



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)

AUGUST 18, 2019 • 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969) wrote the hymn text *God of Grace and God of Glory* for the opening of the Riverside Church in New York City in 1930. The Welsh tune CWM RHONDDA was composed by John Hughes (1873-1932) in 1907.

PRAYER OF THE MORNING:
Lord of Life, we greet this new day sustained by the great cloud of witnesses who praise your name. Help us to lay aside any burden or distraction that might prevent us from fully serving you this day. Give us perseverance and joy so that we may come to the end of the day confident in your presence and aware of your blessings. Amen.

TIME OF PREPARATION

“Reflection [Wisdom] is a flower of the mind, giving out wholesome fragrance; but revelry is the same flower, when rank and running to seed.”

— *Desiderius Erasmus*

GATHERING MUSIC

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (songbook #1)

HYMN TO JOY

“God Is So Good” (songbook #2)

GOD IS SO GOOD

“God of Grace and God of Glory” (songbook #3)

CWM RHONDDA

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 Hebrews 11, 12 and 13)

Bill Johnson

Leader: As people gathered to worship God, let us ask ourselves: What is faith?

People: Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Leader: What is our hope and greatest joy?

People: Our hope abides in the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, and who will **make us complete in everything good so that we may do God's will, with works that are pleasing in God's sight.**

Leader: What is our calling this day and always?

People: That we lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ever looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Leader: Well spoken! Let us then prepare our hearts and together worship our God.

* OPENING HYMN

“Be Thou My Vision” (songbook #4)

SLANE

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

* Indicates where you may please rise in body or spirit.

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PRAYER FOR THE EVENING:

God of Hope, confirm for us at the close of this day your promise to be with us always. Release our concerns for things done and left undone. Give us your peace so that we rise refreshed to serve you tomorrow with openness and love. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

God of Wisdom, we eagerly seek your presence in our lives and in the world. By your Spirit, speak your word to us, and give us your grace to recognize the abundant signs of your care for us, so that we can be free to act in the world with courage and abandon. Amen.

The book of Sirach, also known as Ecclesiasticus, is in the form of instructions being passed along to younger readers. It contains proverbs on a variety of topics, including references to the feminine figure of Wisdom (ch. 24). The book was written in Hebrew around 180 BCE, so it is considered part of the apocryphal writings from between the time of the Old and New Testaments.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Holy God, you promise us a life full of blessing, but we do not always believe this to be true. You incite us to hope, but we fall back into fear. You urge us to give freely, but we cling to what we have. You call us to watch for you and work for your realm at all times, but we grow lazy and distracted. Forgive us. Increase our hope, enlarge our hearts, and keep us alert to the wonders you work in the world every day. For the sake of Jesus we pray. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: Friends, let us 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

"Take, O Take Me As I Am"

TAKE ME AS I AM



Text & Music: John L. Bell, 1995. © 1995 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). OneLicense.net #A-700877

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

2 Corinthians 2:12-17

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Children of any age are welcome to come forward for Moments with our Children. Those who have completed kindergarten 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**

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom" (songbook #5)

MADELEINE

APOCRYPHA SCRIPTURE LESSON

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Sirach 24:1, 13-22

SERMON

"Fragrant Wisdom"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) composed his oratorio *The Creation* (*Die Schöpfung* in German) between the years 1796 and 1798. He had been inspired to write a large-scale oratorio after he visited England and heard oratorios of Handel performed. The oratorio is divided into three large sections. *The Heavens are Telling* is the final movement in the first section, concluding the fourth day of creation.

It is so nice to get flowers while you can still smell the fragrance.
(Lena Horne)

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:
Virginia Dare was born at Roanoke Island, NC, the first child born in the American colonies (1587) and Meriwether Lewis (of Lewis and Clark fame) was born near Charlottesville, VA (1774); Congress established the Bureau of Immigration (1894); Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, guaranteeing the right of women to vote (1920); James Meredith became the first African American to graduate from the University of Mississippi (1963).

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

Franz Joseph Haydn

"The Heavens Are Telling" (from *The Creation*) text from Ps. 19:1-3

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

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

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 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: | Generous God, you pour out blessings and cover us with gifts of love. We are called to do likewise in this world, to be blessings filling every room we enter like a fragrant offering. Accept what we bring this day and transform it into deeds of mercy and expressions of loving-kindness. In Jesus' name we pray. | |
| People: | Amen. | |

* HYMN "Great God of Every Blessing" (songbook #6)

AURELIA

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush



As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on Facebook and archived at www.ELPC.church. This notice is to inform you that by being in attendance, you give permission for incidences where you appear within the video. Should you have any questions, please see one of our pastors.

