

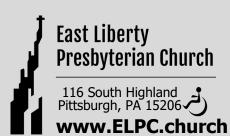
10 am Summer Worship

Sunday, July 11, 2021











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)

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 11, 2021 — 10 am Summer Worship

GATHERING MUSIC

* HYMN #366

HYMN #35 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" LOBE DEN HERREN "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful" **HYMN** #654 (sing 3x) IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL HYMN #839 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!" ASSURANCE

Welcome & Church News

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Hyfrydol

SHARING GOD'S PEACE The Rev. Dr. Bush Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes. People: Y también contigo. And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Jeff Fritz

Leader: From the foundation of the world, God has set a plumb line to measure our lives, so that we

may live in truth.

People: God's Holy Spirit guides us in the ways that are righteous and strengthens us for

building justice and making peace.

Leader: In the fullness of time, God sent Christ into the world so that we might live as God's own

children, redeemed, renewed, and called together in love.

Let us give thanks to God and recommit ourselves to loving and praising God's glory People:

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,

Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;

Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;

Let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;

Suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,

Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;

Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:

Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,

Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

^{*} Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Holy God, you call us to be your beloved children and to care for one another. Yet so often we fail to love others and ourselves. So often we have turned away from the path of sanctification and turned toward the ways of pride, envy, sin, and disunity. Helpless and ashamed, we turn our hearts to you. Forgive us and then tenderly teach us to stand strong and courageous in the fullness of your love, by the grace and mercy of Christ. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

TIME OF SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

I Thessalonians 4:1-12

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Finally, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that, as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God (as, in fact, you are doing), you should do so more and more. 2 For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from fornication; 4 that each one of you know how to control your own body in holiness and honor, 5 not with lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no one wrong or exploit a brother or sister in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we have already told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. 7 For God did not call us to impurity but in holiness. 8 Therefore whoever rejects this rejects not human authority but God, who also gives his Holy Spirit to you.

9 Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; 10 and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, 11 to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, 12 so that you may behave properly toward outsiders and be dependent on no one.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* HYMN #353

"My Hope is Built On Nothing Less"

SOLID ROCK

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;

All other ground is sinking sand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;

When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found, Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. (Refrain)

^{*} Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

"First Words, Last Words: On Pleasing God"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

ANTHEM

"How Can I Keep from Singing?"

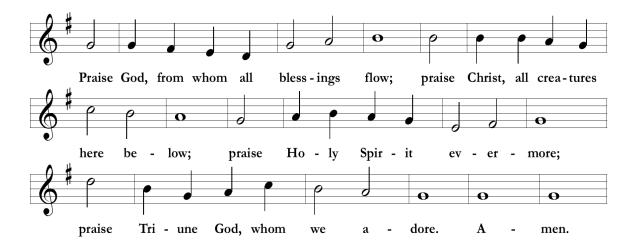
arr. Mark Schweizer

OFFERING INVITATION

Jeff Fritz

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 Courtyard.

* DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Jeff Fritz

Leader:El Señor esté con ustedes.The Lord be with you.People:Y también contigo.And also with you.Leader:Levantemos nuestros corazones.Lift up your hearts.

People:Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.We lift them up to the Lord.Leader:Demos gracias al SeñorLet us give thanks to the Lord

nuestro Dios. our God.

People: Es justo dar gracias y It is right to give God alabanzas a Dios. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Thank you for filling us with every spiritual grace that we might be a blessing for others.

Consecrate the gifts we offer for the increase of your love.

People: Amén. Amen.

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* CLOSING HYMN #625

"How Great Thou Art"

HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze: (Refrain)

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin: (Refrain)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" (Refrain)

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush



PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Jeff Fritz

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,

Organist/Music Director

ELPC Summer Choir

A/V: Tim Benedict

Wayne Gaines

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 Courtyard.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

ELPC's Mask Policy

We seek to be a place of radical hospitality for all of God's people. During this time of pandemic, the manner in which hospitality is lived out continues to change. While directives about mask-wearing vary from place to place, we seek to be a community where all people— especially the most vulnerable—can be safely welcomed. We are encouraged by increasing rates of vaccination in our area, but there are still many members of our community who cannot be vaccinated (due to age and/or compromised immune system).

