Thank you for worshiping with us today.

Please abide by these safety protocols:

- Wear a mask at all times over your nose and mouth
- You can softly speak the responsive readings but refrain from singing
- Keep safe by social distancing while in the building
- You don’t need to stand at any point in the service, but know that your presence is very meaningful to the worship leaders and your prayers for this service and our church family are always appreciated

East Liberty Presbyterian Church

www.ELPC.church
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 15, 2020 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

Prelude

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ
“Praeludium in G Minor, BuxWV 149” Dieterich Buxtehude

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)

Deborah Brower

Leader: God has been our dwelling place in all generations;
People: O Lord, you have been our home and refuge throughout all the ages.
Leader: O God, you were there before the world was made and will be with us forever;
People: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.
Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, be with us in this time of worship that we may ever walk as children of light.
Let us worship God!

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Hymn #12 (vs. 1, 3, 4) “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” St. Denio
Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
To all, life thou givest, to both great and small. In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.
Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light. Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

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! ¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Praise God!

New Testament Lesson

Kathryn Ophardt

I Thessalonians 5:1-11
Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!
But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

LITANY FOR FULL INCLUSION VIDEO
Antwone Wright and family

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

HYMN #324 (vs. 1, 2, 4)
“For All the Faithful Women”
NYLAND

For all the faithful women who served in days of old, to you shall thanks be given;
To all, their story told. They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.

We praise your name for Miriam, who sang triumphantly while Pharaoh’s vaunted army
Lay drowned beneath the sea; for Ruth, who left her homeland and ventured forth in faith,
Who pledged to serve and worship Naomi’s God till death.

Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas, who served the sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kindness,
Her heart an open door. O God, for saints and servants, our fervent prayer we raise,
That, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION
The Rev. Dr. Bush

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON
Judges 4:1-10
The Rev. Dr. Bush

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, “The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, ‘Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bring ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.’”

Barak said to her, “If you will go with me, I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go.” And she said, “I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman.” Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh; and ten thousand warriors went up behind him; and Deborah went up with him.

SERMON
The Rev. Dr. Bush

“Deborah Presence”

SPECIAL MUSIC
Robin Schneider, soloist

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”
Kathleen Thomerson
PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER
The Rev. Schoenewolf

COMMUNITY MISSION VIDEO
The Neighborhood Academy
Anthony Williams

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 #305 (vs. 1, 2, 4)
“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”
Darwall’s 148th
Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
Empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o’er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

BLESSING & BENEDICTION
The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE
“Fanfare”
Dr. Moore, organ
Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

 PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Deborah Brower
Kathryn Ophardt
Anthony Williams
Antwone Wright and family
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
Robin Schneider, Cantor/Soloist
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

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
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (ps. 1, 3, 4)

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou ruler in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God’s life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.
FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WOMEN (ps. 1, 2, 4)

Capo 3: (C) (Am7) (F) (G) (C)

Eb Cm7 Ab Bb Eb

1 For all the faithful women who served in days of old, to you shall thanks be given; to unpHantly while Pharaoh's vaunted army lay
2 We praise your name for Miriam, who sang trium pot and pan while Mary sat in silence to
3 We sing of busy Martha, who toiled with sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kindness, her
4 Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas, who served the name of all, their story told. They served with strength and

drowned beneath the sea; for Ruth, who left her hear the word again. We praise the other heart an open door. O God, for saints and

gladness in tasks your wisdom gave. To you their home and ventured forth in faith, who pledged to
Mar-ty, who hastened to the tomb and found her servants, our fervent prayer we raise, that, faith-ful

(Am7) (F) (G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)

Cm7 Ab Bb Eb Fm Bb Eb

lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save. serve and worship Naomi's God till death. Lord arise, dispelling doubt and gloom.
in your service, our lives may sing your praise.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Created to honor the tenth anniversary of the first ordination of a woman in the Lutheran Church in America, this text celebrates representative women of the Bible: Miriam and Ruth from Hebrew Scripture, Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene from the gospels, and Dorcas from Acts.

