



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)

FEBRUARY 18, 2018 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Florence Beatrice Price (1887-1953) was born in Little Rock, Arkansas and graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music in 1906. She was the first African-American woman composer to have a composition performed by a major symphony orchestra. Her *Symphony No. 1 in E Minor* was first performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1933.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
God of ancient covenants and present promises, I thank you that I can experience this day in the confidence of your abiding love and unending mercy. Help me to treat others — family, friends, coworkers, strangers — with kindness today. Open my eyes to the places, people, and circumstances in which your kingdom has come near. This I pray in **Christ's name. Amen.**

TIME OF PREPARATION

"Peace cannot be built on exclusivism, absolutism, and intolerance. But neither can it be built on vague liberal slogans and pious programs gestated in the smoke of confabulation. There can be no peace on earth without the kind of inner change that brings one back to one's 'right mind.'"
— Thomas Merton

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Audi, benigne conditor"

Gerald Near

*O Kind Creator, bow thine ear to mark the cry, to know the tear
Before thy throne of mercy spent in this thy holy fast of Lent.*

"Adoration"

Florence Price

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

Shirley Fair

Leader: People of the covenant, remember what scripture has taught us:

People: God does not remember us according to our sins and **transgressions; God remembers us according to God's own steadfast love.**

Leader: People of the Lenten season, hold fast to what scripture has promised us:

People: The God of our salvation teaches us right paths and leads us in truth, for the ways of the Lord are loving, just, and ever faithful.

Leader: As we put our trust in Christ the Lord, let us worship God together.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #321

AURELIA

"The Church's One Foundation"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in honest confession. We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own. We participate in systems of injustice, violence, and abusive power. We have followed paths that lead away from you and worshiped idols unworthy of you. Forgive us, we **pray. Come to us once more and bring us your peace. In Christ's name. Amen.**

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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Thomas Merton (1915-1968) was a Trappist monk, mystic, and writer; born in France but grew up in the United States. In his 20s, he converted from Protestantism to Catholicism and in 1941 entered the Trappist order in Kentucky. His writings focused on Christian unity and opposition to war, nuclear weapons, segregation and racial discrimination.

Songs to the Dark Virgin is from Langston Hughes' (1902-1967) 1926 collection of poems, *The Weary Blues*. Florence Price set it to music in 1941.

No one can serve two masters. Your life is shaped by the end you live for. You are made in the image of what you desire.
(Thomas Merton)

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #472 (<i>remain seated</i>)	KUM BA YAH
“Kum Ba Yah/Someone’s Crying, Lord”	
ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS	The Rev. Dr. Bush
Leader: Friends, believe in the good news of the Gospel.	
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.	
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!	
GOSPEL LESSON	Mark 1:9-15 The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
LITANY FOR PEACE	Remembering Thomas Merton
MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN	The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
<i>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.</i>	
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM	
<i>Presentation of the Child:</i>	
Dylan James Davwell, son of Lia Davidson-Welling and Matthew Goebert	
<i>Act of Baptizing</i>	
<i>Welcome</i>	
SOLO	“Songs to the Dark Virgin” Florence Price text by Langston Hughes
<i>Would that I were a jewel, a shattered jewel, That all my shining brilliants might fall at thy feet, Thou dark one.</i>	
<i>Would that I were a garment, a shimmering, silken garment, That all my folds might wrap about thy body, Absorb thy body, hold and hide thy body, Thou dark one.</i>	
<i>Would that I were a flame, but one sharp, leaping flame To annihilate thy body, thou dark one.</i>	
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON	I Peter 3:8-15 The Rev. Dr. Bush
SERMON	“Do Not Fear What They Fear” The Rev. Dr. Bush
TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION	
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER	The Rev. Schoenewolf
<i>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.</i>	
OFFERING INVITATION	The Rev. Schoenewolf
<i>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.</i>	

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Victor C. Johnson (b. 1978) is a native of Dallas, Texas and teaches at the Forth Worth Academy of Fine Arts. This arrangement of the spiritual *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* was published in 2017.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” arr. Victor C. Johnson

Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself.

O, nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it by himself.

Jesus prayed there in the garden, he had to pray all by himself.

O, nobody else could pray there with him, he had to pray all by himself.

Jesus died way out on Calvary, he was pierced and crucified.

O, nobody else could die in his place, he had to die all by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley, we have to walk it by ourselves.

O, nobody else can walk it for us, we have to walk it by ourselves.

* 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

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: We profess this day that in Jesus Christ, the kingdom of God has come near to each of us. We respond in tangible ways – through acts of justice and compassion, through gifts of resources and offerings. May all we do and all we give bear witness to the good news of the gospel. In Christ’s name we pray.

