



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 S. 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 29, 2018 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

John Knowles Paine
(1839-1906) was
appointed Harvard
University's first organist
and choirmaster in 1861.

Today is the birthday of
Margaret Owings (1913),
a California artist, writer,
environmental activist.
She was founder of
Friends of the Sea Otter
(1968), and she assisted
the *Environmental*
Defense Fund; and of
Lillian Bertha Jones
Horace (1880),
pioneering educator and
writer. She was Texas'
earliest known African
American woman
novelist, and one of only
two black women
nationally to own a
publishing company
before 1920.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"Lord,

let your love search me and know me,
let your love shine upon me and cleanse me from sin,
let your love heal me and transform me,
let your love strengthen me and inspire me,
let your love direct me in your service,

In Jesus' name. Amen."

— Dorothy Stewart in *Women of Prayer*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

"Prelude in D-flat Major, Op. 19, No. 1" John Knowles Paine

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

Josh, Michelle, Sam and Evy Bard

(Responses from "Searching" by the Women of Jamaica in *Women of Prayer*)

Leader: We gather to hear God's call to us, to find ourselves in God's will, to find within ourselves the courage to respond. And so together we pray:

People: **Here I am, O Lord, in search of myself, that I may find life's** meaning and purpose for me in my age and circumstance. Lord, show me myself.

Leader: We worship together, aware that God is love. As a community of faith we are called to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves. And so together we pray:

People: Here I am, O Lord, in search of my neighbors through their needs, frustrations and hopes. Lord, show me my neighbors.

Leader: We gather to worship the Living God who, in Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit, dwells within us and works through us. And so together we pray:

People: Here I am, O Lord, in search of you as I search for myself and my neighbors. Lord, show me yourself.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #366

HYFRYDOL

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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Quotes from *Meeting Jesus the Christ Again – A Conservative Progressive Faith* by the Rev. Dr. Robert A. Chesnut:

“From my own experience at ELPC, I am convinced that the path leading toward our willingness to learn from those who differ from us, to grow our churches more deeply and widely into diversity, will also require that we ourselves simultaneously grow deeper and wider in our spirituality.”

“...I do believe that within our faith communities we can and should set an example of striving for a center that will hold us together, a uniting core of faith that can enable us to find common ground with those who see things differently.”

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Callahan

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #729 (*remain seated; vs. 1 and 2*)

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Callahan

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!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 22:25-31

The Rev. Laura Mariko Cheifetz

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 John 4:7-21

The Rev. Dr. Robert A. Chesnut

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 (*please see music insert*) **“Down in the River to Pray”**

TRADITIONAL

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 8:26-40

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SERMON

“Unexpected Grace”

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

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.

MINUTE FOR GIVING

“Planned Giving”

Tiffany Sudar

OFFERING INVITATION

Tiffany Sudar

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.

English composer Alexander Brent Smith (1889-1950) was Director of Music at Lancing College from 1913-1934. George Herbert's (1593-1633) well-known text is from his collection *The Temple*, published in 1633.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"The Call"

Alexander Brent Smith
text by George Herbert

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife: and such a Life, as killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a Light, as shows a feast:
Such a Feast, as mends in length: such a Strength, as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part: such a Heart, as joys in love.*

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush and
The Rev. Callahan

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:	Risen and Living God, we thank you for the new life that you offer to us in Christ Jesus – and that hope, not fear, and love, not coldness may rule our lives. May we know the risen Christ among us today, and may we extend the love of Christ to all we encounter. By the power of your Spirit bless us, and bless the gifts we bring, that we might be a blessing to your world and instruments of your love and peace. In Jesus' name we pray.	
People:	Amen.	

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #316

TWENTY-FOURTH

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

"Postlude in C Major"

Arthur Foote

Arthur Foote (1853-1937) was a composer and organist at First Unitarian Church in Boston. Along with John Knowles Paine, he was a founder of the American Guild of Organists.

Please remember to turn off cell phones during worship. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

Some prayers or liturgy were reprinted from Women of Prayer by Dorothy M. Stewart, published by Lion Books, copyright 1993.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Josh, Michelle, Sam and Evy Bard
The Rev. Laura Mariko Cheifetz
The Rev. Dr. Robert A. Chesnut
Pastor Emeritus of ELPC
Tiffany Sudar
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
Michael Painter, *Organ Accompanist*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Acolyte: Lydia Delp
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Sonia Degenholtz
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Heather and David Schoenewolf are sponsoring today's Fellowship Time in honor of Noble's 1st birthday and to thank the congregation for their love and support during the first year of his life. With gratitude and joy they also wish to honor Pastor Patrice, whose birthday is today. The Rev. Dr. Robert A. Chesnut will also sign copies of his newest book during our Fellowship Time. Please join us in the Whitfield Lobby on the ground floor for these events.

