



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)

APRIL 15, 2018 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847) was born into a prominent Jewish family and later baptized as a Christian. He revived interest in the music of Johann Sebastian Bach with a performance of **Bach's St. Matthew Passion** in 1829.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
God of all our beginnings, may this day and every day begin with our praise to you. May every breath we take be a witness to your Spirit, dwelling within and among us. Open our hearts to receive your saving gifts of grace and mercy. Loosen our tongues to proclaim your unsurpassed greatness. May the noise of our celebration lead your people to sense your powerful presence and to claim the joy of serving you. In Christ's name. Amen.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"There is no wholeness outside of our reciprocal humanity...You can't understand most of the important things from a distance. You have to get close."

— Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

"Andante with Variations in D"

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

The Rev. Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it!

People: Let everything that has breath praise God, our strength and our salvation.

Leader: Praise God for mighty deeds and extravagant love. Praise God for loving care and answered prayer.

People: We will give thanks this day, for God is good. The steadfast love of God endures forever.

Leader: Grace to you and peace from the one who is, who was and who is to come.

People: We are witnesses to the God who acts and raised Christ from the dead. We are here to offer our worship and praise!

Leader: Let us joyfully worship Christ the risen Lord!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #238 "Thine Is the Glory"

JUDAS MACCABEUS

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:

The first balloon was flown in Ireland (1784); the first American school for the deaf was opened in Hartford, CT (1817); U.S. President Abraham Lincoln died from injuries inflicted by John Wilkes Booth (1865); the ocean liner *Titanic* sank in the North Atlantic after hitting an iceberg the evening before; 1,517 people died and more than 700 people survived (1912); insulin became generally available for people suffering with diabetes (1923); Jackie Robinson played his first major league baseball game for the Brooklyn Dodgers; previously he had only appeared in exhibition games (1947); and the *Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee* (SNCC) was organized at Shaw University (1960).

BORN ON THIS DATE:
Artist of the *Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*
Leonardo da Vinci (1452); blues singer Bessie Smith (1894); and four-time Olympic gold medalist track athlete Evelyn Ashford (1957).

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

God of our ancestors, how easily we have made you a relic of the past. We act as if you are unreal or at least irrelevant. By our inattention, we reject you and the one whom you sent to teach us. We are ruled by fears rather than by faith, by hostility rather than by peace, by a sense of failure rather than feelings of accomplishment and victory. Forgive our misuse of the precious days you have entrusted to us. Help us to see the signs of your presence and to witness with joy to our savior and redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #654 (sing 2x)

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful.

In the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God; do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 John 3:1-7

The Rev. Mark Adams

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Presentation of Child: Reagan Audrey Hoehn, daughter of Michael Hoehn and Arika Steele

Profession of Faith

Act of Baptizing

* HYMN #669

"Let's Sing unto the Lord"

CANTEMOS AL SEÑOR

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 24: 36b-48

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

"Can I Get a Witness?"

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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. Dr. Bush

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.

Ken Medema (b. 1943) was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan and is almost completely blind, only being able to mainly distinguish between light and dark. The chorus of *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* is in our *Glory to God Hymnal*, #469.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ken Medema/Jack Schrader

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace!
Something's gonna happen like the world has never known
When the people of the Lord get down to pray.
A door's gonna swing open, and the walls come atumblin' down,
When the people of the Lord get down to pray.
You're gonna know it when the Lord stretches out his hand,
And the people of the Lord get down to pray.
There's gonna be a brand new song of victory in this land,
When the people of the Lord get down to pray.
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace!*

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy and
Miriam Maldonado

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:	For the breath of life, for eyes to see, for insight to believe, for courage to witness, we give thanks, gracious God. The signs of your presence are everywhere. Your glory and dominion are forever and ever. May this offering be used as a witness to your grace and peace. Grant your Spirit as a transforming power among us that inspires and enables our service.	
People:	Amen.	

* RECESSIONAL HYMN (please see music insert)

ACKLEY

“He Lives!”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

“Allegro, Chorale and Fugue in D Minor/D Major”

The *Allegro, Chorale, and Fugue*, one of **Mendelssohn's** (1809-1847) most eloquent statements for the organ, was never published during his lifetime. Dating from 1844, it remained unknown and unplayed in **Mendelssohn's** manuscripts, collected in what is referred to as the *Green Volumes*. It was rediscovered in the Jagiellonian Library in Kraków, Poland in 1986.

