



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)

JANUARY 12, 2020 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Vincent Lübeck (1654-1740) was a German organist and composer who worked at **St. Cosmae's in Stade and St. Nikolai's in Hamburg**. His organ compositions, of which only a handful survive, were influenced by the works of Dieterich Buxtehude.

Through the sacrament of baptism we enter the covenant God established in Jesus Christ. Within this covenant God gives us new life, strengthens us to resist evil, and nurtures us in love. Through this covenant, we choose whom we will serve, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ. (Book of Common Worship)

TIME OF PREPARATION

"You're a Christian?"

"Church of England," said Mr. Polly.

"Hmm," said the employer, a little checked. "For good all-round business work, I should have preferred a Baptist." — *H. G. Wells, The History of Mr. Polly*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

"Praecambulum in E Major"

Vincent Lübeck

Please use this time to fill out the red Friendship pads and for quiet worship preparation.

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

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

Nancy Heastings

Leader: In the beginning at creation, the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.

People: In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth and humankind.

Leader: In the fullness of time, God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.

People: **Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples' feet in water.**

Leader: Drinking water from a well, Jesus met a Samaritan woman, who was the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.

People: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus and rejoice that God, through Jesus, calls us into a wonderfully large family. Praise God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #490

BEACH SPRING

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome with radical hospitality. Have mercy on us and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace.

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

Jan 12 • Baptism of the Lord Sunday

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER FOR
ILLUMINATION:
Still-speaking God, as
these words from
scripture are read, may it
be to us as if the
heavens are opening,
and we see your Spirit
descending on us like a
dove, revealing your love
for us as your daughters
and sons, siblings in
Christ.

BLESSING:
May the God who called
Jesus "beloved" speak
blessings to you and
empower you to bring
that good news to others
who still need to hear it.

Harry Thacker Burleigh's
(1866-1949)
arrangement of *Deep
River* for mixed chorus
was published in 1913.
He later arranged it for
men's and women's
choruses, as well as
solo voice.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so, in Christ, God speaks to us and says, "You are my child, my beloved; with you I am well pleased."
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 42:1-9

The Rev. Terri Pennybaker

RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT: Deborah Marx, Financial Administrator

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 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

"Take Me to the Water"

Choir will sing vs 1. Congregation joins for vs 2-4.

(vs 1) Take me to the water. Take me to the water. Take me to the water to be baptized.

I love Jesus. I love Jesus. I love Jesus, yes, I do.

He's my Savior. He's my Savior. He's my Savior, yes, he is.

Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah to be baptized.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 3:13-17

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

SERMON

"Let It Be So Now"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Pennybaker

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

"Deep River"

H.T. Burleigh

Deep river, my home is over Jordan, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground. Oh don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace? Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



Jan 12 • Baptism of the Lord Sunday

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

This hymn's second verse describes an "Ebenezer," which is a Hebrew word meaning "stone of help." These stones were erected as memorials to give thanks for God's assistance, such as in I Samuel 7:12.

The Rejoicing is an arrangement of the fourth movement from Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks*, a wind band suite completed in 1749.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:
John Winthrop was born, who later became governor of the early Massachusetts Bay Colony (1588); John Hancock, patriot and signer of the Declaration of Independence, was born in Boston (1737); author Jack London was born (1876) and author Agatha Christie died (1976); and an earthquake devastated Haiti (2010). Lastly, the US government on this date turned down a petition to build a Star Wars "Death Star" as our policy doesn't support blowing up planets and the \$850 quadrillion cost was too high (2013).

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Pennybaker

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:	God of heaven and earth, you call us to come before you, humbly bringing the offering of our very selves. Accept all we have and are in the service of Jesus Christ, and strengthen us with your Spirit's power, now and forever.	
People:	Amén.	Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #475

NETTLETON

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

"The Rejoicing"

G.F. Handel

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.



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 Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. Terri Pennybaker
Nancy Heastings
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Acolytes: Youth
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Volunteer (*could be you)
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ FELLOWSHIP TIME

Please join us in the Fellowship Room after worship for a retirement reception for Deborah Marx. All are welcome to attend!

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase flowers for our Sanctuary worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, please call Norma (412.441.3800 x111). The cost is \$175 a Sunday.

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.
Jan 19 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Jan 19 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

**Interested in joining the team of adults and youth who help lead worship in this way? Contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).*

Extended Session

After the *Moments with our 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 NAMETAG that your child wears 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 38-foot floor mat with curved paths leading inward; an ancient tool for walking and seated meditation.

