



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)

REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 2020 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Palmer Shonk, *bagpiper*

“Selection of Hymns for Bagpipes”

OPENING WORDS

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

SHARING GOD’S PEACE

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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 (*Psalm 90; responsive reading*)

David Carl

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

People: **Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Leader: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

People: **Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us and prosper the work of our hands – O prosper the work of our hands!**

Leader: Let us worship God in the spirit of Holiness.

ACOLYTE PROCESSION VIDEO

* HYMN #316

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

TWENTY-FOURTH

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ’s love, by love we thus are bound.**

**Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God’s holy Son.
As members of each body joined, in him we are made one.**

**Let strife among us be unknown, let all contentions cease.
Be God’s the glory that we seek, be his our only peace.**

**Let us forgive each other’s faults as we our own confess.
That we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.**

**Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God’s name;
Our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.**

* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.

LITANY OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Leader: We are taught to love you, O God, with all our hearts.
People: We confess that our allegiance is less than complete.
Leader: We are taught to love you, O God, with all of our soul.
People: We confess that we long to have our own way.
Leader: We are taught to love you, O God, with all our mind.
People: We confess that our thoughts are seldom so pure.
Leader: We are taught to love our neighbors, as we love ourselves.
People: We confess preference for ourselves being first.
Leader: God have mercy upon us as we make our confession.
People: Christ have mercy upon us and forgive our sin.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: Friends, 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 HYMN #701

"Lord, Prepare Me"

SANCTUARY

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 65:17-25

Kathryn Ophardt

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SPECIAL MUSIC

Keith Irvin, *handbells* and Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *piano*
"Amazing Grace" Christine Anderson/Daniel Kramlich

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 10:9-18, 24-28, 34-38, 44-48

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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.

Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there.

The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. On Peter's arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshiped him. But Peter made him get up, saying, "Stand up; I am only a mortal." And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled; and he said to them, "You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean."

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SERMON

"No More"

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE FOR MISSION

Debbie Hurrell

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 #300

"We Are One in the Spirit"

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. (*Refrain*)

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
We will work with each other; we will work side by side,
And we'll guard human dignity and save human pride. (*Refrain*)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one. (*Refrain*)

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

RECESSIONAL

Palmer Shonk, *bagpiper* and Dr. Moore, *organ*
arr. James Wetherald

"Highland Cathedral"



HAPPENINGS @ ELPC

Even though we cannot yet gather in full community,
we invite you to join us for any of our online happenings below.

More details and other event info are available on our website:

ELPC.CHURCH

SYSTEMIC RACISM IN THE FORM OF CASH BAIL

Cash bail is assigned by a judge or magistrate after a person is arrested for an alleged crime. Join us today at 12:15 pm as we examine how cash bail furthers systemic racism in our criminal justice system and other topics.

Zoom info: Meeting ID: 827 8715 9714 (call 929.205.6099)

PRAYING WITH THE ELEMENTS

Are you experiencing Zoom fatigue or do you feel stuck inside? If so, the Spiritual Life Committee invites you to get out in creation! Today at 1 pm, we will explore, connect, and pray with and in God's creation, guided by Christine Valters Paintner's book, *Water, Wind, Earth & Fire: The Christian Practice of Praying with the Elements*. Contact the Rev. BJ Woodworth for info (BJW@coh.net).

Zoom info: Meeting ID: 896 1843 1427, Passcode: Creation

YAMS ARE COOKING YAKA MEIN

Today at 5:30 pm, Nate Morley will teach members of our Young Adult Ministry how to cook "yaka mein"—a New Orleans noodle dish.

Zoom info: Nate Morley through ELPC.church

ENVIRONMENTAL BOOK CLUB — OCT 28

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to read *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer and then join them for a discussion on Thursday, Oct 29 at 7 pm. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, author Robin Wall Kimmerer embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers.

Zoom info: Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY: *Women's Lament*

Monday, Nov 2 from 7–8 pm

Tuesday, Nov 10 from 10 am–12 pm

In scripture and tradition, women have carried much of the burden of lament for society. All of these women have been mocked, praised and dismissed: Hannah, Sarah, Rachel, Elizabeth, and other biblical sisters offer very public and vocal examples of lamenting for their children. On Tuesday, Nov 17 from Noon-1 pm, all women are invited to discuss contemporary laments of women.

Zoom info: PW.ELPC@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY – NOV 8

In order to preserve the celebratory experience of stewardship during quarantine, we invite you to drive by ELPC on Stewardship Sunday, Nov 8 from 1:30–3 pm, and personally (and safely) give your pledge card and food donations (*canned fruit and tuna, pastas, instant potatoes, etc.*) to volunteers. If you are unable to come to the church, volunteers will drive to your home on Sunday, Nov 15 to pick up your gifts so that everyone can enjoy the celebration. You also may mail your pledge to the church or submit it at ELPC.church.

BAKING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS – NOV 8

Youth in grades 6–12 will gather on Sunday, Nov 8 from 12:30–1:30 pm to bake cookies for ELPC's neighbors.

