



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)

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 4, 2020 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
“Allegro, Chorale and Fugue in D Minor/D Major” Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

OPENING WORDS

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

SHARING GOD’S PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.
People: Y también contigo.

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive reading*)

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God!

People: **The skies proclaim God’s handiwork.**

Leader: God’s glory, wisdom and majesty goes out through all the earth.

People: **On this World Communion Sunday, let us join our voices with the voice of all people in declaring the goodness of God!**

ACOLYTE PROCESSION VIDEO

* HYMN #265 (*vs. 1, 3, 5*)

“Jesus Shall Reign”

DUKE STREET

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

People: **En Jesucristo tenemos perdón!**
¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Praise God!

* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 10:9-16

Dr. Moore

About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air.

Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Keith Irvin, *handbells*

Dr. Moore, *piano*

"Be Thou My Vision"

Christine Anderson/Daniel Kramlich

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Kathryn Ophardt, *seminary intern*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Micah Holt, *trumpet*

Dr. Moore, *organ*

"Prayer of Saint Gregory"

Alan Hovhaness

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

GOSPEL LESSON

Philippians 3:4b-15

The Rev. Dr. Bush

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you.

COMMERCIAL VIDEO

"We're All One Team"

SERMON

"Something Bigger Than Ourselves"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

HYMN #770 (*vs. 1, 3, 4*)

“I’m Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table”

WELCOME TABLE

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table; I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table; I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.

I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers; I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.

I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers; I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers, Alleluia.

Here all the world will find a welcome; here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.

Here all the world will find a welcome; here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.

— THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Rev. Paula V. Cooper

PC(USA) Regional Liaison for East Central Africa

(Mission Co-worker) serving Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda and Zambia

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Rev. Dr. Bush

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SHARING THE BREAD & CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for all your good gifts, and above all, for the faith we profess in Christ and the humility that reminds us how all are welcome at your table. May we rejoice in the blessings of God as they come to us, and go forth to all people, in Christ’s name. Amen.

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 if you would like to make a contribution.

HYMN #340

“This Is My Song”

FINLANDIA

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.

This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;

But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country’s skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.

But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.

So hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth’s kingdoms; thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.

Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one.

So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations; myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

Micah Holt, *trumpet*

Dr. Moore, *organ*

“Prélude” (*from the Te Deum*)

Marc-Antoine Charpentier



JESUS SHALL REIGN (vs. 1, 3, 5)



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es
 leap to loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -
 cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

This hymn is a classic example of how Isaac Watts Christianized the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72:5–19, by turning their messianic language to New Testament equivalents. The tune was at first nameless and anonymous, but is now called by the address of the supposed composer.

I'M GONNA EAT AT THE WELCOME TABLE (vs. 1, 3, 4)

1 I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble;
 2 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus;
 3 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers;
 4 Here all the world will find a wel - come;
 5 We're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey;

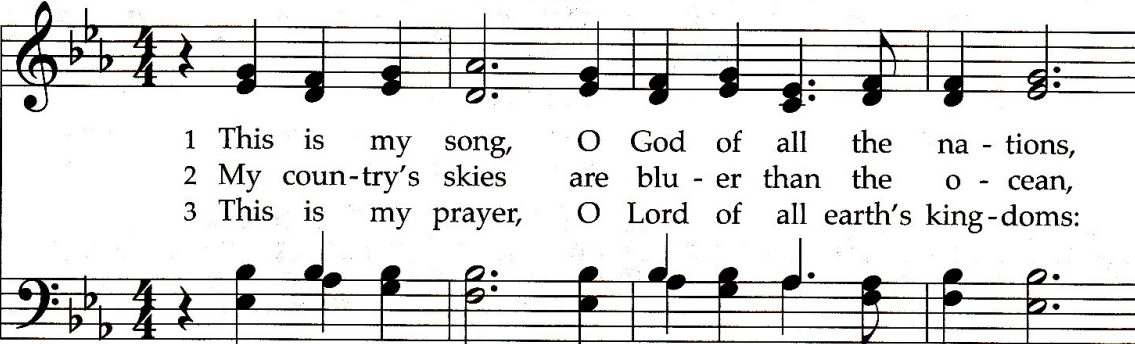
I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.
 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus, Al - le - lu - ia.
 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers, Al - le - lu - ia.
 here all the world will find a wel - come, Al - le - lu - ia.
 we're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey, Al - le - lu - ia.

I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble; I'm gon - na
 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus; I'm gon - na
 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers; I'm gon - na
 Here all the world will find a wel - come; here all the
 We're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey; we're gon - na

