



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)

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 29, 2021 — 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

Leader:

HYMN "Come On, Everybody" "Bless the Lord with Me" HYMN

"Hallelujah! You're Worthy to Be Praised" HYMN

Welcome & Church News The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

MINUTE FOR MISSION Presbyterian Women Bible Study Mary Alice Lightle

SHARING GOD'S PEACE The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes. The peace of Christ be with you. Leader:

Y también contigo. And also with you. People:

CALL TO WORSHIP (James 1)

Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger. People: Let us welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save our souls.

Leader: Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers, so you may be blessed in all you do.

People: Pure religion is to care for orphans and widows and not to be stained by the world.

Let us worship God in the spirit of holiness! Leader:

* HYMN "O Give Thanks"

O give thanks unto the Lord

For God is good, yes, God is good

O give thanks unto the Lord

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O give thanks unto the Lord

For God is good, yes, God is good

For God is worthy, worthy

For God is good, yes, God is good

For God is worthy, worthy

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* Indicates where to please rise in body or spirit.

For God is worthy, worthy

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Tiffany Sudar

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CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

The Rev. Woodworth

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and strong One, forgive our weakness...

Holy and wise One, forgive our foolishness...

Holy and loving One, forgive our hardness...

Holy and generous One, forgive our selfishness...

Holy and faithful One, forgive our fickleness...

Holy and gentle One, forgive our toughness...

Forgive us, Holy one, forgive us, we pray...

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Woodworth

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

En Jesucristo tenemos perdón! People:

Praise God!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

¡Alabado sea Dios!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 146

The Rev. Woodworth

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

TIME FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* HYMN

"Sanctuary (Lord, Prepare Me)"

Lord, prepare me To be a sanctuary Pure and holy Tried and true With thanksgiving I'll be a living Sanctuary For you

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 14:8-18

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And the man sprang up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have

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

come down to us in human form!" Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, "Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy." Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

SERMON

"A Case of Mistaken Identity"

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

ANTHEM "I Need You, Lord"

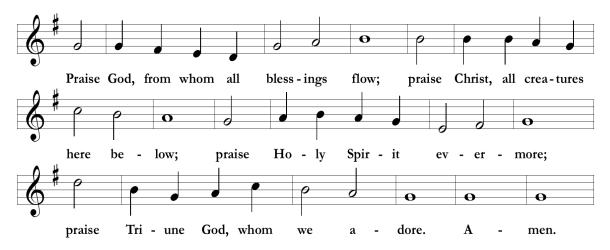
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

OFFERING INVITATION Mary Alice Lightle

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. Fowler-Searcy Dawn Morgenstern

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes.

People: Y también contigo.

Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones.

People: Levantemos nuestros corazones.

Levantemos nuestros corazones.

Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor

nuestro Dios.

People: Es justo dar gracias y

alabanzas a Dios.

Dawn M 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.

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

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Leader:

Eternal God, you redeemed us by the sacrifice of Jesus. Sustained by his word, we are enabled to serve our neighbors and all who are in need. Compelled by your Spirit, we respond to your commands to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with you. Direct us and guide us as we seek to accomplish your will. We bring our offerings; use them for your purpose. We dedicate our time; fill it with your presence. We give ourselves; satisfy your intentions. All that we have, we present to you. **Amen.**

* CLOSING HYMN

"Just Wanna Thank You"

Just wanna thank you Forever, and ever and ever For all you've done for me

Blessings and glory and honor They all belong to you Thank you, Jesus, for saving me

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preaching: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

Mary Alice Lightle Dawn Morgenstern Tiffany Sudar

Musicians: Michael Warren,

Journey Music Director

Journey Praise Team

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

ELPC's Mask Policy (effective 08.06.21)

We seek to be a place of radical hospitality for all of God's people. 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).

- During this recent period of increased Covid-19 cases in Allegheny County, we are requiring masks to be worn while on church property regardless of vaccination status.
- We will continue our practice of allowing vaccinated preachers/singers/liturgists to not be masked while leading worship services, whether inside or outside.

Serve Those In Need

Sept 2, 12, 23 and 26

We need volunteers to help us prepare and serve meals to residents at East End Cooperative Ministry. We're looking for ELPC members to help us prepare and serve:

Dinner—Thursdays, Sept 2 and 23 | 5:30 pm Breakfast—Sundays, Sept 12 and 26 | 6:30 am Contact Becky Gloninger to help (412.913.6070; rag15@verizon.net).

