



# EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 [www.ELPC.church](http://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)*

## 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

“Canzona per Sonare No. 2”

The Brass Roots  
Giovanni Gabrieli

The Brass Roots and Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

“Rondeau”

Jean-Joseph Mouret

*Recorded during worship on September 8, 2019*

### OPENING WORDS

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 *(responsive reading)*

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: Give praise to God!

People: **Praise the Lord, for it is God who saves;**

Leader: It is God who forgives;

People: **It is God who delivers;**

Leader: It is God who calls us together and transforms us into the body of Christ.

People: **Together let us worship God!**

### ACOLYTE PROCESSION VIDEO

Mabel Buben

### \* HYMN #68

“Heaven Opened to Isaiah”

URI UWER' UWER' UWERA

Heaven opened to Isaiah, showing him God’s glorious throne:

Lord of might, high and exalted, temple flowing with his robe.

Seraphim flew all around him, humbled at the holy sight.

As they circled they were singing, calling out with all their might.

*Refrain:* “Holy, holy, you are holy,” every angel voice proclaims;

“All the earth reflects your glory; every tongue sings out your praise!”

Seraphim continue singing; cherubim still lift their praise.

Earth and all its creatures worship; moon and stars are still amazed.

Now above creation’s chorus comes another fervent cry:

All of earth’s redeemed are singing, “Glory to the Lord on high!” *(Refrain)*

One day heaven will be opened and before the Savior’s throne,

Saints from every time and nation will begin their endless song:

“To our God of all salvation, to the high and holy Lamb,

To the blessed Holy Spirit be forever praise. Amen!” *(Refrain)*

\* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: **En Jesucristo tenemos perdón!**  
**¡Aleluya y alaben a Dios!****In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**  
**Hallelujah and praise God!****VIDEO**

“Amazing Grace”

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Isaiah 6:1-8

Eddie and Jen Willson

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!****TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

**SOLO**“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” (*Prayer of St. Francis*)Robin Schmeider, *soloist*  
Sebastian Temple**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

The Rev. Dr. Bush

**NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Romans 14:1-10

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

**SERMON**

“Substance Over Style”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

**HYMN #435**

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

IN BABILONE

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.  
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.  
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.  
For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,  
And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

INTRODUCTION OF KATHRYN OPHARDT, *PTS Seminary Intern*

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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. Please visit [www.ELPC.church/donate](http://www.ELPC.church/donate) if you would like to make a contribution.*

**HYMN #69**

“I, The Lord of Sea and Sky”

HERE I AM

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Refrain:* Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (*Refrain*)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (*Refrain*)

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

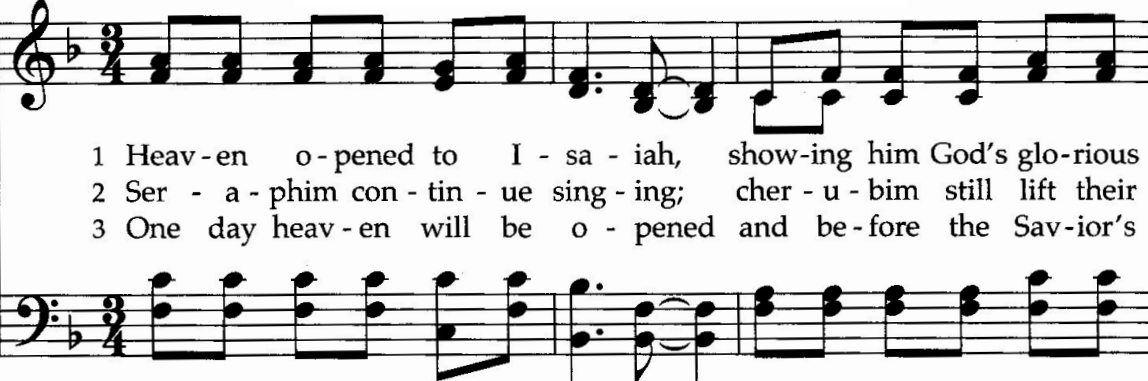
POSTLUDE

“Final from Symphony I”