Mondays, 9 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 also:

Stay after today's service for a retirement reception for Deborah Marx in the 1st floor 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 Sundays, Feb 9 and 16 from 9:45-10:45 am to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please contact Kate Carlson (KateC@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x116) for info.

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

Church Events and Announcements

January 12, 2020 • Baptism of the Lord

TODAY AT ELPC

Deborah Marx Retirement Reception

Join us in the Fellowship Room after worship for a retirement reception for Deborah Marx, our financial administrator. Deborah started at ELPC 18 years ago, first as an administrative assistant to our business administrator, then as the church's bookkeeper. This role expanded last year into the broader position of financial administrator. Join us to celebrate her years of service.

Café Justo Coffee for Sale

Café Justo Coffee will be available for sale after worship today during *Fellowship Time* for \$10/pound. Check or cash only please.

LGBTQ Ministry

All are invited to today's monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry at 12:30 pm to share lunch and fellowship. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. For more details or to attend, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

Doing Good Together (DG2!) Youth Event

Youth in grades 4–12 from ELPC and Rodef Shalom will gather today after worship to enjoy lunch and work on service projects together as part of *DG2!* Please see Sara Hackett immediately after the service if interested.

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Every Sunday, a DOD (*Deacon-on-Duty*) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our worship services.

The *Journey* service DOD is **Beth Minnigh**.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is **Trish Buben**.



Feeling Crafty? – Jan 13

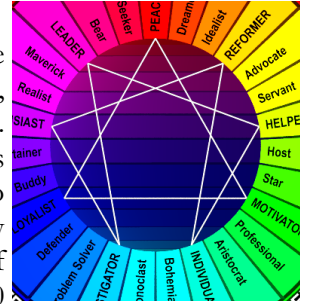
The *Sewing Group* will meet on Monday, Jan 13 from 2:30–6 pm to work on projects for the ELPC clothes closet, and for men and women in Guatemala. Call Diane Jackson (412.441.6021) for more info.

Play Café – Jan 18

Families with kids of all ages are invited to come together for a time of fellowship and fun on Saturday, Jan 18 from 4–6 pm. At 4:30 pm, Kindermusik educator Christa Beck will lead a family music class where children and their caring grownups can move, play, sing and breathe together. Following music class, there will be a time of free play with stations for kids of all ages, and snacks for all. Just bring yourselves and a snack or appetizer to share. For questions or to RSVP, contact Pastor Heather (HeatherS@coh.net).

Enneagram Retreat Day – Jan 18

Join the Spiritual Life Committee on Saturday, Jan 18, 9 am–4 pm, for *A Day Retreat on the Enneagram*. Lunch will be provided. There is no fee for the retreat; but we do ask that you let the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan or Norma know if you plan to attend (412.441.3800 x111).



“Tech the Halls” Fellowship Time – Jan 19

Need help with your technology, social media or anything else “techy” you may have been gifted this Christmas? Do you just have questions about your social media but no one to ask? Come to the McKelvy Room after the 11 am service next Sunday, Jan 19 where you can bring your tablets, cell phones, laptops, fitbits, or any other technology device you may need help with. All are welcome!

Church Tour – Jan 19

All are welcome to join the Sanctuary and Chapel tour offered after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Sunday, Jan 19. Please gather in the Highland Lobby.

Surprise Arts & Crafts Night – Jan 23

Young adults are invited to a *Surprise Arts & Crafts Night* on Thursday, Jan 23 at 6:30 pm to get creative and maybe learn a new skill. More details coming soon! (After all, it is a surprise!)

Tween Night/Ice Cream Social – Jan 24

Tweens in grades 4–6 are invited to *Tween Night/Ice Cream Social & Game Night* on Friday, Jan 24 from 6–8 pm. Please contact Sara Hackett for info (SaraH@coh.net).

Confirmation Class Overnight – Jan 25 to 26

ELPC's Confirmation Class will gather for an overnight retreat at ELPC from Saturday, Jan 25 at 3 pm until after Journey worship on Sunday, Jan 26. During our time together, we will focus on discipleship through participation in the sacraments and mission. Please contact Pastor Heather for details (HeatherS@coh.net).

Overnight and OHM Workday – Jan 31

Youth in grades 6–12 are sleeping over at the church on Friday, Jan 31 before joining the *All Church OHM workday*. We will be done on Saturday, Feb 1 at 12:30 pm. Bring your sleeping bag and your work clothes (dress for construction mess and/or cold). For more info, including permission slip and full packing list, look at the church calendar online at ELPC.church, or contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).