As such, we continue to require everyone over two years old (and without a prohibitive health condition) who enters ELPC or participates in ELPC sponsored programming to wear a mask—both indoors and outdoors—regardless of vaccination status.

The ELPC Session and staff will continue to monitor CDC, state, and local public health guidelines, vaccination rates and availability, and rates of community transmission of the COVID-19 virus, and will adjust our policy accordingly. Thank you for your continued patience, partnership, and prayers as we move ahead in these uncharted waters and strive to be a faith community that is inclusive of all.

Letter-Writing Sessions

Today and next Sunday, July 18

The ELPC Justice Committee invites you to participate in two justice-related letter writing opportunities following the 10 am worship service in the Fellowship Room and on Zoom.

Join us today, Sunday, July 11 (PA HB 999: Repeal of the Death Penalty) and next Sunday, July 18 (PA HB 279: Allow Undocumented PA Residents to secure a Driver's License). For more info, contact Vivienne Selia (vselia@comcast.net).

Zoom info: www.zoom.us, Meeting ID: 834 2558 5198, Passcode: 720864.

Experience Yoga and JourneyDance at Home

Weekly classes

Yamuna Morgenstern is offering online Yoga classes on Wednesdays from 6–7 pm, as well as JourneyDance classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 am, as well as on the third Friday of every month at 7 pm.

Soul Food Summer Classes

Sundays at 8:45 am

Join us this summer as we conclude our discussion of *In My Grandmother's House: Black Women, Faith, and the Stories We Inherit* by Yolanda Pierce. We will discuss chapter 11 on Sunday, July 25, and chapter 12 on Sunday, Aug 22. All sessions will meet on Zoom at 8:45 am. Weekday make-up sessions will be scheduled for those who cannot participate on these scheduled days. For more info, contact the Rev. Joe Hajdu (hajdu625@comcast.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).

Taizé Services Move to the Courtyard

Wednesdays at 7 pm

Our weekly Taizé prayer service will gather in the Courtyard at 7 pm. In this new location, we will be leaning into the fact that we are outside—in and among the creation, the original sanctuary. Throughout summer, we will focus on listening to and learning from our "elemental siblings" of water, wind, air, and earth by singing, praying, and contemplating. Join us as we utilize this beautiful space to continue building upon the historic tradition of Taizé at ELPC. In-person attendance is welcome, and no pre-registration is necessary.

Garden Stewards Needed

Any day and time at your convenience
We are seeking volunteer Garden Stewards to weed independently in the ELPC gardens! Once you sign up online at signupgenius.com/go/9040849ACAD29A0FE3-garden, Megan Leisher will contact you. You can come as little or as often as you'd like. Even 30 minutes helps!
Contact Megan with any questions (MeganL@coh.net).

Environmental Book Club Starts New Book

Monday, July 12 at 7 pm

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to read Leah Penniman's book <u>Farming While Black:</u> <u>Soul Fire Farm's Practical Guide to Liberation on the Land.</u>

Our discussion will take place at Garfield Community Farm or via Zoom in the event of inclement weather.

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. 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 info or to attend, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Summer Kids' Ministry

Wednesday, July 14 from 3-7 pm

Throughout summer, we are exploring the theme of Sanctuary—God is With Us Always during mini-sessions of Vacation Church School. Join us for a scavenger hunt as we continue to explore the theme of Sanctuary in our own Sanctuary and around the building. Pre-registration is required for our Summer Kids' Ministry events at www.ELPC.church/kids. We will have staggered start times that you will sign up for closer to the event. Contact Sara Hackett for more info (SaraH@coh.net).

