

Sanctuary Worship

Sunday, June 13, 2021

10 am



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)

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 13, 2021 — 10 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Andante with Variations in D”

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

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

Ben & Katie Fitzpatrick

Leader: God's love is written on our hearts, implanted in our souls.

People: **God's truth echoes in the words of scripture and lingers in our minds.**

Leader: God's forgiveness reaches the deepest sin and releases the clearest song.

People: **Together, as God's people, let us gather to worship in a spirit of love, truth, and forgiveness. Alleluia!**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #377 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

HOUSTON

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. (*Refrain*)

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. (*Refrain*)

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

God, you are the gardener of all creation. You planted this world with the seeds of your love and grow them with your faithfulness. We are your harvest; we find our meaning and sustenance in you.

Forgive us when we are too timid to bear the fruit of your righteousness or work for the harvest of justice. Forgive us when we fail to uphold the poor or the oppressed; when we do not advocate for the powerless or the voiceless. Fill us once more with the love of Christ so that we may live no longer for ourselves, but for the living Christ in one another. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

* Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

** Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: **En Jesucristo tenemos perdón!**
¡Alabado sea Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Praise God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Ben & Katie Fitzpatrick

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

The Rev. Schoenewolf

*** HYMN #714** (*vs. 1, 3, 4*)

"God of the Fertile Fields"

ITALIAN HYMN

**God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:
Forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,
That all in every land be clothed and fed.**

**As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, so your reign grows.
Let all our toil be used no gift of yours abused,
No humble task refused your love bestows.**

**God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one:
We pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 4:21-28

The Rev. Dr. Bush

He said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light. Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.

SERMON

"Gifts Prepared in Advance"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

* Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

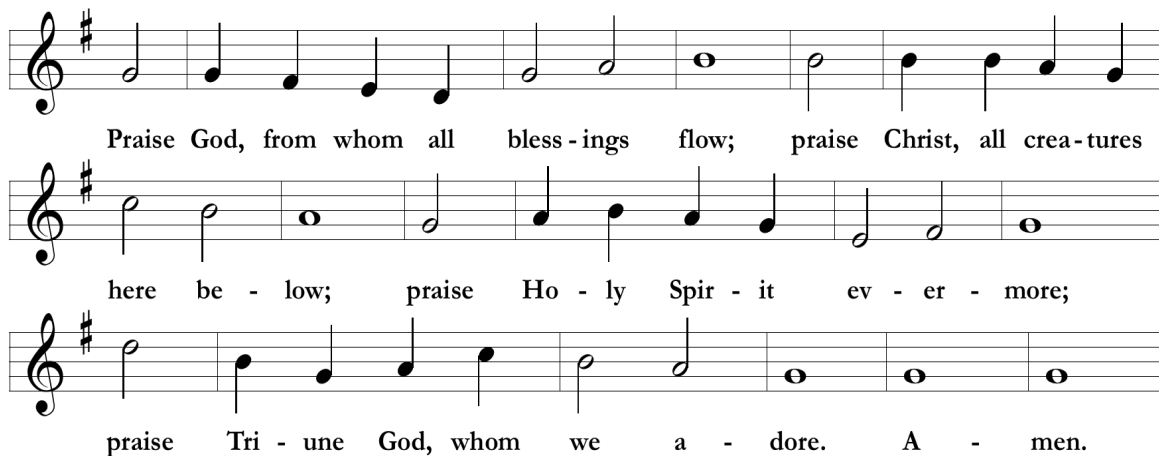
OFFERING INVITATION

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 if you would like to make a contribution, or leave your donation in the collection box in the Sanctuary.

* DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all crea - tures
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Kathryn Ophardt

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes.

People: **Y también contigo.**

Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones.

People: **Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.**

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor
nuestro Dios.

People: **Es justo dar gracias y
alabanzas a Dios.**

Leader: Bless, O God, the gifts that we dedicate to you this day. May they be a sign of our commitment to your kingdom and a pledge of our love for you and your world. Multiply the work done by our time, treasures, and talents, that your compassion and justice may be known in all the earth.

People: **Amén.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

**It is right to give God
thanks and praise.**

Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN #743 (sing 2x)

“O God, You Are My God”

STEP BY STEP

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.