People: Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #182

KINGSFOLD

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

attr. Johann Sebastian Bach

“Little” Prelude and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 554

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY:
John Bunyan's classic *Pilgrim's Progress* was published (1678); Martin Luther died in Germany (1546) and Michelangelo died in Italy (1564); Mark Twain's classic *The Adventures of Huck Finn* was published (1885); and Pulitzer-prize winning author Toni Morrison was born (1931).

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
Shirley Fair
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *soloist*
Acolyte: Quinn Seif
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us for our Fellowship Time after the service in the downstairs Whitfield Lobby. Whether you come for a cup of coffee and to meet some new people, or to take part in the frequent post-service events (see announcements for more details), you are welcome to take the stairs or elevator down to the Ground Floor and join us! During the remaining weeks of the renovation work, our Fellowship Time **will be in the Whitfield Lobby, but we'll hopefully** return back to the first floor by late April.

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving and appreciation for the ELPC staff.

♦ 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.
Feb 25 — 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.
Feb 25 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf, 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

The *Prayer Room* will re-open after the first floor renovations are completed. The Sanctuary and Chapel are available for prayer (barring a scheduled event).

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 Whitfield Lobby. 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* to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more info or to register for future classes (GloriaK@coh.net).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Explore the Sanctuary and Chapel

Meet at the rear of the Sanctuary after today's 11 am service for an architectural tour of the Sanctuary and Chapel. All are welcome.

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Today's *Journey* service DODs are **Mary Evrard** and **Carla Coles**. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Beth Minnigh**.

Ashley Birt Ordination

Ashley Birt grew up as a member of ELPC, and has now been approved for ordination in the PC(USA). Her ordination service will be in the Sanctuary at 3 pm today. Ashley will be serving as the *Pastoral Fellow for Youth and Families* at Rutgers Presbyterian Church in NYC. Please join us for this special ordination!

Lenten Devotionals Available

The Christian Education Committee is providing devotionals to guide us during the Lenten season. They are available on the 2nd floor Christian Education table.

Annual Reports Also Available

Copies of the 2017 *Annual Report* are available in the church's front office. Please take one copy per family.



Faith, Science, and Our Spiritual Life – Feb 22

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you on the fourth Thursday of each month (Feb 22) from 6:30-8 pm for a shared discussion about *Faith, Science and Our Spiritual Life*. (Note: There will be no discussion in March.)

Tween Game Night – Feb 23

Youth in grades 4–6 are invited to *Tween Game Night* on Friday, Feb 23 from 6-8 pm to play board games and in the gym. Dinner will be served and friends are welcome! Please contact Sara Hackett for info (SaraH@coh.net).

Congregational Meeting – Feb 25

All ELPC members are encouraged to attend our annual *Congregational Meeting* following the 11 am service on Sunday, Feb 25 in the Social Hall. Lunch will be provided prior to the meeting in which reports and financial budgets will be reviewed. Nominations for the incoming slate of officers (elders, deacons, Centennial Fund member) will also be voted on.

The biographies of the nominees for Church Officers are located in a notebook in the front office for you to preview. Please do not remove this notebook from the front office.

Nominations for PW Moderator

The PW Leadership Team is inviting nominations for the position of PW Moderator. Anyone who feels called to serve please contact Sherry Anderson (412.361.4419).

Reception for New Members and Friends – Feb 25

Please meet our new members and friends next Sunday, Feb 25 before the *Congregational Meeting* in the Social Hall after the 11 am worship service.

Young Adult Ministry CE Class – Begins Feb 25 to Mar 25

The Young Adult Ministry's weekly Lenten church school sessions will begin with young adult-led discussions (topics of their choosing) on Feb 25. See Wil if you want to start a discussion and/or provide breakfast. The class will be held on these Sundays in Lent: Feb 25, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 9:45-10:45 am in Room 224.

ELPC to Co-Sponsor Upcoming WQED Program – Feb 27

Join Ann Curry as those whose lives were changed by the early days of the gay rights movement reunite in the WQED program *We'll Meet Again: Coming Out* on Tuesday, Feb 27 at 8 pm.

Youth to Participate in 30-Hour Famine – March 3 to 4

Youth in grades 6–12 will spend 30 hours fasting, praying, playing, worshiping, and learning about global hunger and poverty to raise money to support the work of Open Hand Ministries in our community.

The fast begins the morning of Saturday, March 3, (youth should arrive at ELPC at 3:30 pm), and ends following Church School on Sunday, March 4.

