

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)

March 11, 2018 • 11 am Sanctuary Worship Fourth Sunday in Lent

Jehan Alain's promising

career (1911-1940) as an organist and composer was cut short while serving in the French Army during World War II. His youngest sister, Marie-Claire Alain (1926-2013) went on to champion his music and became one of the foremost organists and teachers of the 20th and early 21st centuries.

Thou Shalt Bring Them In is an arrangement for solo organ of an alto aria from Handel's oratorio Israel in Egypt. The oratorio is based on texts from the Old Testament, primarily from Exodus and the Psalms. It premiered in London on April 4, 1739.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"There are not two categories of people. There are not some who were born to have everything and leave others with nothing and a majority that has nothing and can't enjoy the happiness that God has created for all. God wants a Christian society, one in which we share the good things that God has given for all of us."

— Archbishop Oscar Romero

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ

"Choral Dorien"
"Thou Shalt Bring Them In"

Jehan Alain G.F. Handel

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.

The peace of Christ be with you.

People: Y también contigo.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Meghan McClain

Leader: We come to God's holy temple, not for what we can gain, but to honor

the name of the Lord; not that others may think well of us, but that we

may offer up our thanksgiving.

People: Lord, may we desire your truth more than gold, your word more

than the sweetness of honey.

Leader: O God, alert us to your presence and make yourself known to us in ways

that are clear and compelling.

People: Your laws are right; your call is encouraging; your Word brings life;

your grace gives us strength and hope in all we do.

Leader: Let us worship God!

* Processional Hymn #65

CWM RHONDDA

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

March 11 • 4th Sunday in Lent

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

There are many things that can only be seen through eyes that have cried.

(Oscar Romero)

The cleansing of the temple incident (John 2:13-22) is described in John's gospel as happening near the beginning of Jesus' ministry, while in the other three gospels it happens on Palm Sunday, near the end of his ministry. John's account appears to be from an independent source. Moving it to the early years of Jesus' ministry keeps the focus on the raising of Lazarus as the cause of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion.

John Goss (1800-1880) was organist at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. He is best known as the composer of the hymn tune LAUDA ANIMA, sung to the hymn Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, #620 in Glory to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

David Jennings-Smith

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

David Jennings-Smith

We bring before you, O God, our prayers of confession and repentance. The shadows of our actions – both things done and things left undone – have dimmed the light of faith that should shine from our lives. Come near to us with your forgiving grace. Swing low and carry us down the road of righteousness and justice. Grant us a new and right spirit in all that we do. In **Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #825 (please remain seated)

SWING LOW

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

Swing low, sweet chariot,

Coming for to carry me home. (sing three times)

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

David Jennings-Smith

Leader: God is compassionate and merciful, freely granting us new life in 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!

NEW TESTAMENT READING Ephesians 2:1-10 Mack Griffith

LITANY FOR PEACE Remembering Oscar Romero The Rev. Dr. Bush

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf Margaret Edgecombe

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 #831 "I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness/ Tu Fidelidad" TU FIDELIDAD

GOSPEL LESSON John 2:13-22 The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON "Disruptive Duty" The Rev. Dr. Bush

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

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.

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 "God So Loved the World"

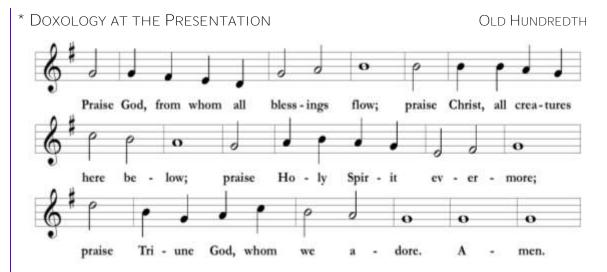
John Goss

God so loved the world, that God gave God's only begotten Child, that whoever believes in that Child should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not that Child into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through that Child might be saved. Amen.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of freedom, I thank you for claiming me as your own and for setting me in the midst of the global community of faith. Give me ears to hear your glory in its many forms. Give me eyes to see your justice even in its imperfect expression. By your grace, help me to proclaim your glory, so that I too may be a part of the chorus of praise that reaches to the ends of the earth. In Christ's name. Amen.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY: In the Italian city of Cittadella, Romeo Montevecchio and Juliet Cappelletto were married (1302); President Roosevelt signed the Lend-Lease Act, which supplied Britain with critical war supplies in WWII (1941); a B-47 bomber accidentally dropped a nuclear bomb on South Carolina, but due to safety catches, it did not detonate (1953); and Lorraine Hansberry's drama A Raisin in the Sun opened in New York City (1959).



* Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication

The Rev. Dr. Bush Margaret Edgecombe

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 Let us give thanks to the Lord

nuestro Dios. our God.

People: Es justo dar gracias y It is right to give God alabanzas a Dios. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: As we honor you with our gifts and offerings, we give thanks to you, O

God, for all your blessings. We pray that you will help us to be good stewards, living out your call to generosity, compassion, and justice for

all. In Christ's name we pray.

People: Amen.

* Recessional Hymn #451

OPEN MY EYES

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

* Charge & Benediction

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE attr. Johann Sebastian Bach

"Little Prelude and Fugue in F Major, BWV 556"

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.

OB

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. Heather Schoenewolf

Margaret Edgecombe

Mack Griffith

David Jennings-Smith Meghan McClain

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, Organist/

Music Director

Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, Music Associate

ELPC Chancel Choir

Acolyte: Annabel Degenholtz
Beadle: Lenore Williams
Crucifer: Sonia Degenholtz

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

Today's Chancel flowers are given with gratitude for the lives of Elizabeth Capon and Paul Capon, mother and brother of Frances Irvin.

♦ 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. March 18 — 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.

Gifts of Women Sunday.

March 18 — 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* on April 22 and 29 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.



Church Events and Announcements

March 11, 2018 • 4th Sunday in Lent

www.ELPC.church

TODAY AT ELPC

Purchase an Easter Plant Today!

We invite you to purchase in honor or memory of someone a tulip, hydrangea or daffodil plant that will be used at our Easter worship services on April 1. All donors will be recognized in a special Easter Sunday bulletin insert. Donation forms are available in today's bulletin, and on the information tables around the church.

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Elaine Phillips**. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Matt Stufft**.

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering

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

PW Registration Table

Presbyterian Women invite you to be their guests at the World Mission Initiative Conference: All God's Children at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary beginning at 7 pm on Friday, April 13, and 9 am on Saturday, April 14. All women of ELPC are also invited to an overnight retreat at Crestfield Camp from Friday to Saturday, April 6-7. Pick up info or sign-up for these events in the Whitfield Lobby during today's Fellowship Time.

OB



As people of faith, we seek positive change and gun safety legislation.

Gather at the South Highland Ave entrance of ELPC on Wednesday, March 14 from 9:45-10:15 am to commemorate the one month anniversary of the shooting at M. S. Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Regional Air Pollution Study Group Meeting — March 15

The first meeting of an ELPC study group focused on reducing regional air pollution will be held on Thursday, March 15 at 7 pm. The group is using a study curriculum and proposed action steps developed by the *Clean Air Council* and will meet once a month for nine months. All are welcome. For more info, contact Evalynn Welling (ewelling2011@gmail.com; 412.654.8486). *Sponsored by the Environmental Team of the ELPC Justice Committee*.

Celebrating the Gifts of Women — March 18

Please join us for a special Sanctuary worship service on Sunday, March 18 as we celebrate the *Gifts of Women*. The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf's sermon is titled



Pathway to Peace: Refusing to be Silenced, and highlights the peacemaking work of Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai.

Explore "Kirtan" - March 18

Ashley O'Hara will lead us as we explore *Kirtan*, a form of devotion found in the Bhakti tradition of Hinduism. *Bhakti Yoga* is all about love, service, and surrender to the Divine. *Kirtan* is mantra meditation that gets you out of your analytical mind and into your heart and the present moment. Experience it for yourself on Sunday, March 18 after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. *Sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee*.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering — March 18 and 25

ELPC will receive the *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering* on Sundays, March 18 and 25 (Palm Sunday).

"March For Our Lives" with Justice Committee — March 24

There will be marches and vigils across the U.S. on Saturday, March 24 in support of stricter gun control laws. As part of our public witness to justice and peaceful reconciliation, ELPC's Justice Committee is organizing a group to represent our own faith community in the *Pittsburgh March* (Noon at the City County Building). If interested, please call, text or email Michele Bossers (412.303.9243; michele2285@gmail.com).