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study Summer Gathering

Tuesday, July 20 from Noon-1 pm

Please join Presbyterian Women on Zoom to explore "Women in the Church, Then and Now." Lyndsay Hardin Freeman's book <u>Bible Women</u> states that there are 93 women who speak in the Bible, 49 of whom are named. We will focus on both women in the New Testament and women leaders in the church since then. All women are invited to join. To participate, please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

LGBTQ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering

Sunday, July 25 at 11:30 am

You are invited to the next spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry as we share food and fellowship. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. This month we will meet in person and via Zoom. Contact Wil Forrest for info and to attend (412.441.3800 x118; Wil@coh.net).

High School Mission Retreat

Tuesday–Friday, Aug 10–13

Youth who have completed grade 8 or higher are invited to join us for our High School Mission Retreat at Crestfield Camp in Slippery Rock. We'll enjoy



a combination of service projects around the camp, worship and Bible study, and a lot of group fun after being apart for so long. We will be using Crestfield's space but planning our own schedule, meals, and worship. Register at ELPC.church or contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.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).

2021 CONSPIRE Conference Simulcast

September 24-26

Over the weekend of Sept. 24–26, the Spiritual Life Committee invites you to a virtual simulcast of the Center for Action and Contemplation's CONSPIRE Conference, Me/Us/the World: Living Inside God's Great Story.

In this time of great unknowing, how do we expand our sense of self to include love, healing, and forgiveness—not just for ourselves and those like us, but for the entire world? Join spiritual seekers across the world for an interactive, global gathering to experience God's love, grace, and compassion. Presenters include James Finley, Barbara Holmes, Jacqui Lewis, Brian McLaren, Richard Rohr, and Mirabai Starr.

Learn more at www.cac.org/conspire-2021.

#35—PRAISE YE THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY



This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1–6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

#654—In The Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful (sing 3x)



This refrain from the ecumenical monastic community at Taizé, France, is meant for repeated singing. A wonderful quilt of psalm-like phrases, it would be appropriate at any time but the concluding emphasis on the nearness of the Lord makes it especially fitting for use in Advent.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1986 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1986

Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

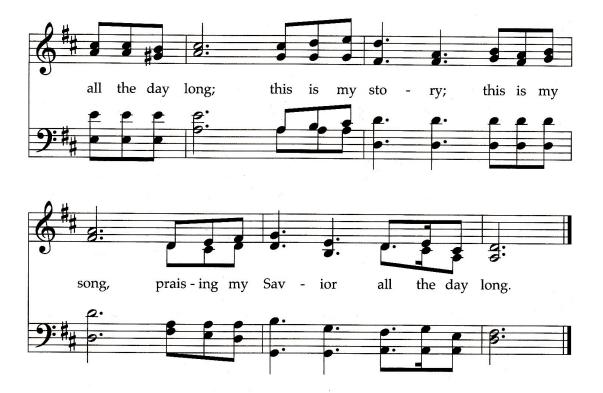
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IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL Irregular

#839—BLESSED ASSURANCE, JESUS IS MINE!



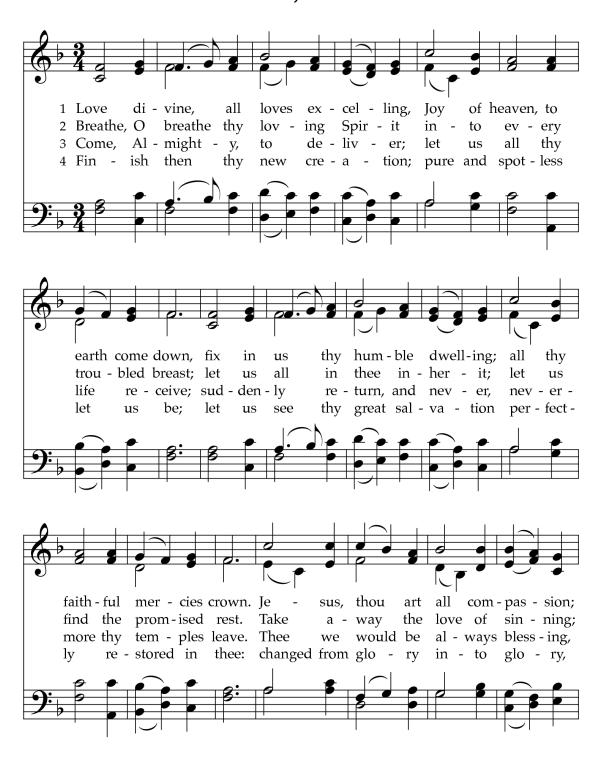
Sometimes this prolific 19th-century hymnwriter wrote texts for others to set, and sometimes she created words for tunes others had composed. This text was of the second kind, and the resulting close fit between words and music has made them both popular and inseparable.



