



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)

NOVEMBER 11, 2018 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
All praise to you, most holy and gracious God! You have set us free from fear and filled us with good things. You surprise us with your grace and give us all we need. Even when we lose sight of your ways, you pull us back to you and overwhelm us all over again, reminding us of your power, your compassion, and your justice. All praise to you, Mother and Father of us all, now and forever. Amen.

The hymn tune BEACH SPRING first appeared in *The Sacred Harp* in 1844.

TIME OF PREPARATION

"Real generosity toward the future means giving all you can to the present."

— *Albert Camus*

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."

— *John Bunyan*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier, BWV 731"

(*Blessed Jesus, We Are Here*)

"Prelude on *Beach Spring*"

Johann Sebastian Bach

arr. Janet Linker

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice 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 (*from Psalm 146*)

Pamela M. Kimmel

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

People: **I will praise the Lord as long as I live, singing praises to my God all my life long.**

Leader: For God made the heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in it; God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

People: **God sets prisoners free and lifts up those who are bowed down. The Lord watches over the stranger and upholds the orphan and the widow.**

Leader: The Lord reigns forever! Let us worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #716

BEACH SPRING

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Forgive us, Lord, when our eyes are too high, clamoring after privilege and honor for ourselves. Forgive us, Lord, when we struggle to lift our gaze because somehow we do not believe we have anything to give. Have mercy on our folly and foolishness. By the example of your generous spirit, may we be inspired to share, to care, to serve, and to rejoice each day. For in you there is perfect peace. Lord, hear our prayers.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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PRAYER FOR CENTENNIAL
OF ARMISTICE DAY:

Eternal God, in your perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and there is no strength but the strength of love. We honor this day, the costly sacrifice of so many to preserve what is just, democratic, and upright in this world, remembering especially the commitments of those who brought to a conclusion the first World War of modern times. Gather us now under the banner of the Prince of Peace, and may we be bearers of reconciliation wherever you place us in this world you've created, redeemed, and graciously loved. Amen.

Robert Lowry (1826-1899) wrote the text and tune of *Shall We Gather at the River*, in the summer of 1864. He wrote, "I began to wonder why the hymn-writers have said so much about the 'river of death' and so little about 'the pure water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.'"

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: Friends, believe 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 #698

TAKE ME AS I AM

"Take, O Take Me As I Am"

**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

GOSPEL LESSON

John 17:10-18

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Heather 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.

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

"Beautiful River"

arr. John Rutter

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever,
Flowing by the throne of God?
*Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.*

On the bosom of the river,
Where the Savior King we own,
We shall meet, and sorrow never,
'Neath the glory of the throne.
Yes, we'll gather at the river...

Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown.
Yes, we'll gather at the river...
Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver,
With the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather at the river...
Alleluia. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

3 John 1-15

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

SERMON

"Big Themes, Little Books: So What is Truth?" The Rev. Dr. Bush

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER:
Gracious God, we can only return to you a small portion of the many gifts you provide us. Allow your Holy Spirit to open our eyes to see all the opportunities that exist for an even greater commitment to you and to the work of Christ around us. Help us grow in our willingness to share from the storehouse of your many blessings. Amen.

The theme of *Carillon du Longpont* is based on the carillon of the chapel of the Castle Longpont in northern France. Louis Vierne (1870-1937) dedicated the piece to his brother, René. The carillon theme is heard at the beginning of the piece, played by the feet 17 times in a row!

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY:
The Mayflower Compact was signed as that ship approached Cape Cod (1620); two famous writers celebrate birthdays – Fyodor Dostoyevsky (1821) and Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. (1922); Kate Smith first sang Irving Berlin's *God Bless America* (1939); and the Church of England finally voted to ordain women as priests (1992).

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #451 (*verse 2*)

OPEN MY EYES

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

PRESENTATION OF STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES & SPECIAL GIFTS

All are invited to bring forward completed pledge cards and place them in the baskets being held at the front of the sanctuary. We will also bring forward bags of food donated to assist the hunger programs of East End Cooperative Ministries.

Please stand and sing the following hymns during the presentation of Stewardship Pledges:

* #757 “Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples” KINGSFOLD
* #691 “Lord, When I Came into This Life” LAND OF REST

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Callahan
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Schoenewolf

The congregation will respond to each petition with the following phrase:

People: We praise you, O God, for through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

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.

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN #708**

SCHUMANN

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

*** CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

“Carillon du Longpont”

Louis Vierne

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.

