

The background of the entire image is the interior of a Gothic church. It features high vaulted ceilings, large stained glass windows with colorful depictions, and intricate stone carvings. A wooden pulpit is visible on the left, and a choir loft is on the right. The foreground shows rows of wooden pews.

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**

The logo is a white silhouette of a church building with a prominent steeple, positioned to the left of the church's name.

**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church



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)

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 15, 2020 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Praeludium in G Minor, BuxWV 149”

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
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

I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Kathryn Ophardt

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, bringing 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

“Deborah Presence”

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SPECIAL MUSIC

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Robin Schmeider, *soloist*
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, <i>Organist/Music Director</i> Robin Schneider, <i>Cantor/Soloist</i>
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 (vs. 1, 3, 4)

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth 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 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

Capo 3: (C) (Am7) (F) (G) (C)
E^b Cm7 A^b B^b E^b

1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in
2 We praise your name for Mir - iam, who sang tri -
3 We sing of bus - y Mar - tha, who toiled with
4 Lord, hear our praise of Dor - cas, who served the

(G) (C) (Am7) (Dm) (G)
B^b E^b Cm7 Fm B^b

days of old, to you shall thanks be giv - en; to
um - phant - ly while Pha - raoh's vaunt - ed ar - my lay
pot and pan while Mar - y sat in si - lence to
sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kind - ness, her

(C) (G7) (C) (Am)
E^b B^b7 E^b Cm

all, their sto - ry told. They served with strength and
drowned be - neath the sea; for Ruth, who left her
hear the word a - gain. We praise the oth - er
heart an o - pen door. O God, for saints and

(D) (G) (F) (G) (C)
F B^b A^b B^b E^b

glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave. To you their
home - land and ven - tured forth in faith, who pledged to
Mar - y, who has - tened to the tomb and found her
ser - vants, our fer - vent prayer we raise, that, faith - ful

(Am7) (F) (G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
Cm7 A^b B^b E^b Fm B^b E^b

lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your power to save.
serve and wor - ship Na - o - mi's God till death.
Lord a - ris - en, dis - pel - ling doubt and gloom.
in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.

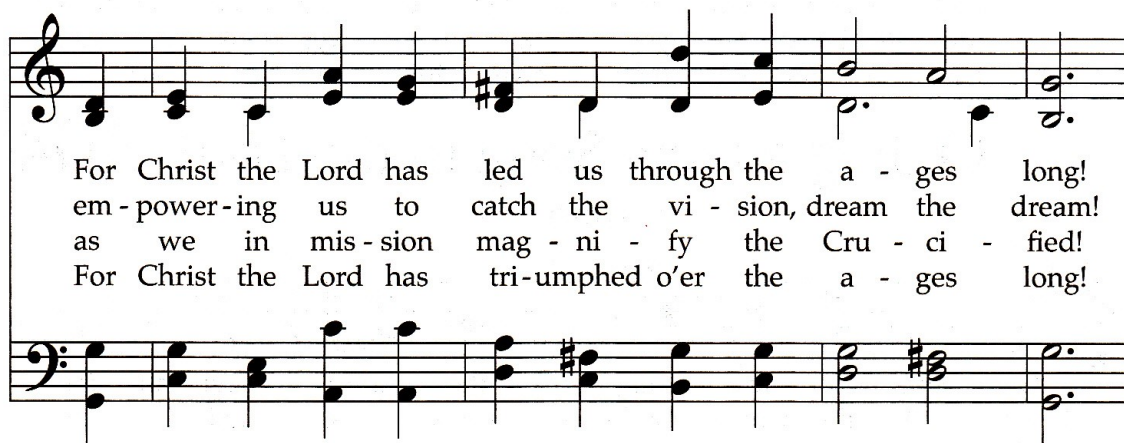
Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

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.

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 su - preme,
3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom 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 a - ges long!
em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!
as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!
For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!



In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney 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.

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 Boober 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** at 7 pm
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).