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

PRELUDE

The Brass Roots
“Canzona per Sonare No. 2”
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!  In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
¡Aleluya y alaben a Dios!  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 Schneider, 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”
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

OFFERING INVITATION

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 if you would like to make a contribution.

HYMN #69 “I, The Lord of Sea and Sky”

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

POSTLUDE “Final from Symphony I”

The Rev. Schoenewolf

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Dr. Moore, organ

Louis Vierne
HEAVEN OPENED TO ISAIAH

1 Heaven opened to Isaiah, showing him God’s glorious
2 Seraphim continuous singing; cherubim still lift their
3 One day heaven will be opened and before the Savior’s

thrones: Lord of might, high and exalted, temple flowing praise. Earth and all its creatures worship; moon and stars are
thrones, saints from every time and nation will begin their

with his robe. Seraphim flew all around him,
still amazed. Now above creation’s chorus
endless song: “To our God of all salvation,

humbled at the holy sight. As they circled they were
comes another fervent cry: all of earth’s redeemed are
to the high and holy Lamb, to the blessed Holy

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).

CCLI #689547
singing, calling out with all their might.
singing, “Glo-ry to the Lord on high!”
Spirit 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 wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness
of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liber - ty. There is no place where earth's
sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.

2 For the love of God is broader than the mea - sures
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -
fl ect thank - 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.

TEXT: Frederick William Faber, 1854, alt.
MUSIC: Dutch melody; arr. Julius Röntgen, c. 1906

IN BABELONE
8.7.8.7.D
I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY

G Leader or All Am D G C G D

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

G Em C Am7 D G

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

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D D7

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?

Refrain All G C G D G C G D G

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

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your people 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.

Text and Music © 1981, 2000 OCP

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HERE I AM (Schutte) 7.7.7 A.D with refrain
Worship Services

Sundays • 8:45 am
Journey Worship Service
Livestream • YouTube • 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

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
   Call to join • 929.205.6099
   meeting ID 293 707 645

Thursdays • 12-12:15 pm
Watch Online • zoom.us/join
   Call to join • 929.205.6099

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

YouTube
http://tiny.cc/elpc-youtube

and archived at www.ELPC.church

If you would like to make a contribution, visit:
www.ELPC.church/donate