



# 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)*

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT FEBRUARY 28, 2021 — 11 AM LIVESTREAM WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

"This Little Light of Mine"  
"My Lord, What a Morning"

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*  
arr. Charles Callahan  
arr. Richard Billingham

### 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.**

### ACOLYTE CANDLE LIGHTING VIDEO

Stephen, Travis, Michael and Parker Simpson-Hunt

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Stephen, Travis, Michael and Parker Simpson-Hunt

Leader: I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters and lead them in praise.

People: **You did not despise the afflicted nor turn a deaf ear when they cried to you.**

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall turn to you, O God; all families shall worship the Lord.

People: **We will tell of your deeds to those who follow, and proclaim your deliverance to all.**

Leader: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

### HYMN #352

"My Lord! What a Morning"

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

*Refrain:* **My Lord! what a morning; my Lord! what a morning;**

**O my Lord! what a morning, when the stars begin to fall, when the stars begin to fall.**

**You will hear the trumpet sound to wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. (*Refrain*)**

**You will hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. (*Refrain*)**

**You will hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand, when the stars begin to fall. (*Refrain*)**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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!**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** (NRSV)

Genesis 25:19-34

Coleman Lane

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger."

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**"Prayer (from *Nightsongs*)"Chantal Braziel, *soloist*

H. Leslie Adams

Text: Langston Hughes

**TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Sara Hackett

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

"Give Me Jesus"

Chantal Braziel, *soloist*

arr. Moses Hogan

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

The Rev. Gail Bowman

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** (RSV)

Matthew 13:1-9

The Rev. Bowman

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away. Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Those who are able to receive communication, receive this communication."

**SERMON**

"True to Our Native Land"

The Rev. Bowman

**TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION****HISTORY MOMENT VIDEO**

Linda Lane

HYMN #339

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.  
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on, till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died.  
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our parents sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;  
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;  
Shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH VIDEO

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

OFFERING INVITATION & PRAYER

Kathryn Ophardt

*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 #853

“Siyahamba”

SIYAHAMBA

We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, marching, marching, we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching, marching, marching, we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing ...  
We are praying ...  
We are singing ...

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Bowman

POSTLUDE

“Improvisation on We Shall Overcome”

Dr. Moore, *organ*  
Carl Haywood



# LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

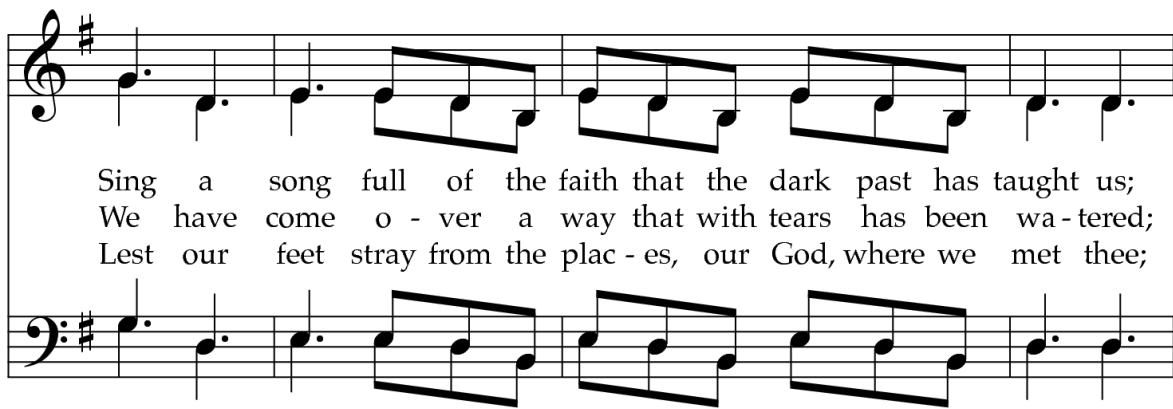
1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en  
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening  
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -  
rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had  
tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

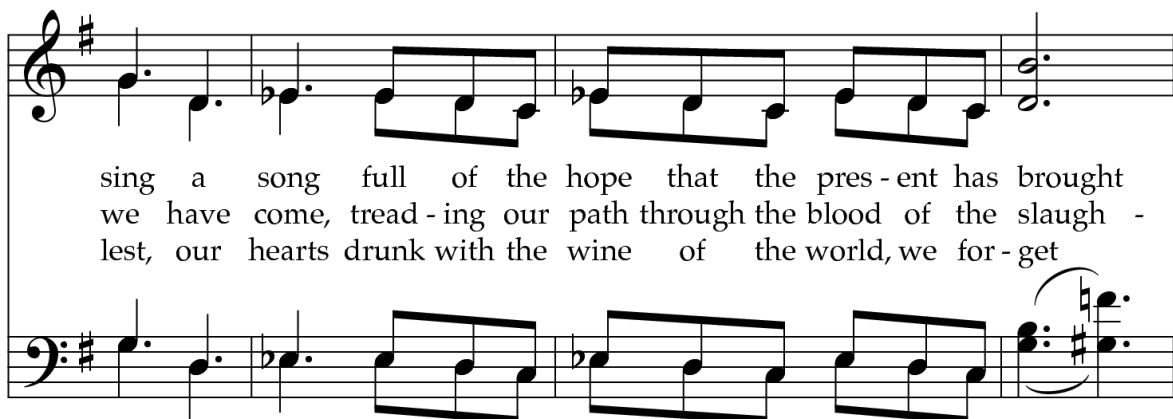
ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening  
died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry  
way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought  
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -  
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get



us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -  
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at  
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er



gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.  
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

# SIYAHAMBA

We are march-ing in the light of God; we are march-ing in the  
*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -*

light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God;  
*nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*

we are march-ing in the light of God.  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

we are march-ing in the light of God.  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.



We are march - ing  
Si - ya - ham - ba

oo  
oo

We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing,  
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march-ing in the light of God.  
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.  
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of God.  
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

We are march - ing  
Si - ya - ham - ba

oo  
oo

We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing,  
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march-ing in the light of God.  
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*

We are dancing...

We are praying...

We are singing...

# MY LORD! WHAT A MORNING

My Lord! what a morn - ing; my Lord! what a morn - ing;

O my Lord! what a morn - ing, when the stars be - gin to

*Fine*

fall, when the stars be - gin to fall. 1 You will hear the trum - pet  
2 You will hear the sin - ner  
3 You will hear the Chris - tian

sound  
cry,  
shout, to wake the na - tions un - der ground,

*to Refrain*

look - ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be - gin to fall.

This spiritual reflects on Jesus' saying about the endtimes as recorded in Matthew 24:29-30/Mark 13:24-26. It belongs to the slower, less common style of spirituals with long, sustained phrases and was among those popularized in concerts by the Fisk Jubilee Singers.



## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching:	The Rev. Gail Bowman
Liturgists:	The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf Sara Hackett Kathryn Ophardt
Musicians:	Dr. Edward Alan Moore, <i>Organist/ Music Director</i> Chantal Braziel, <i>Cantor/Soloist</i> Todd Farwell, <i>Cantor</i>
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](http://www.facebook.com/EastLibertyPresbyterian)

### YouTube

<http://tiny.cc/elpc-youtube>

*and archived at* **[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)**

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