◆ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Bill Johnson
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
ELPC Summer Choir
Michael Painter, *Accompanist*
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *Soloist*
Jon Erik Schreiber, *Soloist*
Todd Farwell, *Soloist*
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

◆ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us in the Social Hall after worship for a special Fellowship Time reception in honor of Anthony Williams. All are welcome!

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers today are with love and honor to Anthony P. Williams from his wife, children, **mother, brother, aunts and uncles and Anthony's ever present grandparents, Paul and Fannie Williams.**

◆ WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Our summer worship schedule has begun. Journey Worship will resume on Rally Day Sunday, Sept 8 at 8:45 am.

10 am.....Summer Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from piano and choir.
Aug 25 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.



*Additional seating
is available in the
first floor Garth
Overlook Room*

Summer Extended Session

After the *Moments with the Children* during the 10 am service, a children's ministry for those who have completed Kindergarten and younger is offered with songs, Bible or mission stories, prayer, sharing and creative activities in the Nursery Suite on the 1st floor near the Highland Ave entrance. A simple snack is served. It is available every Sunday.

◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

A 38-foot floor mat with curved paths leading inward; an ancient tool for walking and seated meditation.

Mondays, 8 am to 1 pm

Wednesdays, 9 am to 9 pm

Taizé Sung Prayer (*Chapel*)

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.

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 also:

Stay after today's service for a special reception in honor of Anthony Williams in the Social Hall. 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 our *Inquirers' Classes* on Sept 29 and Oct 6 to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. 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

Special Fellowship Time Honoring Anthony Williams

Today after worship in the Social Hall, we will celebrate Anthony Williams' 18 years of service during a special fellowship time in his honor. Late this spring, Mr. Anthony was named Head of School of The Neighborhood Academy. With this exciting transition in his life, Mr. Anthony has discerned the need to step down from his role at ELPC to dedicate his time and energy to his new position. We give thanks for Mr. Anthony – for his impact on the lives of many here at ELPC and at TNA. Please join us to thank him and wish him well on the next leg of his journey!



Summer Film Festival

Join the Mission Board Committees today after worship in the Good Samaritan Room to view *BlackKlansman*, the final film in their Summer Film Festival. From visionary filmmaker Spike Lee comes the incredible true story of an American hero. African-American detective Ron Stallworth sets out on a dangerous mission: infiltrate and expose the Ku Klux Klan with the aid of a more seasoned colleague, Flip Zimmerman, as they team up to take down the extremist hate group as the organization aims to sanitize its violent rhetoric. *Sponsored by Peace Committee.*



Youth and Young Adult Events – Aug 20 and 30

For more info on these events, or to RSVP, please contact Kelli Booher, Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries (KelliB@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x114).

- ✦ *Tuesdays in the Park* — Tuesday, Aug 20, 5:30–7 pm
Our last *Tuesdays in the Park* summer series will be at Friendship Parklet in Friendship! Caliente pizza will be provided, but feel free to bring your own food and drink. We will have blankets to sit on, so bring a chair if you would like. Let's soak up the end of summer outside sharing good food and conversation with each other.
- ✦ *Drive-In Movie Time* — Friday, Aug 30, 6:15 pm
Let's take a trip back in time and experience the movies outdoors at Dependable Drive-In Theater (549 Moon Clinton Rd, Moon). We will meet at ELPC and leave the Highland Ave circle drive at 6:15 pm. Things to bring: money for concession stand (or your own snacks), a chair and any extra you might have for fellow YAMs, and a blanket/jacket as it gets chilly at night. Please RSVP.

Summer Celebration of Service and Volunteers — Aug 22

As a faithful ELPC servant, you are invited to the *Annual Summer Celebration of Service and Volunteers* on Thursday, August 22 from 6-7:30 pm in the Garth (Social Hall if raining). Hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, fixings and drinks will be provided. Please plan to bring either a side dish or dessert to serve about 8 people. If you want your container back, please label it with your last name. No need to bring serving utensils or to RSVP. Just come and attend a relaxing evening of fellowship, food and appreciation! Let us serve you in thanks and gratitude!

Tower Tour — Aug 25

Climb the heights of our church's landmark central tower, and gain insights into its history and construction during a *Tower Tour* on Sunday, Aug 25 after worship. The climb requires a bit of stamina; comfortable shoes and pants are suggested. The tour is not recommended for small children. Please gather in the Highland Lobby.

Café Justo Coffee for Sale — Aug 25

Café Justo Coffee will be available for sale during *Fellowship Time* on Sunday, Aug 25. For just \$10/pound, your purchase will support this fair trade cooperative. Check or cash only please.