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Wendy Smith by her mother, Liz Hopkins.

♦ WORSHIP ON MAY 13

Due to the route of the Pittsburgh Marathon, ELPC is unable to offer worship services on Sunday, May 6. Please join us at Crestfield Camp for the All-Church Retreat from May 4-6.

8:45 am.....Journey. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.
May 13 — The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and an organ prelude prior to the service.
May 13 — The Rev. Dr. 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. *Newly Reopened!* Available 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 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* TODAY to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Gloria Knopp for more info (GloriaK@coh.net), or see The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush after the service to join the group in the Music Room.

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Welcome to ELPC's Pastor Emeritus!

This morning we welcome The Rev. Dr. Robert A. Chesnut and his wife, Jan! Dr. Chesnut is ELPC's Pastor Emeritus and he is with us to lead the Seekers' Sunday School Class and participate in the 11 am worship service. He will be signing copies of his new book *Meeting Jesus the Christ Again — A Conservative Progressive Faith* during Fellowship Time after the 11 am service.

Special Fellowship Time

Heather and David Schoenewolf are sponsoring today's Fellowship Time in honor of Noble's 1st birthday and to thank the congregation for their love and support during the first year of his life. With gratitude and joy they also wish to honor Pastor Patrice, whose birthday is today. Please join us in the Whitfield Lobby on the ground floor.

Order Your ELPC Shirt Today

Reflect God's inclusive love all around Pittsburgh as you wear a colorful ELPC tie dyed t-shirt. They are available for \$10 in a variety of sizes from small to XXXL and, for the first time, in a variety of styles, such as tank top, V-neck trim, adult and youth. Please order on-line at <https://elcprideshirts.wufoo.com/forms/mbwsbhc0edqt1u> or contact Amy Bialek (amyebialek@gmail.com; 412.758.1600). Pre-orders will be taken until May 15. Shirts arrive before Pride events begin in June.

Tour the Tower

Join tour guide Steve Evrard following today's Sanctuary service to climb the heights of our church's landmark central tower. Comfortable shoes and pants are suggested. The tour is not recommended for small children. Please gather at the information desk at the Highland Ave entrance after worship.

Inquirers' Class

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* today to learn more about ELPC and Presbyterian theology. Lunch is provided. See Pastor Randy Bush immediately after the 11 am service to join today's group in the 3rd floor Music Room, or contact Gloria Knopp about future classes (GloriaK@coh.net).

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Mary Evrard**.
The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Matt Stuftt**.



"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 as soon as possible 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.

ELPC Supports OHM!

ELPC members are celebrating Open Hand Ministries' 10th anniversary by participating in the 2018 Pittsburgh Marathon! ELPC's relay team, *ELPC Energy*, and 6 others running individual races are raising money for OHM's programs. Please consider supporting these congregation members with your prayers and donations: Elaine Bellin, Trish Buben, Dana Carl, James DiGiorgio, Margaret Edgecombe, Tim Engelhardt, Tucker Ferda, Rick Frederick, Eric Jester, David Phillips, Emily Rosenthal and Molly Davidson Welling. Donations can be mailed to Open Hand Ministries (100 Sheridan Ave, 15206), or online (www.crowdrise.com/openhandministriespitt2018).

ELPC is also seeking volunteer support for these upcoming Open Hand Ministries events:

- ✦ *Dinner for the Open Hand Ministries Circles group on Tuesday May 1* — donate salads, side dishes and desserts;
 - ✦ *Pasta dinner on May 4* at Shadyside Presbyterian Church for the OHM Marathon Team — set up, serve and/or clean up; and
 - ✦ *Work Day on Saturday, May 5* — house rehab.
- Contact Frank (817.705.6856) for more info or to sign up.

PW Bible Study — May 1 and 7

Join Presbyterian Women on Tuesday, May 1 at 10 am and/or Monday, May 7 at 7 pm for their Bible Study *In Community with All the Saints*. Tuesday's session will be followed by a potluck lunch. Bring your own place setting.

All-Church Retreat — May 4 to 6

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

(Not) First Friday @ KBOX — May 11

Come sing the night away at the TRAIL young adult event (*not*) *First Friday @ KBOX* on May 11 at 7 pm! RSVP to Wil (Wil@coh.net) by May 4 so we can get the right size space for us to have our own private karaoke room.