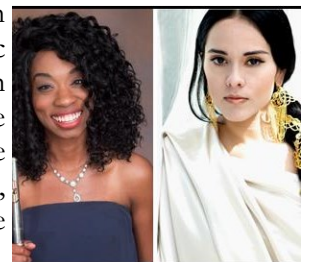
A permission slip, our schedule, and a packing list can be found on the website calendar. For questions or to RSVP, contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Consciousness, Creative Expression, Morphology – March 4

Michael Dodin will share insights and research into the special nature of sound as it relates to consciousness, creative expression, and physical morphology on Sunday, March 4 after the 11 am service. You also will have an opportunity to share in musical meditations/prayers using the Names of God in the vibrations of the original biblical languages. Sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee.

Cathedral Concerts Continue – March 4

Talented faculty members from ELPC's Hope Academy of Music and the Arts will perform at 3 pm on Sunday, March 4 in the Chapel. These artists provide private instruction to students, and now it's their turn to take the stage! The performance is free.





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

Carol Chontos' father,
Valire Copeland's friend McKinley,
Bobby and Dave Egelston's friend Gary,
Joe Hajdu, Mike Hellman's sister Renee,
Mary Ruth Johnson, Morris Jordan, Lee Lewand,
Gail Noden, Rhonda Perroz's brother Gary,
Erin Starzynski's mother Judy,
Cami Teacoach's father Bill, and Pat Valoon.

Condolences to John Buckley on his mother's passing.

A memorial service for her will be on

Saturday, March 3 at 11 am in the Chancel.

Condolences to Mario Costanzo on his mother's passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

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

Youth & Young Adult..... *Tuesday, 5:30 pm (Rm 224)*
Session..... *Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Makers' Space)*

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering – March 11

God created you. God loves you. Be yourself.

All LGBTQ folks and allies are invited to be part of the LGBTQ Ministry. The next *Spiritual Gathering* is March 11 at 12:30 pm when we will have lunch, welcome friends from Grove City College and have a guest speaker. See Wil for details or to attend (Wil@coh.net). All are welcome!

Climate Realities Presentation – April 8

Heat trapping gases, primarily from burning of coal, oil and gas, cause warming of the planet and intensify natural weather phenomena. The resulting pattern is a steady increase of extreme temperatures, and more droughts, fires, floods, mudslides and storms, as predicted by climate science. The largest impact and worst consequences are suffered by people in developing nations, who are also least able to shield themselves from these disasters. There are actions we can and must take, individually and collectively, to change the course.

Those interested in learning more are encouraged to attend a *Climate Realities* slideshow facilitated by Lucyna de Barbaro and Susan Spangler (who completed climate training with Al Gore) on April 8 from 12:30-2 pm at ELPC. Please contact the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy for more info (PatriceFS@coh.net).

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).

◆ Sanctuary Care Team ◆

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Chili Dinner to Benefit Belle Voci – Feb 24

Belle Voci is a local community based intergenerational women's choir blending service and song to support causes that primarily affect women. They are hosting a chili dinner on Saturday, Feb 24 at Faith United Methodist Church (261 West Chapel Ridge Rd, 15238) with two seating times (4:45–5:45 pm and 6:15–7:15 pm). *Belle Voci* will perform from 5:50–6:10 pm. Tickets are \$10 and include a bowl of chili with toppings (beef, chicken or vegetarian/vegan), veggies, beverages and dessert. Carry out will be available. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at www.bellevocipgh.com.

Black-Owned Business Night – March 2

Naijah Simon is hosting *Black-Owned Business Night* at CAPA (111 9th St, 15222) on Friday, March 2. This event from 6-8 pm will introduce city residents of all ages and colors to successful black businesses in Pittsburgh in the hopes of increasing their customer base and support. A \$5 donation at the door will benefit the Homewood-Brushton Business Association. Light refreshments and some free business product samples will be provided. For more info, please email naijah.simon@gmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Feb 25 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Contemporaries (Harambe Rm) – “The Psalms, a Lenten Series” facilitated by Mary Alice Lightle

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) – Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16; Psalm 22:23–31; Romans 4:13–25; Mark 8:31–38, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Highland Rm) – “My Experience as an African in Pittsburgh” led by Saihou Njie

Soul Food (3rd floor Music Rm) – A discussion of *The Book of Joy* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Judy Roberts, Yamuna Morgenstern and Deb Newcomer

YAM (Rm 224) – Young adult-led discussions (topics of their choosing) facilitated by Wil Forrest

♦ CHILDREN & YOUTH ♦

Located in the 1st floor nursery suite and 2nd floor – Rooms, teachers and curriculum information can be found at www.ELPC.church