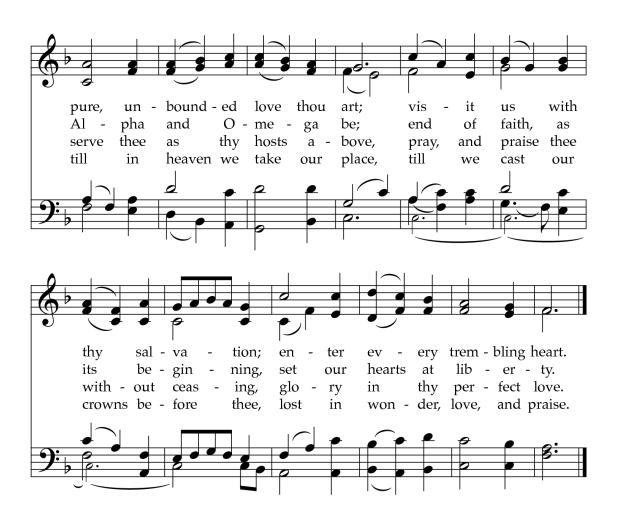
KOREAN

- 1 예수를 내가 주로 믿어 성령과 피로써 거듭나니 이세상에서 내 영혼이 하늘의 영광 누리도다
- 후렴 이것이 나의 간증이요 이것이 나의 찬송일세 나사는 동안 끊임없이 예수 내 구주 찬송하리
- 2 온전히 주께 맡긴 내영 온전한 기쁨을 누리면서 자비와 사랑 속삭이는 하늘의 천사 보리로다 후렴
- 3 예수께 맡긴 나의 영혼 주안에 복되고 평안하니 세상도 없고 나도 없고 사랑의 주만 보이도다 후렴

#366—LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING



This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.



#353—MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS



This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24–27/Luke 6:47–49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

#625—How Great Thou Art



*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.



KOREAN

- 1 주 하나님 지으신 모든세계 내마음 속에 그리어 볼때 하늘의 별 울려 퍼지는 뇌성 주님의 권능 우주에 찼네
- 후렴 주님의 높고 위대하심을 내영혼이 찬양하네 주님의 높고 위대하심을 내영혼이 찬양하네
- 2 숲속이나 험한산 골짝에서 지저귀는 저 새소리들과 고요하게 흐르는 시냇물은 주님의 솜씨 노래하도다 후렴
- 3 주하나님 독생자 아낌없이 우리를 위해 보내주셨네 십자가에 피흘려 죽으신 주 내모든 죄를 대속하셨네 후택
- 4 내주 예수 세상에 다시 올 때 저천국으로 날 인도하리 나 겸손히 엎드려 경배하며 영원히 주를 찬양하리라 후렴

SPANISH

1 Señor, mi Dios, al contemplar los cielos, el firmamento y las estrellas mil, al oír tu voz en los potentes truenos y ver brillar al sol en su cenit,

Estribillo Mi corazón se llena de emoción. ¡Cuán grande es Él! ¡Cuán grande es Él! Mi corazón se llena de emoción. ¡Cuán grande es Él! ¡Cuán grande es Él!

- 2 Al recorrer los montes y los valles y ver las bellas flores al pasar, al escuchar el canto de las aves y el murmurar del claro manantial, Estribillo
- 3 Cuando recuerdo de tu amor divino que desde el cielo al Salvador envió, al buen Jesús, que por salvarme vino y en una cruz por mí sufrió y murió, Estribillo
- 4 al dulce hogar, al cielo de esplendor; te adoraré, cantando la grandeza de tu poder y tu infinito amor. Estribillo