ELPC will not have any worship services on Sunday, May 6 due to the route of the Pittsburgh Marathon. Please join us at Crestfield Camp for our All-Church Retreat! Register now!



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

Gina Anderson's son Rohun, Gabe D'Abruzzo,
Molly Dimond-Stephany's sister-in-law Andrea,
Bobby and Dave Egelston's friend Gary and Bobby's
mother Doris, Pastor Patrice's brother Christopher,
Dennis Hare, Jan Herzer's friend Leslie,
Diane Jackson's niece Sarah, Morris Jordan,
Heather Lawrence's sister Christine, Lee Lewand,
Polly McQueen's brother Clay and his family,
Joel Minnigh's brother Wendell,
Gail Noden, Jan Pressman and her family,
Betty Rieley's son and Laura Ristau's brother Tom,
Carol Schaefer's brother-in-law Allen,
Pastor Heather's nephew Dylan and friend Drew,
Erin Starzynski's mother Judy,
Cami Teacoach's father Bill and Pat Valoon.

A note from the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan:

Friends, I have so appreciated the cards and emails and precious prayers with which you have surrounded me over the past month. I have been blessed by your generosity of spirit and care. Al's death was so quick that I am still recoiling from it; but, I am aware, in addition to the cloud of shock and grief through which I find myself moving, that I am also lifted up and carried along by the prayers of so many. I go forward in gratitude for the years that I enjoyed with Al and for the prayers which sustain me in his death. Thank you, Mary Lynn

Committee Meetings This Week

Health & Wellness..... Today, 12:15 pm (Trustees Mtg Rm)
Neighbors Today, 12:15 pm (Highland Rm)
Centennial Fund..... Monday, 6:00 pm (Session Rm)
Property..... Monday, 7:00 pm (Highland Rm)

Spiritual Life Programs in May Cancelled – May 13 and 20

The Spiritual Life Committee regrets that the following programs have been cancelled:

- ✦ Buddhist Chant (May 13 at Noon)
- ✦ Pentecost Half Day Retreat (May 20 at 12:30 pm)

Facing Systemic Racism Series – May 19

ELPC's Mission Board is 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 the program *Systemic Racism: A Historical Timeline* on Saturday, May 19 from 6–8 pm, led by ELPC members Eddie Willson and Sherry Anderson, who are part of the *Anti-Racism Transformation Team of Pittsburgh Presbytery*. 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

2018 Schaff Memorial Lectures at PTS – May 1 and 2

Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes, associate professor of pastoral care and counseling at McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University, will present the annual *Schaff Lectures* on May 1 and 2. She will speak on the topic *Race, Gender, and the Imago Dei* on May 2 at 4:30 pm and 7:30 pm lectures. All events are free and open to the public. You are also invited to attend the dinner (advance reservations and payment requested for dinner). For more info or to register, visit www.pts.edu/Schaff-2018.

Belle Voci Benefit Concert – May 12

The musical group *Belle Voci* will blend service with song in the benefit performance *Sing for the Cure* on Saturday, May 12 at 7:30 pm at ELPC. Proceeds benefit *Susan G. Komen and the Race for the Cure*. Please see Pam Kimmel for tickets, or visit www.bellevocipgh.com for more info.

The Importance of Jerusalem – May 14

The Rev. Naim Stifan Ateek, a Palestinian Anglican priest and founder of *Sabeel*, will address the status of Jerusalem on Monday, May 14 at 7:30 pm at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (616 N Highland Ave, 15206). *Sabeel* is a grassroots Christian movement working for peace and justice in Israel-Palestine. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more info, please contact Mary Alice Lightle (412.682.1504; MALightle@hotmail.com).

Cathedral Concert Goes Back to the Movies – May 25

The seventh season of our *Cathedral Concerts* season will conclude on Friday, May 25 at 7:30 pm with an exciting performance titled *Back to the Movies* featuring The Brass Roots, organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore, and Pittsburgh Symphony trombonist James Nova. The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be received. Look for details on our next season in the coming months!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

May 13 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Contemporaries (Harambe Rm) – “The Beatitudes part 2 (Matthew 5:6–12)” led by class members

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) – Acts 1:15–17, 21–26; Psalm 1:1–6; 1 John 5:9–13; John 17:6–19 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Good Samaritan Rm) – “Religion and the Media” led by The Rev. Jane Duffield

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, Katlyn Dougherty, Yamuna Morgenstern, and Michelle Bard