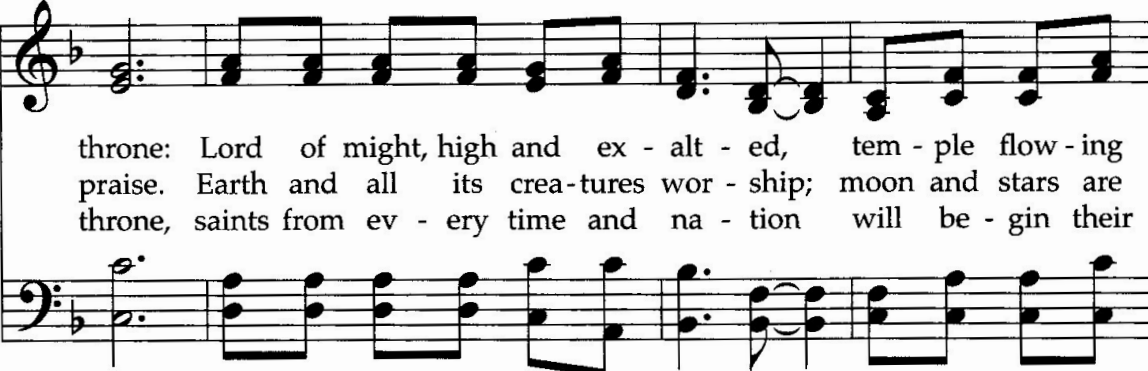
Dr. Moore, *organ*  
Louis Vierne



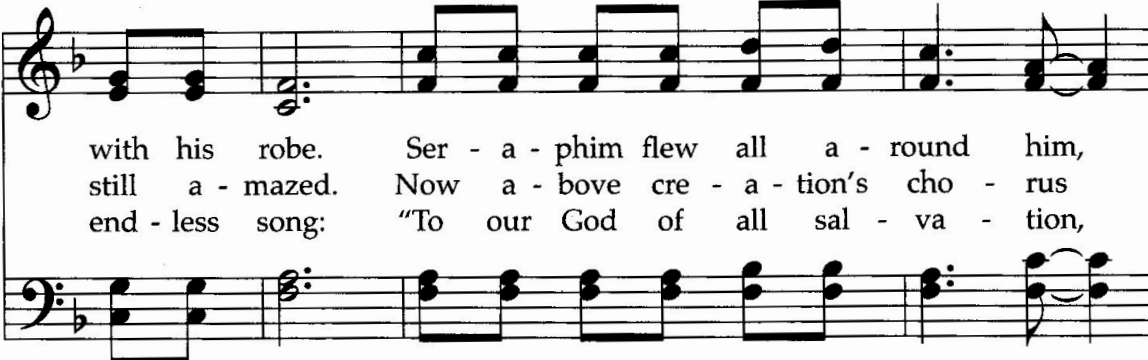
## HEAVEN OPENED TO ISAIAH



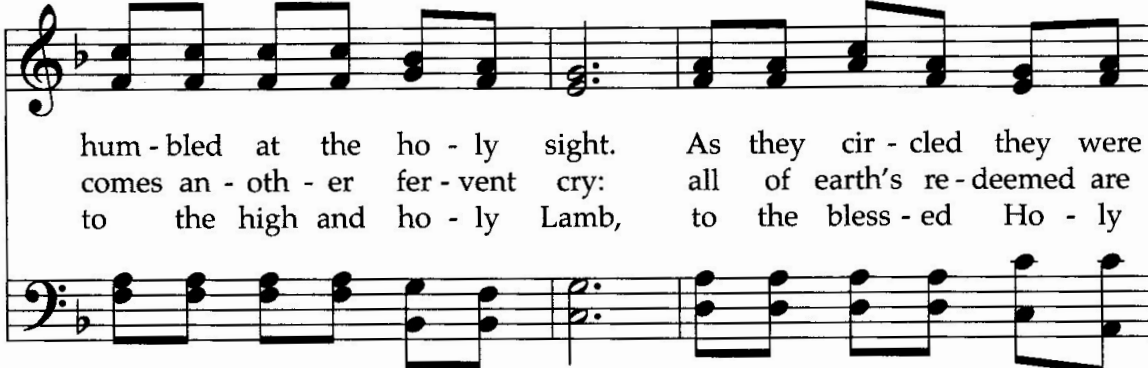
1 Heav - en o - pened to I - sa - iah, show - ing him God's glo - rious  
 2 Ser - a - phim con - tin - ue sing - ing; cher - u - bim still lift their  
 3 One day heav - en will be o - pened and be - fore the Sav - ior's



throne: Lord of might, high and ex - alt - ed, tem - ple flow - ing  
 praise. Earth and all its crea - tures wor - ship; moon and stars are  
 throne, saints from ev - ery time and na - tion will be - gin their



with his robe. Ser - a - phim flew all a - round him,  
 still a - mazed. Now a - bove cre - a - tion's cho - rus  
 end - less song: "To our God of all sal - va - tion,



hum - bled at the ho - ly sight. As they cir - cled they were  
 comes an - oth - er fer - vent cry: all of earth's re - deemed are  
 to the high and ho - ly Lamb, to the bless - ed Ho - ly