Annual

Thanksgiving Feast

Join us in the Social Hall
after the 11 am service on
Sunday, Nov 18
for a turkey luncheon!

Bring a side dish or dessert to share!
(sign up on the bulletin board
near the Highland desk today)

All are welcome!



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

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♦ **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Pamela M. Kimmel
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Michael Painter, *Organ Accompanist*
Randy Bush, *Piano Accompanist*
Acolytes: Quinn Seif and Juliette Young
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Youth
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ **FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Please join us after worship in the Social Hall for a special *Fellowship Time* in recognition of Pamela Kimmel, who is retiring as ELPC's Business Administrator. All are welcome!

♦ **WORSHIP FLOWERS**

The flowers today are in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Chester G. Hall, mother and father of Mrs. Daniel E. Yates.

♦ **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.
Nov 18 — The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy preaching.

11 am.....**Sanctuary Worship.** Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Nov 18 — 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 110B.

♦ **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 (*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.

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 Fellowship 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* on **December 2 and 9** from **12:30-2 pm** in the 3rd floor Music Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Contact Gloria Knopp to register or for more information (GloriaK@coh.net).

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



East Liberty Presbyterian Church

www.ELPC.church

Church Events and Announcements

November 11, 2018 • 25th Sunday after Pentecost

The *Presbyterian Foundation* hired a photographer to attend worship today to take photographs for future use in printed publications, advertisements, the *Foundation's* website, videos and other similar uses. The *Foundation* is one of the six agencies that are part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and it supports the mission and ministry of the entire PC(USA).

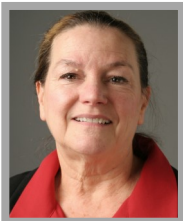
If you do not want to be photographed or have your image used by the *Foundation*, please let the photographer know (*Serrita Bell, Presbyterian Foundation Director of Communications and Marketing, serrita.bell@presbyterianfoundation.org, 502.569.8919*) **or tell one of the ELPC Pastors.**

TODAY AT ELPC

Today is Stewardship Sunday

This year's stewardship theme is *Radical Hospitality*—a practice that spotlights our many ways of reaching out. As we celebrate the completion of our remodeled church, we hope to renew our commitment to using this church to invite everyone into a space filled with the hospitality of God's love. Your 2019 pledge cards will be collected during the 11 am service. Thank you for your commitment to ELPC and the ministries we do together!

Say "Thank you!" to Pamela Kimmel with Cookies



Please join us in the Social Hall after today's 11 am service today for food, cookies, laughs and maybe a few tears as we celebrate and thank ***Pamela Kimmel*** for her over 20 years of service as ELPC Business Administrator. Pamela, who is stepping down from the post (but will remain with the church and the Chancel Choir, to be clear!), has been vital to the growth and outreach of ELPC and a humble, knowledgeable and gracious leader whose calm and pleasant demeanor has been appreciated not only by staff but all who have worked and interacted with her. You can help show your appreciation by contributing to the cookie table that will be set up in Pam's honor; please drop off homemade cookies (already plated if possible) in the Social Hall between 9:45-11 am.

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Today's *Journey* service DOD is **Doug Cooper**.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Antwone Wright**.

Got Questions About God?

To help you on your faith journey, the Spiritual Life Committee is offering a new quarterly program as an opportunity for dialogue. Join us in the 2nd floor Parlor following the 11 am service today when we will be talking specifically about God. A light lunch will be served right after the service, but the program will not start until 12:45 pm so that those wishing to attend the retirement celebration for Pamela Kimmel can do both. All are welcome!

Church Tour

Following today's 11 am worship, learn about the Sanctuary and Chapel designs. Please gather in the Narthex after the service to participate in today's tour.



Youth Ministry Events — Nov 16 and 30

✦ *Youth (gr 6-12) Retreat @ Crestfield* — Nov 16 and 17

✦ *Tween Night Scavenger Hunt* — Nov 30 from 6-8 pm

Contact Sara Hackett for more info on these events or to RSVP (SaraH@coh.net).

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — Nov 17

All are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry on Saturday, Nov 17 at 2 pm. Contact Wil Forrest for details or to attend (Wil@coh.net).



HANGING OF THE GREENS

SUNDAY, NOV 25 † AFTER 11 AM WORSHIP

In preparation for the Advent season, volunteers are invited to stay after worship on Sunday, Nov 25 to help us decorate our Sanctuary with the trees, wreaths, and garlands that symbolize the good news of Christ's promised presence in our world. Please join us!