March for Our Lives: PGH to DC - March 24

Hope Academy has chartered a tour bus to join the national *March for Our Lives* day of action to end gun violence on Saturday, March 24. Leaving from ELPC around 5 am and returning at midnight, 45 high school students and 15 chaperones (college students or parents/guardians) are invited to join them. For more info or to register, visit www.ELPC.church or contact Linda Addlespurger (HopeAcademyArts@gmail.com). This trip is generously supported by *The Sherman Evans Fund* at The Pittsburgh Foundation.



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

John Buckley's mentee Prince,
Carol Chontos' father David,
Valire Copeland's friend McKinley, Gabe D'Abruzzo,
Molly Dimond-Stephany's sister-in-law Andrea,
Bobby and Dave Egelston's friend Gary and
Bobby's mother Doris, Mike Hellman's sister Renee,
Mary Ruth Johnson, Morris Jordan, Lee Lewand,
Gail Noden, Carol Schaef's brother-in-law Allen,
Erin Starzynski's mother Judy,
and Cami Teacoach's father Bill.

Condolences to Dominic Odom on her brother's passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Officer Training......... Today, 12:15 pm (Good Samaritan Rm) Worship, Music & Arts.......Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Rm 224) Happy Wanderers Plan. Wednesday, 11:00 am (Hgh Mtg Rm)

Young Adult Ministry's Fishy Road Trip — March 24

Young adults are invited to hit the road together and see the amazing *Pymatuning Spillway* where *ducks walk on fish*. Then we just might go out for a yummy fish sandwich. Please see Wil Forrest to get your seat in the van on Saturday, March 24 (leaving ELPC at 1 pm and returning during the evening).

Tour the Tower, See the View — March 25

Join tour guide Tim VanFleet to climb the heights of our church's central tower following the 11 am service on Sunday, March 25. Gather at the Highland Ave entrance following worship. Please wear pants and shoes. The tour will take 45–60 minutes and is not ideal for small children.

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. The largest impact and worst consequences are suffered by people in developing nations. Those interested in learning more are encouraged to attend a *Climate Realities* slideshow facilitated by Lucyna de Barbaro and Susan Spangler at ELPC from 12:30-2 pm on April 8. Please contact the Rev. Fowler-Searcy for more info (PatriceFS@coh.net).

Healthy Blood Pressure for All — April 11

ELPC's Membership & Outreach Committee is hosting the *Healthy Blood Pressure for All Program*. Participants will learn strategies to reduce and lower their blood pressure naturally through lifestyle and diet changes. Classes start April 11 at 10 am. For more info and to register, please contact Carla Coles (412.661.1363; crlcoles@aol.com).

IN OUR COMMUNITY

RCC Cabaret – Today!

The Renaissance City Choir presents the final performance of their cabaret *Sing It for the World* today at 3 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary. Visit www.RCCPittsburgh.com for info.

Human Library Event — March 12

Starting at 6 pm on Monday, March 12 at the Carnegie Library (East Liberty branch, 130 S Whitfield), storytellers will share their experiences with behavioral health and how they found the courage to get support and speak out against stigma. RSVP to Amanda (412.456.1877 x211).

Interfaith and Interracial Dialogue Program — March 15

Temple Sinai (5505 Forbes Ave) will host a free *Interfaith* and *Interracial Dialogue Program:* Nightmares, Dreams and Moral *Imagination* featuring the Rev. Cornell William Brooks, former President and CEO of the NAACP, on Thursday, March 15 at 7 pm (welcome reception begins at 6:15 pm).

The Rev. Brooks will also lead a religious leaders workshop (\$20 donation) titled *Getting Woke: From Imagination to Collective Action* at PTS (616 N Highland Ave) on Friday, March 16 from 8:45 am-1 pm. Please register for the workshop at www.templesinaipgh.org/Brooks.

Empty Bowls Dinner - March 18

Rodef Shalom (4905 Fifth Ave) will host the *Empty Bowls Dinner* on Sunday, March 18 to benefit the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. There will be two seating sessions: 1-3:30 pm and 4-6 pm. Get discounted advance tickets (\$20 adults, \$10 kids) at showclix.com/event/PGHEmptyBowls2018.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES March 18 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

+ ADULTS +

Contemporaries (Harambe Rm) – "Psalms of the Abundance of Creation" led by Mary Alice Lightle

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) – Jeremiah 31:31 –34; Psalm 51:1–12; Hebrews 5:5–10; John 12:20–33, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Good Samaritan Rm) — "Living with an Attitude of Gratitude" led by Susan Muto

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, Vivienne Selia, Michelle Bard, Laura Ristau

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