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. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. Mark Adams
Miriam Maldonado
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Gabriel T. D'Abruzzo, *Music Associate*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Acolyte: Emmy Thompson
Beadle: Michele Bossers
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us for our special *Fellowship Time* after the service in the downstairs Whitfield Lobby to learn more about how Café Justo coffee keeps families together and decreases the need for immigration from Café Justo founders and border missionaries Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado. We will be serving Café Justo coffee and selling pound bags of the coffee too! All are welcome!

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers today are in loving memory of Gibson P. and Cathryn G. Buchanan and John G. and Charity P. Buchanan.

◆ 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.
April 22 — Kalyn Stewing.
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service.
April 22 — 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

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.

TODAY AT ELPC

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Beth Minnigh**.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Liz Gonda**.

Stained Glass Tour

Join tour guide Steve Evrard today for an in-depth tour of the stained glass in our Sanctuary and Chapel. Please gather at the front of the Sanctuary following the 11 am worship service.

Learn About Café Justo

Do you know why ELPC serves only Café Justo fair trade PLUS coffee? Come to a special Fellowship Time after today's Sanctuary worship in the Whitfield Lobby to learn more about how Café Justo keeps families together and decreases the need for immigration from Café Justo founders and border missionaries Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado. We will be serving Café Justo coffee and selling pound bags of the coffee too.

Rev. Dr. Robert Chesnut's New Book On Sale

Copies of *Meeting Jesus the Christ Again*, The Rev. Dr. Robert A. Chesnut's recently published book, will be on sale during Fellowship Time through April 22. This is in preparation for his visit and presentation during Adult Sunday School from 9:45-10:45 am on Sunday, April 29. Dr. Chesnut is ELPC's pastor emeritus, having served ELPC from 1988–2002. The book costs \$16. A preliminary discussion of the book will take place in the Seekers' class next Sunday, April 22, under the leadership of retired seminary professor Dr. Ron Stone. All are welcome.

Climate Ribbon Project

ELPC's Justice Committee invites you to celebrate Earth Day by participating in *The Climate Ribbon Project*—an arts ritual to affirm our solidarity as we unite to fight against *climate chaos*. Today and next Sunday, April 22, ribbons will be available in the Highland

Ave Lobby for you to write about what you love most in the environment and want to keep safe. The ribbons will be collected and used in a processional during Sanctuary worship on Earth Day Sunday, April 22. Then, the ribbons will be on display during Fellowship Time, where you can read them and choose one or two to take with you as a visual reminder of our shared responsibility to care for our common home.



Register for Our All-Church Retreat May 4-6 ♦ Crestfield Camp



Now is the time to register for our *All-Church Retreat* at Crestfield Camp from **Friday–Sunday, May 4–6** (*Pittsburgh Marathon weekend*). Our theme is *We are the Church Together*. Persons of all ages are invited to this intergenerational retreat. Registration forms are available in the Whitfield and Highland lobbies.

Note: ELPC will have no worship services on Sunday, May 6.

DG2! Good Deeds Day

Students in grades 4–12 are invited to join *Doing Good Together!* (DG2!)—a partnership between ELPC and Rodef Shalom—by helping with a classic 50s themed *Senior Prom* for the residents of Charles Morris Nursing and Rehab Center this afternoon. Please see Sara Hackett immediately after the 11 am service to join them!

Crises Unresolved

The ELPC Peace Committee is hosting the *6th Annual PDEC Forum* on the problems of Sudan and South Sudan from 1:30-4:30 pm in the Music Room today. A light luncheon will be prepared by members of the Sudanese community.



"Birthday Donations" Request

We are looking for supplies (napkins, plates, icing, candles, etc.) to make kid's birthday bags available through the food pantries. Please bring in donated items by April 22 so that we can put together the bags at the *All Church Retreat* on May 4-6. Additional details are on the 2nd floor bulletin board.

Inquirers' Classes – April 22 and 29

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on April 22 and 29 to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Lunch is provided. Contact Gloria Knopp to register (GloriaK@coh.net).