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

Harvey Adams, David Carl's aunt Yvonne,
Carol Chontos' father David, Sam Ditka's friend Jennifer,
Wil Forrest and his brother Loren, Kathy Kiewra,
Lee Lewand, Jon Nelson's friend Dan,
Rita Nordquist, Sandra Owen,
Ashleigh Parker, Rhonda Perroz, Henry Petrilli,
Cameron Teacoach and her friend Celina,
and Chris Wharton's grandmother Mary Lou.

Condolences to Karen Overfield on her mother's passing.

*A celebration of Gail Noden's life will be held on
Tuesday, Nov 20 at 10 am at ELPC.*

Committee Meetings This Week

The church building will be closed until 7 pm tomorrow in observance of Veterans' Day. We honor the service of people who have worn the uniforms of the armed forces.

Deacons..... Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Garth Overlook)
Peace..... Thursday, 5:30 pm (2nd fl Library)
Environmental Taskforce..... Friday, 1:30 pm (Highland)

Thank Offering Received – Nov 25

Since 1888, Presbyterian Women have joyfully expressed gratitude for God's blessing by sharing their blessings with those in need at home and around the world. The *Thank Offering* funds provide education, safe housing, clean water, health care, help for prisoners, justice for women, and so much more. You are invited to participate in the *Thank Offering* in worship on Sunday, Nov 25.

Toymakers' Annual Sale – Dec 2

The ELPC Toymakers' annual sale will be held following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Dec 2 in the Fellowship Room. Available will be a sampling of the toys we make for distribution to women's shelters and mission trips, as well as some seasonal goodies like ornaments, shelf elves, and Nativity puzzles.



Sunday, NOV 18 Happenings



Special Musical Guests

Our resident ensemble, *The Brass Roots*, will provide special music at the 11 am worship service.

Annual Thanksgiving Feast

Join us in the Social Hall after the 11 am service for a turkey luncheon! Bring a side dish or dessert to share (sign up on the bulletin board near the Highland desk today).

Glass Items for Sale

Purchase special jewelry/ornaments that were made locally by Sarah Cohen in honor of our church's Bicentennial anniversary, which we'll celebrate next May! Items will be available in the Social Hall next week, after the Journey service and during the Thanksgiving Feast.

In our COMMUNITY

Supper with Scholars – Nov 14

ELPC's Pastor Patrice Fowler-Searcy, a recipient of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church *Howard C. Scharfe Fellowship Scholarship*, will share over dinner and through worship her experiences related to her D.Min. studies and how her studies impact her practical ministry at 6 pm on Wednesday, Nov 14. To attend the event, please contact Shadyside Presbyterian Church (412.682.4300).



Interfaith Response to Tree of Life Synagogue – Nov 15

The Rev. Liddy Barlow and Rabbi Ron Symons will speak at *Woven Together: An Interfaith Response to the Shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue* in the PTS Hicks Chapel Sanctuary (616 N Highland Ave) on Thursday, Nov 15 at 7 pm. Free event.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service – Nov 20

Third Presbyterian Church (5701 Fifth Ave, 15232) will host an *Interfaith Thanksgiving Service* on Tuesday, Nov 20 at 7:30 pm. All are welcome!

Allies in Faith Program – Nov 28 and 29

This November, Christian Associates is offering *Allies in Faith*, a two-day learning experience for clergy and religious leaders. *Allies in Faith* will empower you to articulate a theology of hospitality, deepen your understanding of the immigrant experience, conduct a congregational and neighborhood assessment and plan a project over the next four months. *Allies in Faith* will meet at PTS (616 N Highland Ave, 15206) on Wednesday, Nov 28 and Thursday, Nov 29. The program is free of charge. Participants will be selected by application, available at www.pts.edu/Allies-in-Faith-1819, until Nov 15. Contact Helen Blier for more info (412.924.1346).

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Nov 18 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Contemporaries (Chapel) – combined with Seekers

Journey with Scripture (2nd floor Library) — 1 Samuel 1:4–20; 1 Samuel 2:1–10; Hebrews 10:11–25; Mark 13:1–8 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Chapel) – “Irish Presbyterians and the Shaping of Western Pennsylvania, 1770–1830” led by Dr. Gilmore

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) – A concluding discussion of chapter five of *Surrender to Love* by David Benner, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Michelle Bard, and Yamuna Morgenstern

♦ CHILDREN & YOUTH ♦

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