And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

“Allegro Assai”

Dr. Moore, *organ*
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy



GOD OF THE FERTILE FIELDS

1 God of the fer - tile fields, shap - er of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - busied,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - ery land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - ery - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Greater awareness has enlarged Christian stewardship to develop new dimensions of concern for people in all parts of the world. Because we believe that it is God's will that the gifts we have received should be shared, this hymn concludes with that phrase from the Lord's Prayer.

TEXT: Georgia Harkness, 1955, alt.

MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769, alt.

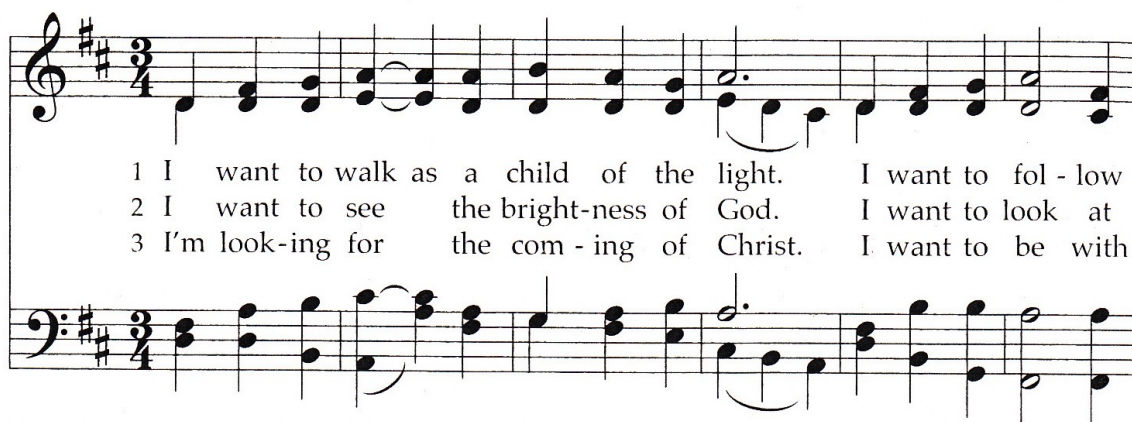
Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

CCLI #689547

ITALIAN HYMN

6.6.4.6.6.6.4

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

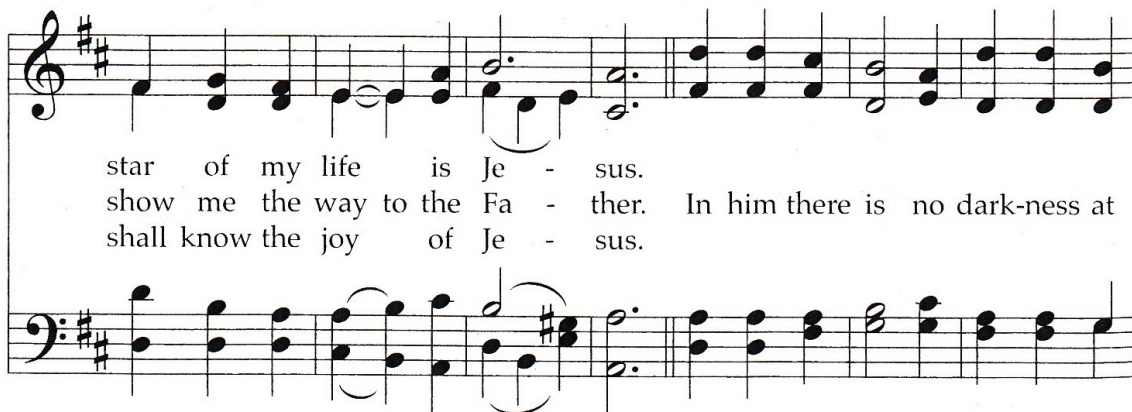


1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at
 3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with

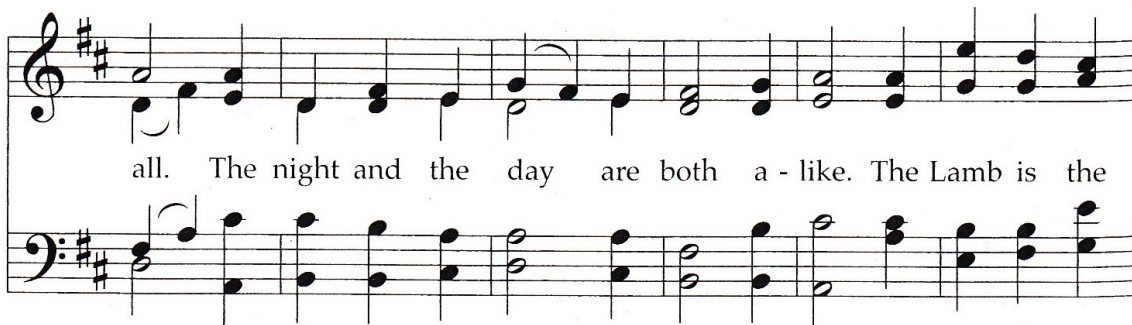


Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and
 Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