TEXT: Herman G. Stuemke Jr., 1975, alt.
MUSIC: Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans, 1927

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Music Harm. © 1927 Oxford University Press

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NYLAND
7.6.7.6.D
COME SING, O CHURCH, IN JOY! (vs. 1, 2, 4)

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
3 Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,
4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
Empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
As we in mission magnify the Crucified!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o’er the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988-1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

TEXT: Brian Dill, 1988
MUSIC: John Darwall, 1770
Text © 1989 Brian Dill
CCLI #689547
LGBTQ MINISTRY GATHERING — TODAY
Join us today at 12:30 pm to share meeting and fellowship at our LGBTQ Ministry’s next spiritual gathering. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. For details, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

PW SHARING LAMENT — NOV 17
Join PW on Tuesday, Nov 17 from Noon-1 pm when all women are invited to discuss contemporary laments of women.
Zoom info:
Please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com

EXAMINE SOUTH SUDAN — NOV 19
The ELPC Peace Committee invites you to hear an update on the situation in South Sudan and discussion on the world's newest country and its people. Our panelists include:
• Sharon Stewart — Sharon is part of Pittsburgh Presbytery’s working group on South Sudan and Malawi, and the co-pastor of the Jefferson United Presbyterian Church
• Benedict Killang — Benedict is the former head of the South Sudanese community in Pittsburgh
Please join us for a discussion of the world's newest country and the needs of its people. The meeting begins at 5:30 pm on Thursday, Nov 19.
Zoom info:
Meeting ID: 935 624 8828 or call 646.558.8656

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). Contact Norma by Noon tomorrow if you would like to participate (Norma@coh.net).

THE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE
The holidays are almost here! As in years past, the ELPC Deacons are organizing the Christmas Giving Tree to benefit children and families from ELPC’s Mission, Christian Education, and Hope Academy ministries, East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM); and Casa San José.

This year’s Giving Tree will be different. There will be no physical gifts, only gift cards to stores like Target and Walmart. Instead of having the Giving Tree outside of different services, we will be using SignUpGenius.

When the gift requests are all complete, we will send out a link to the sign-up form, where you will be able to select that you will purchase a real gift card. You also could choose to send donations for the purchase of a gift card. Both gift cards and donations will need to be sent to the church by Friday, Nov 20. You can mail the gift cards or drop them off at the church’s front desk. Donations can be sent in via checks made out to “ELPC Giving Tree” or through the “Donate” button at ELPC.church. Please designate that your donation is for the “Giving Tree.”

If you are not computer savvy, but would like to help out with the Giving Tree gifts, please contact Trish Buben (tab190@gmail.com; 410.504.2561) or Pastor Patrice (PatriceFS@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x130).

NEW CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE
ELPC recently published a new church photo directory. Click here to download a copy (password is: 2020Directory). To request a hardcopy, make changes, or add a new photo, email Megan Leisher (MeganL@coh.net).

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS
ELPC is pleased to welcome back Kelli Booher as our Interim Coordinator of Young Adult Ministries (YAMs). She can be contacted via email at KelliB@coh.net.

• Sunday, Nov 22: Friendsgiving & Game Night
While we can’t gather in person for our annual Friendsgiving Dinner, we will gather virtually to enjoy a Friendsgiving meal and game night. Meals will be available for pickup or delivery.

• Thursday, Nov 26: YAMS by YAMs
For those of us who may not be gathering with others on Thanksgiving, but want to give thanks for others in our community, we have a safe and fun way to do so for everyone!

• Friday, Nov 27: Virtual Craft Night
Surprise craft night! RSVP to Kelli so that your crafting supply kit can be prepared for pick up or delivery. (If you are participating in Friendsgiving, your craft kit can be picked up/delivered at that time).