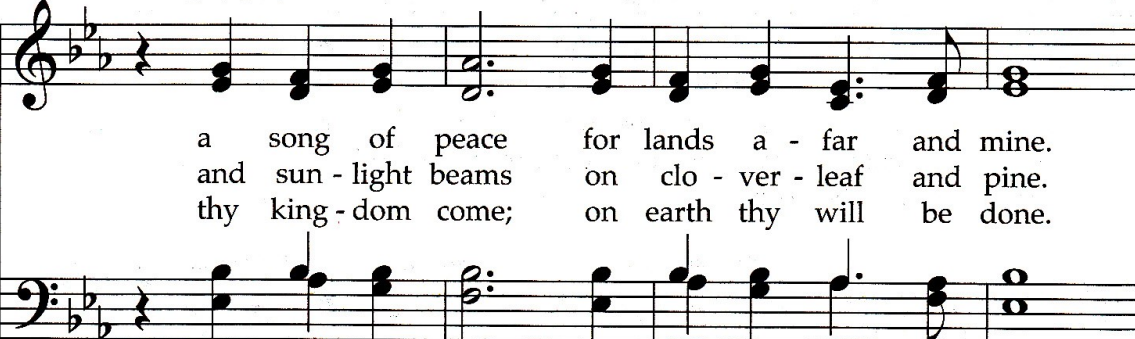
eat at the wel - come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.
 eat and drink with my Je - sus, Al - le - lu - ia.
 join with sis - ters, broth - ers, Al - le - lu - ia.
 world will find a wel - come, Al - le - lu - ia.
 feast on milk and hon - ey, Al - le - lu - ia.

The image of a great feast showing God's welcome of all people was part of Jewish tradition (Isaiah 25:6-9) and underlies Jesus' parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14:15-24). Such equality remains as unknown to many people today as it was to the slaves who created this spiritual.

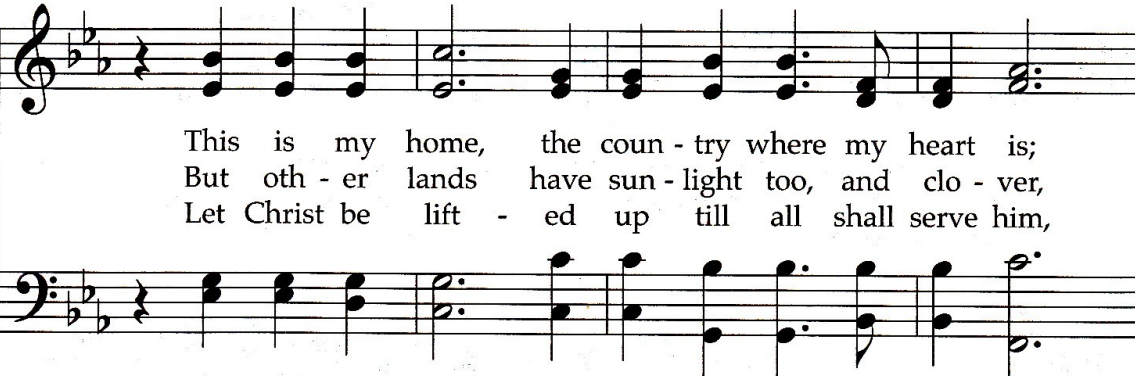
THIS IS MY SONG



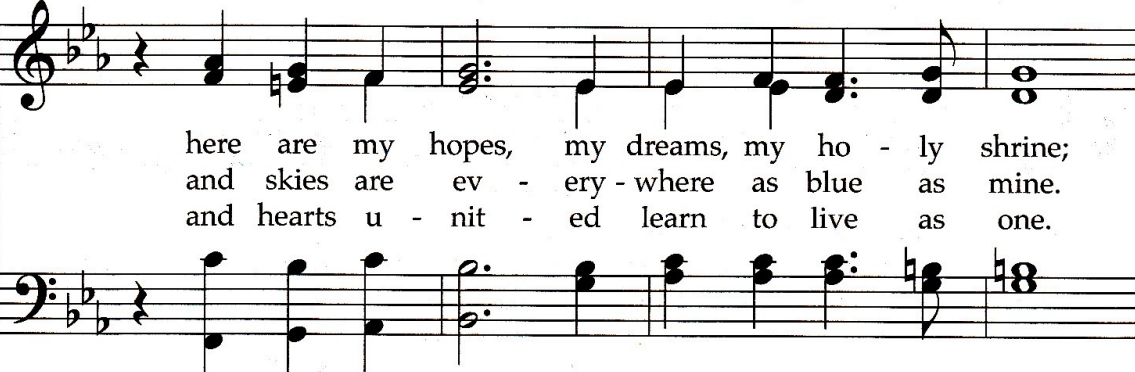
1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's king - doms:



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 thy king - dom come; on earth thy will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 Let Christ be lift - ed up till all shall serve him,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - ery - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

The first two stanzas of this hymn were written between the 20th century's two world wars and focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by another author and added later, uses the language of the Lord's Prayer to voice a distinctly Christian perspective.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, Lloyd Stone; stanza 3, Georgia Harkness, alt.

MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933, alt.

Text Sts. 1–2 © 1934, ren. 1962 The Lorenz Corp.; St. 3 © 1964 The Lorenz Corp.

Music Arr. © 1933, ren. 1961 The Presbyterian Board of Christian Education (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

FINLANDIA

OneLicense.net #A-700877 11.10.11.10.11.10

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions:

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
my - self I give thee; let thy will be done.

CHURCH LIFE CONTINUES

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

More information
is available at
www.ELPC.church

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

Taižé 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

meeting ID 133 652 461

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Paula V. Cooper,
*PC(USA) Regional Liaison for East
Central Africa (Mission Co-worker)*
Kathryn Ophardt, *Seminary Intern*
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
Gail Novak Mosites, *Cantor*
Micah Holt, *Trumpet*
Keith Irvin, *Handbells*
A/V: Tim Benedict and 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

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