Refrain



star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.



all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

The author/composer of this unrhymed hymn regards it as a meditation and prayer deeply rooted in many scriptures, most connected with the theme of light: Genesis 1:17; Psalm 139:12; Isaiah 60:19; Malachi 4:2; John 14:8; Ephesians 5:8; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 John 1:5; Revelation 21:23.

light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

This musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. This is followed by a half note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F#5, and a quarter note G5. The melody then descends: a half note F#5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note D5, and a quarter note C5. This is followed by a half note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The melody concludes with a half note E4 and a quarter note D4. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The first line of the score is 'light of the cit - y of God.' and the second line is 'Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.'.

O GOD, YOU ARE MY GOD

O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise
 you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise
 you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will
 learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead
 me, and I will fol - low you all of my days.

Though this refrain from a longer song is not a paraphrase of any particular psalm, the language in the first six lines has definite scriptural overtones (such as Psalms 31:14, 5:3; Deuteronomy 26:17). The final two lines sound more spontaneous and lead to a confident conclusion.



WELCOME!



ELPC is very excited each of you is here so we can worship together!

If you need assistance during today's worship service, please see an usher.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Summer Kids' Ministry beginning Sunday, June 27

Throughout summer, we will explore the theme of *Sanctuary—God is Always With Us* during monthly minisessions of Vacation Church School. On Sunday, June 27 from 2:30–5 pm, families with kids in preschool through grade 5 (completed) are invited to join us in Highland Park for worship, recreation, crafts, and prayer as we explore God's promises in the beautiful prayer of Psalm 23.

Together, we will examine how God's promises come to life using images of things found in nature: sheep, green pastures, water, and shadows. Through fun and fellowship, we will remember the good news that God is with us always, wherever we are!

Notes: Pre-registration is required. Kids will remain with their parent/caregiver throughout the event, and COVID protocols will be in place.

Families and Teen & Adult Volunteers can register online.

**Continues on ... Wed, July 14 at ELPC
and Sunday, Aug 22 at Highland Park**



Kiss the Ground Viewing and Discussion

What do climate stability, healthy eating, and beautiful landscapes have in common?

They all depend on soil quality. Whether or not you've thought about what's underfoot, the documentary *Kiss the Ground* will give you a new appreciation for how critical it is to our health and well-being—and our planet's future.

Join the Environmental Team following the 10 am Sanctuary worship service **TODAY** for an online viewing of *Kiss the Ground* (45 minutes), as well as a conversation moderated by Stefani Danes.

The film examines a revolutionary group of activists, scientists, farmers, and politicians who are leading a global movement of "Regenerative Agriculture."

We'll see how dust bowls become Gardens of Eden, as well as other great examples of the ways we can balance our climate, replenish our vast water supplies, and feed the world.

Understanding how important soil is to all life, we'll also discover how important our everyday choices are to sustaining the life of the soil.

Join us via Zoom at
tiny.cc/kiss-the-ground
or by calling **646.558.8656**
Meeting ID **822 2738 0701**
Passcode **558594**.

PW Summer Gathering

June 15 from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Presbyterian Women invites all women to gather on Zoom to spend an hour listening, sharing, and praying. Bring your lunch! For info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Spiritual Fermentation Series Finale

Tuesday, June 22 from 6–7:30 pm

The Young Adult Ministry is invited to join together with Pastor BJ at a local brewery for our last Spiritual Fermentation gathering! As we enjoy the process of brewing and look back at the contemplative practices we have discussed, we invite you to share an everyday ordinary activity, an interest, hobby, or passion of yours that you currently engage in and/or would like to further explore as a space to connect with, notice, and be in with God. Contemplate the development of a plan for how you will actually engage in and do this activity as an embodied practice. RSVP to Kelli Booher by Friday, June 18 (KelliB@coh.net).