Free Cathedral Concert: DEANNA WITKOWSKI TRIO Sunday, September 29, 3 pm



The 9th season of *Cathedral Concerts* season kicks off with the New York City based *Deanna Witkowski Trio* performing a mix of Brazilian, jazz, classical and sacred music. Known for her thrilling performances that combine virtuosity and heart, pianist-composer-vocalist Witkowski returns to Pittsburgh after her recent performances at Heinz Hall with the PSO and at City of Asylum performing an all Mary Lou Williams program. This trio will also be performing during the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Sept 29.



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

David Carl's friend's son Morgan, Rev. John Dalles,
Molly Dimond-Stephany's sister-in-law Andrea,
Agnes Green, Liz Hopkins' mother Margery,
Morris Jordan, Heather Lawrence's sister Christine,
Lee Lewand, Gail Mallory, Rhonda Perroz,
ELPC employee Robert Polk and his wife,
Jan Pressman's friend Sharon,
Heather Schoenewolf's aunt Mary Lou and uncle Jim,
Tim Sergi's sister Kimberly, Pat Valoon, and
for those who face a lifetime in jail or prison.

Condolences to Jon Nelson on his sister's passing.

*Congratulations to Katie (Nordquist) and Matt Sebastian
on the birth of their son Isaac.*

Committee Meetings This Week

Health..... Today, 11:00 am (Session Rm)
Youth & Young Adults Tuesday, 5:30 pm (Highland Rm)

LGBTQ Ministry – Sept 1

You are invited to the next spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, Sept 1 at 11:30 am as we share food and fellowship. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcomed. Contact Wil Forrest to attend (412.441.3800 x118; Wil@coh.net).

Presbyterian Women Bible Study – Sept 3 and 9

Join Presbyterian Women at 10 am on Tuesday, Sept 3 and/or Monday, Sept 9 at 7 pm as they begin their 2019–2020 Bible study titled *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments* by Eugenia Anne Gamble.

Renewable Energy Fair – Sept 8

Do you want to find out how to switch to all renewable electricity? Are you trying to decide whether solar panels would work on your house? Do you know how to measure your carbon footprint? To find answers to these questions and other energy use matters, come to the *Renewable Energy Fair* hosted by the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee in the Social Hall after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Sept 8. Representatives of several renewable energy suppliers will be available to answer your questions and to help you make the switch, and a solar energy advisor (bring your electric bill). A light lunch will be provided. Contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

YAM Weekly Bible Study – Begins Sept 9

Just Engagement: The Power to Change is an eight week Bible Study for YAMs beginning Monday, Sept 9 from 6-8 pm that includes grounding in scripture, and reflection on past and present social movements. Two books are needed for the study, financial assistance is available. This series is sponsored by the Justice Committee. Please contact Kelli Booher to register (Kellib@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x114).

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Community Prayer & Healing Service – TODAY!

Rodman Street Missionary Baptist Church (6111 Rodman St, 15206) is hosting a *Community Prayer and Healing Service* honoring the memory of Pittsburgh Police Officer Calvin Hall today at 3 pm. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Vigil for Sheldon Stoudemire – Aug 25

All are welcome to attend a vigil to celebrate the life of the Rev. Sheldon Stoudemire and to witness to the devastating destruction caused by senseless gun violence at Northside Common Ministries (1601 Brighton Rd, 15212) on Sunday, Aug 25 at 2 pm.

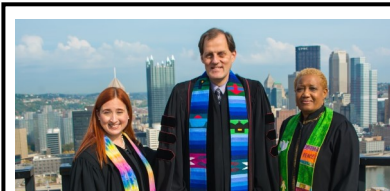
*The Chapel Market is in need toiletry items and
diapers (sizes 5/6). Please leave donations at the
Highland Ave lobby entrance.*

Hope Academy's Fall Term – Begins Sept 21

The Fall term of Hope Academy classes begins Sept 21. Visit www.HopeAcademyArts.com to register, apply for scholarships, RSVP for information sessions, or schedule an audition. Additional details are available online, or contact Linda Addlespurger, Hope Academy Director (HopeAcademyArts@gmail.com).

Become a Member of our Faith Family – Sept 29 and Oct 6

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on Sundays, Sept 29 and Oct 6 to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Contact Gloria Knopp to register or for more info (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x122).



**Stream Our Sunday
Worship Service**
www.tiny.cc/elpc-stream

Did you know ELPC livestreams its worship service each Sunday? If you find yourself unable to attend worship or are enjoying a summer vacation, we hope you will join our faith family in spirit. Subscribe to us on YouTube or follow us on Facebook—and tune in! Past services also are available at www.ELPC.church.