Zoom info: Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net)

WAIT UPON THE LORD: *A Virtual Advent Retreat*

Friday–Sunday, Nov 20–22

Amidst all that is happening and will be happening in mid-November, why would one go on a 24-hour retreat. Perhaps what we all need after nine months of a pandemic, continued racial injustice, and increasing political division and unrest is to take 24 hours to pull into the locks, rest, be still, attend to our breath, grieve, lament, light a candle, and find our strength in quietness and trust for the continued journey. A retreat creates space to ponder and prepare our lives for the new thing God may want to birth in and through you. The cost is \$25 (supplies will be sent to you). RSVP by Friday, Nov 6 to Norma (Norma@coh.net). Contact the Rev. BJ Woodworth for info (BJW@coh.net).

Zoom info: to be provided to participants

REFUGE OF THE HEART: *Bilingual Meditation Group*

Begins Tuesday, Nov 11 at 7 pm

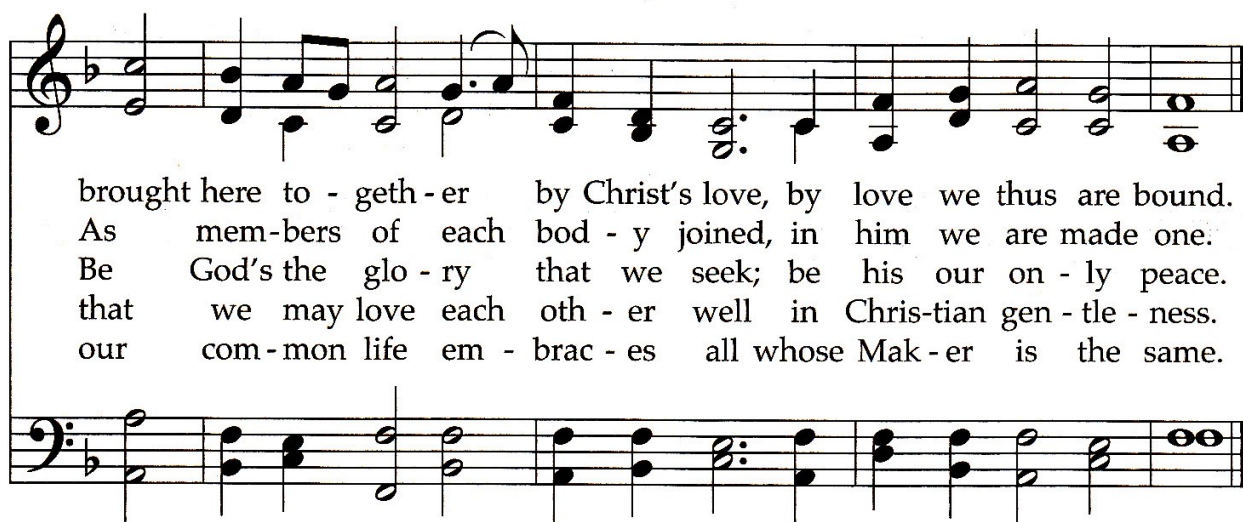
ELPC is offering a new space for reflection, prayer and meditation called *Refuge of the Heart*, a bilingual meditation group. All meditations given in Spanish and English. We will meditate on how God accompanies us in life and the path toward hope, peace, love, joy and wellbeing. If you're interested, contact Kathryn Ophardt (kophardt@pts.edu) or the Rev. BJ Woodworth (BJW@coh.net).

Zoom info: Meeting ID: 923 4025 3394, Passcode: STwDhM

WHERE CHARITY AND LOVE PREVAIL



1 Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.
3 Let strife a - mong us be un-known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
4 Let us for-give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,
5 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
As mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.
our com - mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the footwashing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ's "new commandment" that we should love one another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.

TEXT: Latin, 8th cent.; trans. Omer Westendorf, 1960, alt.

MUSIC: Lucius Chapin, 1812

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TWENTY-FOURTH

CM

LORD, PREPARE ME

Sanctuary

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,
I'll be a liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

The lines given here convey the central message of the longer song for which they form the refrain. The principal Scripture reference is 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, Paul's reminder to the Christians at Corinth that "[they] are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in [them]."

TEXT: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982

MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982; arr. Nylea L. Butler-Moore

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SANCTUARY

Irregular

CCLI #689547

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT



- 1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
- 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
- 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
- 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,



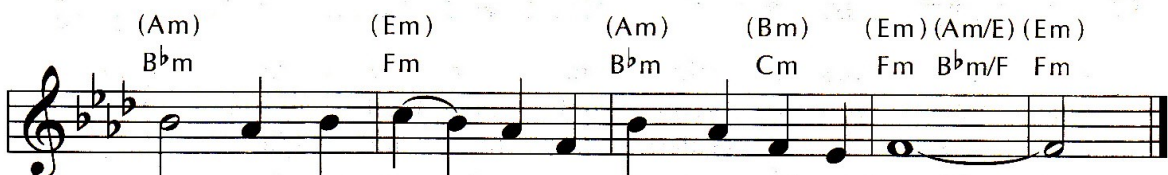
we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:



And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

CHURCH LIFE CONTINUES

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

More information
is available at
www.ELPC.church

Worship Services

Journey Worship Service

Returns September 13 at 8:45 am

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

meeting ID 133 652 461

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
David Carl
Debbie Hurrell
Kathryn Ophardt

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
David Jennings-Smith, *Cantor*
Keith Irvin, *Handbells*
Palmer Shonk, *Bagpiper*

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