



Nov 22, 2020 • 11 am Livestream Worship



**East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church**

[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)



# EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 [www.ELPC.church](http://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)*

## CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2020 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*  
“Now Thank We All Our God (Marche Triomphale)” Sigfrid Karg-Elert

### OPENING WORDS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

### SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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*)

Roberta and Tristan London

Leader: We worship a God whose power is love.

People: **Who raised Jesus from death to life.**

Leader: We pray that God will free the world to rejoice in Christ's peace, glory in his justice and live in his love.

People: **May all people of earth, divided and enslaved by sin, be freed and brought together under Christ's gentle and loving rule. May your kingdom come, we pray.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

### ACOLYTE CANDLE-LIGHTING

### HYMN #766 (*vs. 1, 3, 4*)

“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

MCKEE

**The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.**

**Where charity and love are found, there can the church be known.**

**True love will not sit idly by when justice is denied.**

**True mercy hears the homeless cry and welcomes them inside.**

**If what we have we freely share to meet our neighbor's need,**

**Then we extend the Spirit's care through every selfless deed.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kathryn Ophardt

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Kathryn Ophardt

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!**

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Ezekiel 34:11-24

Becky Gloninger

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats: Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have fouled with your feet?

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

**TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Sara Hackett

**HYMN #726**

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

KELVINGROVE

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;

Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,

And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world around,

Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 25:31-46

The Rev. Schoenewolf

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

**SERMON**

"When, not if"

The Rev. Schoenewolf

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

**OPEN HAND MINISTRIES VIDEO**

Frank Bauerle

**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](http://www.ELPC.church/donate) if you would like to make a contribution.*

**HYMN #644 (vs. 1 and 4)**

"Give Thanks, O Christian People" ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

**Give thanks, O Christian people, for workers of our day who heed the call to service  
And make it their life's way to go to feed the hungry, to tend to those in need,  
To work for equal justice, till all God's folk are freed.**

**Give thanks, O Christian people, for life in fellowship with all who trust our Savior  
Their serving to equip: to ease another's burdens, to cope in joy and stress,  
To magnify God's message and Christ's great love confess.**

**BLESSING & BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Schoenewolf

**POSTLUDE**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Dr. Moore, *organ*  
arr. Virgil Fox

## PARTICIPANTS

Preaching: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy, Frank Bauerle  
Becky Gloninger, Sara Hackett, Roberta and Tristan London, Kathryn OphardtMusicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/Music Director*, Todd Farwell, *Cantor*

A/V: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

The flowers today  
are given in  
memory of Gail,  
Norma and George  
Noden from their  
loving daughter  
and granddaughter,  
Tamara Golden.




# THE CHURCH OF CHRIST CANNOT BE BOUND (vs. 1, 3, 4)



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by  
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and  
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when  
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to  
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by



walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and  
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek  
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the  
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the  
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and



love are found, there can the church be known.  
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.  
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.  
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.  
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

# WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)  
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
F C7 Dm Gm7 B $\flat$  F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F $\sharp$ m7) (G) (Asus) (A)  
Gm7 B $\flat$  Am7 B $\flat$  Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
F C7 Dm Gm7 B $\flat$  F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"  
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"  
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"  
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

## GIVE THANKS, O CHRISTIAN PEOPLE (*vs. 1 and 4*)



1 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for work-ers of our day  
 2 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for lead - ers of our years  
 3 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for all who love the Lord,  
 4 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for life in fel - low - ship

who heed the call to ser - vice and make it their life's way  
 who live to share with oth - ers our joy when Christ ap - pears,  
 who live each day be - liev - ing in God's e - ter - nal Word:  
 with all who trust our Sav - ior their serv - ing to e - quip:

to go to feed the hun - gry, to tend to those in need,  
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the fal - tering feet,  
 to share Christ's love in liv - ing, to wit - ness with each deed,  
 to ease an - oth - er's bur - dens, to cope in joy and stress,

to work for e - qual jus - tice, till all God's folk are freed.  
 to lead the fol - lowers for - ward our liv - ing Lord to meet.  
 to use the tal - ents giv - en to plant the gos - pel seed.  
 to mag - ni - fy God's mes - sage and Christ's great love con - fess.

This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

## 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 Dec 4. 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](http://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](mailto:tab190@gmail.com); 410.504.2561) or Pastor Patrice ([PatriceFS@coh.net](mailto:PatriceFS@coh.net); 412.441.3800 x130).

## 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](mailto:KelliB@coh.net).*

- Today: **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).

## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE:

### A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS — DEC 19

This year has brought many challenges to our physical, emotional, and spiritual lives. As the season of Christ's birth approaches, the ELPC Deacons invite you to join us in worship on Saturday, Dec 19 at 7 pm to feel God's presence in this time of unprecedented isolation, loss, and distress. Our *Blue Christmas* service is designed as a resource of strength, hope and community as we journey together through Advent. Due to ongoing safety considerations, this year's *Blue Christmas* service will be held virtually on our YouTube or Facebook pages. Visit [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church) for more details.

### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES — DEC 24

The season of Advent and Christmas is a time of joy and celebration. And while we may not be able to worship in person on Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec 24, we will livestream our services. Join us virtually for our Friends & Family service at 5 pm, and our Candlelight service at 8 pm.

### PARTICIPATE IN OUR CHRISTMAS EVE FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE — DEC 24

On Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec 24 at 5 pm, we will worship together at our Friends & Family service from the comfort of our own homes! Our service will be an intergenerational celebration of the birth of the Christ Child, including hymns, scripture, prayer, Communion, and the candlelight singing of *Silent Night*. We hope to include as many people as possible in our service, so that we can enjoy this experience in community together. We are looking for participants to:

- Sing in an Intergenerational Choir (film yourself singing a part of a Christmas carol that we will edit together)
- Lift a lit candle as part of the singing of *Silent Night*
- Serve as a liturgist (read scripture or lead a prayer)

If you and your family are interested in being part of this service, please contact Pastor Heather for details ([HeatherS@coh.net](mailto:HeatherS@coh.net)).

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SPIRITUAL DIRECTION?

Spiritual direction is the practice of accompanying another in their own attentiveness to the movement of God and their everyday, ordinary lives. The practice involves silence, listening, reflection and discernment. If you think you might be interested in this or are just curious, contact Rev. BJ Woodworth ([BJW@coh.net](mailto:BJW@coh.net)).