YAM Camping Trip

June 25-27

Join seasoned and first-time campers for fun and fellowship at Raccoon Creek State Park. Registration and a fee of \$20 is required (scholarships are available). Contact Kelli Booher (KelliB@coh.net) if interested.

Youth Sunday

June 27 at 10 am

Join us for a special service in the Courtyard on Sunday, June 27 at 10 am. ELPC youth will plan and lead worship, graduating seniors will share their Senior Message, 2020 Confirmands will be baptized, and much more! We give thanks to God for the gift of our youth at ELPC—for their faithfulness, creativity, resilience, patience, joy, and love! Please register for worship or join us via the livestream on Youtube, Facebook, or Zoom.

Silent Walk on the Butler-Freeport Community Trail

Saturday, July 10 from 9–11:30 am

We will gather in Freeport at the Laneville Trailhead of Butler-Freeport Community Trail (100 Main St, Freeport, 16229), walk in silence along the path at our own pace, stop, linger along the stream, sit, read, be in nature in silence with God and one another. We will regather back at the trailhead to share reflections and observations at 11:30 am. RSVP to Norma by Friday, July 9 (412.441.3800 x111; Norma@coh.net).

Middle School Mission Days

Sunday-Monday, July 11-12

Youth in grades 6–8 will be sleeping in tents in the Courtyard and volunteering in our neighborhood. There will be some water balloon fun, too! Please contact Sara Hackett if interested (SaraH@coh.net).

Environmental Book Club Starts New Book

Monday, July 12 at 7 pm

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee continues their study and activities around nature, regeneration, interdependence, gardening, and farming. We invite you to read Leah Penniman's book *Farming While Black: Soul Fire Farm's Practical Guide to Liberation on the Land*. Our discussion will take place hopefully at a place such as Garfield Community Farm. In 1920, 14% of all land-owning U.S. farmers were Black. Today less than 2% of farms are controlled by Black people—a loss of over 14 million acres and the result of discrimination and dispossession. While farm management is among the whitest of professions, farm labor is predominantly brown and exploited—and people of color disproportionately live in “food apartheid” neighborhoods and suffer from diet-related illness. The system is built on stolen land and stolen labor. Throughout the chapters, Penniman uplifts the wisdom of the African diasporic farmers and activists whose work informs the techniques described—from whole farm planning, soil fertility, seed selection, and agroecology, to using whole foods in culturally appropriate recipes, sharing stories of ancestors, and tools for healing from the trauma associated with slavery and economic exploitation on the land. Woven throughout the book is the story of Soul Fire Farm—a national leader in the food justice movement. For more information, or to tell us you are attending, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

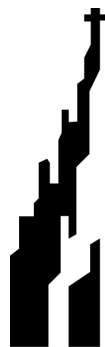
In Pursuit of Silence | Film Viewing and Conversation

Saturday, Aug 14 from 7–9 pm

In Pursuit of Silence is a documentary that meditatively explores our relationship with silence, sound, and the impact of noise on our lives. Beginning with an ode to John Cage's groundbreaking composition, 4'33", the film takes us on an immersive cinematic journey around the globe—from a traditional tea ceremony in Kyoto, to the streets of the loudest city on the planet, Mumbai, during the wild festival season—and inspires us to experience silence and celebrate the wonders of our world. RSVP to Norma by Friday, Aug 13 (412.441.3800 x111).

The Justice Committee is collecting only the following toiletry items for Allegheny County Jail (in regular size, not travel size) per the Warden's instructions: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, bar soap, deodorant, lotion, and toothpaste. A donation box is available inside the Highland Avenue Lobby.

Help support our Summer Kids' Ministry by purchasing some snacks or supplies for this summer's program. We appreciate your support! Online at tgt.gifts/sanctuaryatELPC or in store under East Liberty Presbyterian Church.



East Liberty Presbyterian Church

www.ELPC.church

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preaching:	The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists:	The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf Kathryn Ophardt David Jennings-Smith
Musicians:	Dr. Edward Alan Moore, <i>Organist/ Music Director</i> Robin Schneider, <i>Cantor</i> Denise Sheffey-Powell, <i>Cantor</i>
A/V:	Tim Benedict Wayne Gaines Matt Stufft

As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is also 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, please visit:
www.ELPC.church/donate
or put your donation in the donation box in the Sanctuary