This hymn from Rwanda brings together the vision of Isaiah (Isaiah 6:1-3) and its recollection in John's apocalyptic vision of worship in the new Jerusalem (Revelation 4:8; 5:13). The last line of stanza two also suggests the *Gloria in excelsis* (expanded from Luke 2:14).

sing - ing, call - ing out with all their might.  
 sing - ing, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"  
 Spir - it be for - ev - er praise. A - men!"

*Refrain*

"Ho - ly, ho - ly, you are ho - ly," ev - ery

an - gel voice pro - claims; "All the earth re - flects your

glo - ry; ev - ery tongue sings out your praise!"

## THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness  
 2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,  
 of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's  
 is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place  
 faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.  
 flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

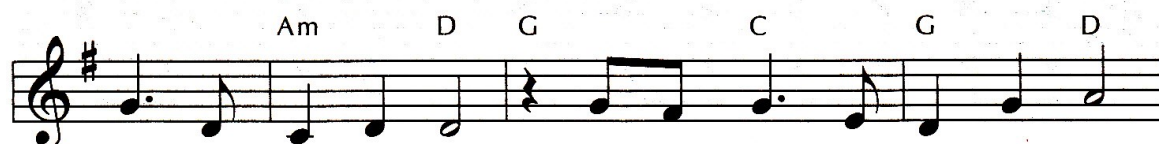
# I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY



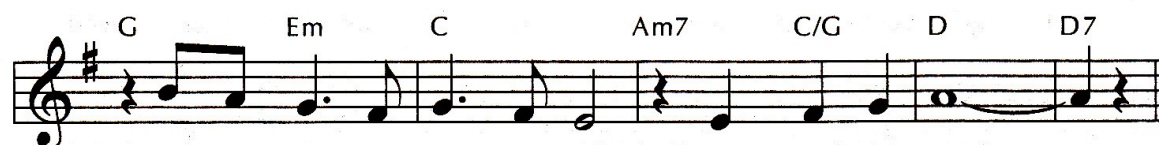
1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est



made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.  
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.



# CHURCH LIFE CONTINUES

Please join us by  
**Livestream  
& Zoom**  
for these events

More information  
is available at  
**[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)**

## Worship Services

**Sundays ▪ 8:45 am**

*Journey Worship Service*

**Livestream ▪ YouTube ▪ [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join)**  
meeting ID 188 135 194

**Sundays ▪ 11 am**

*Sanctuary Worship Service*

**Livestream ▪ YouTube ▪ Facebook**

**Wednesdays ▪ 7 pm**

*Taizé Prayer Service*

**Archived Livestream ▪ [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)**

## Prayer Times

*Pastors Randy, Heather, and Patrice are offering brief  
Prayer Services with scripture readings, responsive  
prayer, and interactive dialogue.*

**Tuesdays ▪ 8-8:15 am**

**Watch Online ▪ [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join)**

**Call to join ▪ 929.205.6099**

meeting ID 293 707 645

**Thursdays ▪ 12-12:15 pm**

**Watch Online ▪ [zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join)**

**Call to join ▪ 929.205.6099**

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching:	The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists:	The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf Eddie and Jen Willson
Musicians:	Dr. Edward Alan Moore, <i>Organist/Music Director</i> Robin Schmeider, <i>Cantor/Soloist</i> The Brass Roots
A/V:	Tim Benedict Wayne Gaines

As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical  
hospitality to all, our full worship service  
is now being livestreamed on:

### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/EastLibertyPresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/EastLibertyPresbyterian)

### YouTube

<http://tiny.cc/elpc-youtube>

and **archived** at **[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)**

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If you would like to make a contribution, visit:  
**[www.ELPC.church/donate](http://www.ELPC.church/donate)**