.....Tuesday, 7:00 pm (McKehy Rm)  
Officer Nominating.....Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Rm 227)  
Mission Board Planning.....Thursday, 5:00 pm (Rm 250)  
Neighbors .....Next Sunday, 12:15 pm (Rm 250)

### Faith, Science, and Our Spiritual Life – Oct 26

Not sure what to believe in a scientific world? Join in the conversation on the last Thursday of each month (Oct 26, 6:30-8 pm) as we consider the possibilities for holding faith and science together.

### Reformation Sunday – Oct 29

On Sunday, Oct 29 during 11 am worship, we will remember our Reformation roots and celebrate through word and music the legacies of Luther, Calvin, and so many other people of faith. Join us for a special service with bagpipes, readings, and commemorative celebrations.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Oct 15 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

**Contemporaries (Harambe Rm)** – “The Four Freedoms: Religion, Part 1” led by Dr. Ron Stone

**Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library)** – Exodus 32:1–14; Psalm 106:1–6, 19–23; Philippians 4:1–9; Matthew 22:1–14 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

**Seekers (Chapel)** – “Mission Malawi” led by Pastor Patrice Fowler-Searcy

**Soul Food (3rd floor Music Rm)** – A concluding discussion of chapter two of *Everything Belongs* by Richard Rohr, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Linda Harrington, and Michelle Bard

**Young Adult (2nd floor Parlor)** – Combined class with Senior High Youth during October, focusing on race

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



### Donate to Assist with the Hurricane Restoration Efforts

In addition to giving to the *Presbyterian Disaster Agency Designated Relief Accounts* (for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma relief—DR000169; and Atlantic Region Storms—R000194), you can donate your time by joining the Pittsburgh Presbytery East Branch on Sunday, Oct 15 from 3-4 pm at Waverly Presbyterian Church (590 S Braddock Ave, 15221) to assemble *hygiene kits*. Please contact the Rev. Dr. Beverly James for more info (412.323.1404).

### Documentary Screening and Panel Discussion – Oct 12

PublicSource, an independent, nonpartisan news nonprofit dedicated to public service journalism and the Pittsburgh Center for Autistic Advocacy are hosting the viewing and panel discussion of the documentary *Deej*, the story of a nonverbal autistic, abandoned by his birth parents and abused in the foster care system until he is adopted by a loving couple and given needed help. The Carnegie Library Lecture Hall will be the location of this event on Oct 12 at 7 pm. Tickets: \$15; \$8 student/military. Please contact Tim Randall for more info (412.580.3137).

### Free Workshop for Families Affected by Addiction – Oct 14

Bridge to Hope, Passavant Hospital Foundation and UPMC Health Plan are sponsoring a free workshop on Saturday, Oct 14 from 7:30 am-12:30 pm to help family members develop the knowledge and skills needed to become more effective in their efforts to help a loved one struggling with substance use. Pre-registration is requested by Oct 11 (412.748.5120; sidorukj@ph.upmc.edu) for this workshop at 700 Cumberland Woods Dr, 15237.

### Music Therapy – Oct 29

Join the Spiritual Life Committee this year as we explore the science and spiritual dimensions of sound in both our own tradition and that of other faiths. Our study begins on Sunday, Oct 29 following the 11 am Sanctuary worship service, as we are joined by Dr. Elaine Abbott, director of the Music Therapy department at Duquesne University. She will demonstrate the healing effect of music. A light lunch will be served.

### Looking for a way to put your love in action?



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

♦ Join the weSERVEList today! ♦