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

Kathy Callahan's friend Shane,
David Carl's friend's son Morgan,
Molly Dimond-Stephany's sister-in-law,
Agnes Green, Cathie Hajdu, Lee Lewand,
Polly McQueen's brother Clay,
Carolyn Russ' friend Norman,
Chenoa Stock Claire's sister Eva,
Pam Walaski's niece Kaela and Pat Valoon.

*Condolences to Jan Pressman on her stepdaughter's passing.
A memorial service will be held on Tuesday morning in the Chapel.*

*Congratulations to Scott & Ashley Rhodehamel
on the birth of their son Grayson.*

*Congratulations to Bob & Elizabeth Ross
on the birth of their son Timothy.*

Committee Meetings This Week

Finance Today, 12:30 pm (Highland Rm)
PW Leadership Monday, 6:00 pm (2nd fl Library)
Deacons Tuesday, 7:00 pm (Garth Overlook)
Faith Formation Thursday, 5:00 pm (Highland Rm)
Mission Board Thursday, 5:30 pm (TBD)

Thinking About Consciousness – Feb 2

Mark your calendar for a conversation on *Thinking about Consciousness* on Sunday, Feb 2 from Noon-3 pm. Are the “mind” and the “brain” separate? Do we really have free will or are all of our behaviors the result of a pattern of brain function? Is consciousness separate from the brain? Join the Spiritual Life Committee in the 2nd floor Parlor to ponder these topics and more! Lunch will be provided.

Chatham Baroque to Perform – Feb 15

ELPC's *Cathedral Concerts* series continues on Saturday, Feb 15 at 8 pm with a performance by Chatham Baroque in the Chapel. Purchase tickets at www.ChathamBaroque.org. Some complimentary tickets are available to ELPC members. Contact Dr. Edward Alan Moore for details.



In the Refuge of One Another Retreat – Feb 28 to March 1

All are invited to our *In the Refuge of One Another* meditation retreat, taking place Friday–Sunday, Feb 28 to March 1, at the Kearns Spirituality Center. The retreat will be led by Susan Spangler and is informed by the teachings of James Finley and Thomas Merton. Engage in meditative and contemplative practices and teachings that bring to life the complementary intersection of Christianity and Buddhism as faithful paths to God. Beginners welcome!

The cost is \$160, which includes meditation instruction, two room nights, dinner on Friday, three meals on Saturday, and brunch on Sunday. Registration forms are available at www.ELPC.church.

IN OUR

COMMUNITY



Cosmic Walk – Jan 25

You are invited to participate in a Cosmic Walk, an interactive experience that invites us personally into the epic story of cosmic, earthly, and human evolution. In a Cosmic Walk we follow a spiraling rope placed on the floor that represents the unfolding of the Universe, from our beginning in Mystery to the present. As we walk, we pass through major events in the story, each marked by a votive candle and short description. Before the Cosmic Walk, we'll gather for music and information that will set the context. Our hope is that everyone will be able to experience their deep relationship with the whole community of life. Following the Walk, there will be refreshments and opportunities to share your own stories. This event will be held at First United Methodist Church (corner of Center and Aiken Aves) on Saturday, Jan 25 from 5:30-8:30 pm. ELPC's Environmental Team (Justice Committee) is a co-sponsor. Contact Nancy Heastings for info (n.heastings@comcast.net).

The Chapel Market is in need of:

men's winter clothing
toiletry items
diapers (sizes 5/6)

Please leave donations at the Highland Ave lobby.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Jan 19 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Contemporaries (McKelvy Rm) – “Freedom Rising Sunday” presented by Ralph Lowe, the Presbytery's director of Justice Ministries

Journey with Scripture (Highland Rm) — Genesis 35:1–4, 9–15; Psalm 31: 16–24; Galatians 3:1–9, 21–22; Acts 5:33–42 facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) – “ELPC Travelers on Recent Trip to Israel Share Memories and Impressions”

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) – A discussion of *Just This* by Richard Rohr, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, Suzanne Wolfe, and Judy Roberts

Parenting Circle (Harambe Rm) – Share experiences, resources, prayer and scripture as we explore how our faith builds and nourishes our family lives and helps us nurture our parent/child relationships

♦ CHILDREN & YOUTH ♦

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