Presbyterian Women Bible Study

This year, we are studying Jesus' grandmothers, the women named in Matthew 1. Why are these women in this list? What do their stories tell us about the coming Messiah? Join us for our first lesson Family Trees to explore these questions. Both sessions will meet on Zoom. For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Bible Study Dates

- Tuesday, Sept 7 from 10 am–12 pm
- Monday, Sept 13 from 7–8:30 pm

Book Distribution Dates

- Today after worship to 12:15 pm at Highland entrance
- Sunday, Sept 5 after worship to 12:15 pm at Highland entrance
- Email PW.ELPC@gmail.com to schedule a pick-up

Welcoming You Back on Rally Day

On Rally Day, Sunday, Sept 12, our church family will gather once more to kick off our fall programming and regular worship schedule. We rejoice that after more than a year of virtual programming, we can resume a more traditional Sunday schedule.

Church School Classes

• Kids | Children and tweens from preschool through grade 5 will gather in person in the Courtyard each week. All participants will be masked. Please register your child online or in person at ELPC.



- Youth | Youth in grades 6–12 will meet in person each week—sometimes inside and sometimes outside. All students and teachers will be masked. Please register your youth online or in person at ELPC.
- Adults | Adult Church School classes will offer a hybrid format, so that you may participate in person or via Zoom. Reach out to your class facilitator, Sara Hackett, or Pastor Heather for details. Adult classes will follow ELPC's masking requirements.

Worship Services

Stay informed about our worship services by visiting our website – ELPC.church. Both Sunday services will continue to be livestreamed.



- Journey | For the first time since March 15, 2020, we will be able to gather together in the Social Hall on Sundays at 8:45 am. Our pastors are working to ensure that Journey worship remains interactive, even in a hybrid setting, so that our faith family can pray with—and for—one another each week.
- Sanctuary | Our traditional Sanctuary service will resume on Sundays at 11 am. We will welcome The Brass Roots as our special music guests on Rally Day.



Connections Group Gathering

Saturday, Sept 11

Have you been a member of a Connections Group in the past? Would you like to reunite with some old friends? We are planning an outdoor gathering at the Botanical Gardens on Saturday, Sept 11 at 11 am. Bring a bagged lunch—we can meet in the picnic area, then enjoy a walk through the Gardens.

If you have not participated in Connection Groups in the past you are also welcome to join us. Connections Groups are small groups that previously met up monthly for coffee, lunch or dinner at a restaurant or at someone's home. Since this is difficult to do at this time, we thought it might be nice to get together so we can all remain *Connected*.

The cost is \$12, \$2 if you have an EBT card. Please email connectelpc@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Justice Committee to Host Clothing Drive for ACJ Sundays, Sept 12 and 26

As a Matthew 25 congregation, we are committed to supporting our siblings in Allegheny County Jail in a variety of ways, and we have been generous in response by collecting books, magazines, and toiletry items.

Now, we are seeking to provide dignity and clothing to those who are returning to our community. And you can help by donating sweatshirts and sweatpants for men and women in sizes M, L, XL, and XXL (no solid red or orange, please).

You may purchase items and drop them off following Sanctuary worship on Sundays, Sept 12 and 26 at the South Highland Ave entrance, or at the drop box near the security desk during the week. You also may make a monetary donation, designated *Justice Committee—ACJ Sweats*, and the Justice Committee will purchase items. Email Judy Mancini for more info (mancinijs@gmail.com).

Explore Our Church Life

Sunday, Sept 19

ELPC's annual *Church Life Sampler* will be held following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Sept 19, outdoors on Whitfield Street (weather permitting). Stop by to learn more about the various ministries that are a part of our church life together!

Every committee and ministry area at ELPC will be on hand to highlight fall programming and share how you can get involved! And a special treat will be provided by the Children and Family Ministry Team for you to enjoy on your way home.

Taizé Services in Sanctuary

Wednesdays at 7 pm Our weekly Taizé prayer service will gather in the Sanctuary on Wednesdays at 7 pm. In-person attendance is welcome, and no preregistration is necessary.