Grief Support Group – Begins April 23

ELPC will host a *Grief Support Group* on Monday evenings beginning April 23 from 6:30-8 pm through May 21. The group is co-facilitated by Susan Spangler and Ted Cmarada, licensed psychotherapists, and is open to anyone in the community who is grieving the loss of a loved one. This group is offered free of charge. Participants should plan to attend all five sessions. Contact Ted (240.446.4937) or Susan (240.285.6507) for info. *Sponsored by the ELPC Board of Deacons' Health Ministry.*



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

Gina Anderson's son Rohun,
Carol Chontos' father David, Gabe D'Abruzzo,
Molly Dimond-Stephany's sister-in-law Andrea,
Bobby and Dave Egelston's friend Gary and
Bobby's mother Doris,
Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy's brother Christopher,
Nancy Fultz, Jan Herzer's friend Leslie, Morris Jordan,
Heather Lawrence's sister Christine, Lee Lewand,
Joel Minnigh's brother Wendell,
Gail Noden, Jack Phillips, Jan Pressman and her family,
Betty Rieley's son and Laura Ristau's brother Tom,
Carol Schaefer's brother-in-law Allen,
Erin Starzynski's mother Judy, Cami Teacoach's father Bill.

Condolences to Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan on the passing of her husband, Rev. Al Valentine.

Condolences to Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy on her aunt's passing.

Condolences to Libby Parker and family on the passing of her husband's cousin and his wife.

Condolences to Pam Walaski on her mother's passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Justice Today, 12:30 pm (Rm 227)
Art Task Force Monday, 5:30 pm (Trustees' Mtg Rm)
Youth & Young Adult Tuesday, 5:30 pm (Rm 224)
Session Tuesday, 7:00 pm (2nd fl Parlor)
Anti-Racism Planning Thursday, 5:30 pm (Rm 250)

Officer Ordination and Installation – April 22

During Sanctuary worship on Sunday, April 22, the incoming classes of ELPC elders and deacons will be ordained and installed to their new church roles.

YAMs @ Art All Night – April 28

Young adults from ELPC and friends are invited go as a group to enjoy the annual Pittsburgh cultural event *Art All Night* on Saturday, April 28 (leaving ELPC at 8:30 pm). See www.artallnight.org/wp for details. Please contact Wil Forrest if you plan to attend (Wil@coh.net).

Facing Systemic Racism – April 28

ELPC's Mission Board will be presenting a series of events titled *Facing Systemic Racism*. To tackle racism in our society, we need to acknowledge the systems in our society that create institutional racism and racial privilege. Please join us for our first program on Saturday, April 28 from 6–8 pm as we explore our topic *What is Systemic Racism?* We will be led Laura Mariko Cheifetz, deputy director of systems and sustainability at the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum. We will share a potluck dinner together at 5:30 pm. Bring a side or dessert to share. More details are on the info tables.



IN OUR COMMUNITY

Is it Time to Kill Capital Punishment? – April 19

The public is invited to a free panel discussion featuring exonerate Joe D'Ambrosio who spent 22 years on death row for a murder he did not commit and Fr. Neil Kookoothe, pastor of St. Clarence Church in Olmstead, Ohio who helped to prove Mr. D'Ambrosio's innocence. On Thursday, April 19 from 7-9 pm at Roland's Grill (1904 Penn Ave) join America's Foundation and PADP to learn more; Q&A follows. Advance registration is requested at www.Eventbritehttps://bit.ly/2GilBzl.

Dementia Workshop - April 19

Forbes Hospital in Monroeville is sponsoring a free *Dementia Workshop* on Thursday, April 19 from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm. Continuing education credits are available. To register, please call 412.858.7447.

Family Dance Party – April 21

The Kelly Strayhorn Theater (5941 Penn Ave, 15206) celebrates spring with a family-friendly afternoon of dancing led by DJ Selecta from 11 am-2 pm on Saturday, April 21. Enjoy high-energy performances, and take part in hands-on activities hosted by community partners. Please visit www.kelly-strayhorn.org for more info.

E-Waste Recycling Event – April 21

Calvary Church (315 Shady Ave, 15206) will host another *E-Waste Recycling Event* from 10 am-1 pm on Saturday, April 21. Many items (desktops, cell phones, small Freon appliances) can be recycled at no cost; some items for a \$10 fee. For a detailed list of accepted items, please visit www.calvarypg.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

April 22 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Contemporaries (Harambe Rm) – “The Status of Jerusalem” led by Tina Whitehead

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) – Acts 4:5–12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16–24; John 10:11–18 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Good Samaritan Rm) – “Meeting Jesus the Christ Again” book discussion” led by Dr. Ron Stone

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, Steve Evrard, Michelle Bard, Shirley Fair

♦ CHILDREN & YOUTH ♦

Located in the 1st floor nursery suite and 2nd floor – Find rooms, teachers and curriculum at www.ELPC.church