CENTER FOR ACTION AND CONTEMPLATIONS CONSPIRE CONFERENCE

September 24-26, 2021

A VIRTUAL SIMULCAST EVENT AT ELPC

Me / Us / the World Living Inside God's Great Story

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

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.

- Participate in contemplative sits led by Fr. Richard Rohr each morning.
- Connect with other participants around the globe and at ELPC.
- Deepen your experience with presentations, workshops, and book talks.

Please join us in-person for free at ELPC! Pastor BJ will stream the conference in the McKelvy Room. You are welcome to join us for any or all of the conference. Please indicate the day(s) you will attend. Lunch will be provided each day.

Our schedule is as follows:

- Friday, September 24 | 11 am–6:45 pm
- Saturday, September 25 | 11 am–6:45 pm
- Sunday, September 26 | 12:30 pm-6:45 pm

FULL EVENT SCHEDULE AVAILABLE AT: https://cac.org/conspire-2021/conspire-2021-conference-details/#schedule

Please fill out the registration form by Sunday, September 19 at www.ELPC.church.

Visit our website for more info at www.ELPC.church

COME ON, EVERYBODY

Come on, everybody

Get up on out of your seat

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah I don't know what you've come to do We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Come on, everybody

Get up on out of your seat

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah I don't know what you've come to do We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Come on, everybody

Get up on out of your seat

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah I don't know what you've come to do We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Solo:

I don't know what you've come to do

But I've come to lift up The most high God

God woke me up this morning

And started me on my way

I'm gonna get up on my feet

And praise God like it's my last chance

Come on, everybody

Get up on out of your seat

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah I don't know what you've come to do We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Solo:

I don't know what you've come to do

But I've come to lift up
The most high God

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And started me on my way

I'm gonna get up on my feet

And praise God like it's my last chance

Come on, everybody

Get up on out of your seat

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah I don't know what you've come to do We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Sopranos:

Come on

Altos:

Come on

Tenors/Basses:

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Sopranos:

Come on

Altos:

Come on

Tenors/Basses:

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Sopranos:

Come on

Altos:

Come on

Tenors/Basses:

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

A11

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Sopranos:

Come on

Altos:

Come on

Tenors/Basses:

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Sopranos:

Come on

Altos:

Come on

Tenors/Basses:

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

Sopranos:

Come on

Altos:

Come on

Tenors/Basses:

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

All:

We've come to praise the Lord

We've come to praise the Lord

We've come to praise the Lord, yeah

BLESS THE LORD WITH ME

Solo:

Come on and bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me Come on and bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me

Everyone:

Bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me

Clap your hands with me Clap your hands with me Clap your hands with me Clap your hands with me

Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me Bless the Lord with me

Dance before the Lord Dance before the Lord Dance before the Lord Dance before the Lord

Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah

HALLELUJAH! YOU'RE WORTHY TO BE PRAISED

Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised

Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised

I lift my hands, I praise you, Lord I bow my head, I honor you, Lord I lift my hands, I praise you, Lord I bow my head, I honor you, Lord

Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised

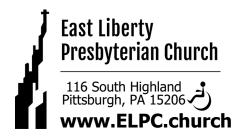
I lift my hands, I praise you, Lord I bow my head, I honor you, Lord I lift my hands, I praise you, Lord I bow my head, I honor you, Lord

Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised Hallelujah, you're worthy to be praised

Hallelujah, you're worthy Hallelujah, we praise your name Hallelujah, so worthy Hallelujah! Lord, we lift you up

Hallelujah, you're worthy Hallelujah, we praise your name Hallelujah, so worthy Hallelujah! Lord, we lift you up

Hallelujah, you're worthy
Hallelujah, we praise your name
Hallelujah, so worthy
Hallelujah!
Lord, we lift you up!
Lord, we lift you up!
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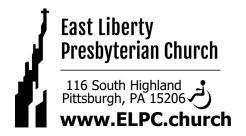




Interested in joining ELPC's Chancel Choir or Handbell Choir?

Regular rehearsals will resume in September.

For info, please contact
Organist/Choir Director
Dr. Edward Alan Moore
(EdM@coh.net).





Please visit our website for information about the ministries of East Liberty Presbyterian Church

ELPC.church