



# 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)*

## SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The *Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 541* shows the influence on Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) from Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741). Composed in Weimar around 1715, this is one of the few works for which a **"clean" copy of the manuscript exists.** Bach's son, Wilhelm Friedemann (1710-1784), used this copy in 1733 for an audition at **St. Sophia's Church** in Dresden. He got the job!

The best index to a **person's character** is how he treats people **who can't do him any good**, and how he treats **people who can't fight back.** (Abigail Van Buren)

### TIME OF PREPARATION

"In God's eyes our words have only the value of our actions."

— St. Ignatius Loyola

"It cannot be denied that too often the weight of the Christian movement has been on the side of the strong and the powerful and against the weak and oppressed — this, despite the gospel."

— Howard Thurman

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

"Prelude and Fugue in G Major, BWV 541" Johann Sebastian Bach

### WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

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

Bill Johnson

Leader: We gather to worship a living God, who calls us from complacency to just action, from fear to courage, from despair to hope.

People: We gather to bear witness to the image of God reflected in each face, and to give thanks, once more, that God has called us each **"Beloved child."**

Leader: We gather to worship the Source of all life, in whom we find our delight and hear our call.

People: Let us worship God!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #401 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

GATHER US IN

"Here in This Place"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Kathryn Ophardt

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kathryn Ophardt

God of wisdom, forgive our foolishness. We desire what we do not need and corrupt our relationships with envy. You urge us to gentleness, but we stir up conflict. Give us your grace, that we may harvest righteousness and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, we pray. Amen.

\* Indicates where you may please rise in body or spirit.

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PRAYER:

Gracious God, guard the laughter of children. Bring them safely through injury and illness, so they may live the promises you give. Do not let us be so preoccupied with our purposes that we fail to hear their voices, or pay attention to their special vision of the truth; but keep us with them, ready to listen and to love, even as in Jesus Christ you have loved us, your grown-up, wayward children. Amen.

The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing.  
(Socrates)

Francis Hall Johnson was born in Athens, Georgia on March 12, 1888. Along with Harry Burleigh and William Dawson, Johnson was one of many composers who helped elevate the African-American spiritual to an art form, comparable in its musical sophistication to those of their classical counterparts. He died in a fire at his New York apartment on April 30, 1970.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Kathryn Ophardt

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

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 1

Kathryn Ophardt

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 9:30-37

Bill Johnson

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

*Parents are asked to keep their children with them in the pews during this time.*

*There is currently no Extended Session program or childcare in the Nursery Suite available.*

*We have provided an expanded Kid's Corner with individually packaged materials, and family-friendly spaces in the Courtyard and the Garth Overlook Room (where you will be able to see and hear worship on a monitor in both spaces).*

\* HYMN #188

"Jesus Loves Me!"

JESUS LOVES ME

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

EPISTLE LESSON

James 3:13-4:3, 9-8a

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

"When Words Get in the Way"

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Woodworth

*The Lord's Prayer can be found on pg. 35 (English), on pg. 40 (Español) or on pg. 45 (한국어) in the Glory to God hymnal.*

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Woodworth

*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.*

*You are invited to use the QR code to the right if you would like to make a donation in support of ELPC. A donation box is also available in the Sanctuary.*



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Ain't Got Time to Die"

Hall Johnson

*Lord, I keep so busy praising my Jesus, ain't got time to die.*

*'Cause when I'm healing the sick I'm praising my Jesus, ain't got time to die.*

*Refrain: 'Cause it takes all of my time to praise my Jesus, all of my time to praise my Lord.*

*If I don't praise him the rocks gonna cry out: "Glory and honor, glory and honor!"*

*Ain't got time to die.*

*Lord, I keep so busy working for the kingdom, ain't got time to die.*

*'Cause when I'm feeding the poor I'm working for the kingdom, ain't got time to die. (Refrain)*

*Lord, I keep so busy serving my Master, ain't got time to die.*

*'Cause when I'm giving my all, I'm serving my Master, ain't got time to die. (Refrain)*

*Now won't you get out of my way, let me praise my Jesus,*

*Get out of my way, let me praise my Lord.*

*If I don't praise him the rocks gonna cry out: "Glory and honor, glory and honor!"*

*Ain't got time to die.*

\* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER:  
God of grace, no one is beyond the reach of your love, or outside your limitless mercy. Move us toward those the world despises and people reject, so we may venture to follow Christ, and risk showing his love. Stand with those who are outcast; strengthen them in peace; encourage them by your presence; and use them to build on the cornerstone of Christ, until differences are honored and respected, and all people together give you glory. Amen.

Ryan Croyle composed *Fanfare & Processional* for his wedding to Kathleen Mahin on September 16, 2017 at ELPC. Kathleen is a member of the Chancel Choir and Ryan is organist/music director at First Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. They welcomed daughter Marian Clarissa to the family on February 14, 2020.

\* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Woodworth  
Kathryn Ophardt

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 Señor nuestro Dios.	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People:	Es justo dar gracias y alabanzas a Dios.	It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Leader:	As trees planted by streams of water yield their fruit in season, we prosper in you. We are grateful for all that you have provided, and we dedicate our firstfruits to you and to the work of your church, now and forever. Amen.	

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN #320 (vs. 1, 3, 5)

WAREHAM

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare & Processional”

Dr. Moore, *organ*  
Ryan Croyle

*Our worship concludes with the postlude. For the benefit of those who wish to listen to the postlude, please refrain from visiting with your neighbors until you have left the sanctuary, or until the postlude has concluded.*



*As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on Facebook and archived at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church). This notice is to inform you that by being in attendance, you give permission for incidences where you appear within the video. Should you have any questions, please see one of our pastors.*

*Please turn off all electronic devices before the service begins.*

#### ◆ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf  
Liturgists: The Rev. BJ Woodworth  
Sara Hackett  
Bill Johnson  
Kathryn Ophardt  
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,  
*Organist/Music Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
David Jennings-Smith, *Soloist*  
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *Soloist*  
Beadle: Polly McQueen  
Crucifer: Erich Stein  
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

#### ◆ FELLOWSHIP TIME SUSPENDED

Out of an abundance of caution, we are not providing coffee or refreshments. However, water is available in the Fellowship Room.

#### ◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor flowers for our worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact Norma (412.441.3800 x111).

#### ◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am ..... Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall. The service will also be streamed on Zoom.

Sept 26 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

11 am ..... Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir. The service will also be livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook.

Sept 26 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

#### ◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Taizé Sung Prayer

Chants and periods of meditative silence modeled after the Taizé community in France. Rev. BJ Woodworth leads this service in the Chapel.

Wednesdays, 7 pm

Prayer Room (*in Highland Ave hallway*)

Come to sit and pray in silence. Come to experience the quiet in the midst of the wonderful busyness.

Available everyday

#### ◆ WEEKLY SPIRITUAL LIFE OFFERINGS

Contemplative Prayer

Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead a time to practice a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art and our bodies on Zoom ([www.Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us)).

Mondays, 7:30 am to 8 am

Meeting ID #959 8065 3992

Passcode: bestill

Mindfulness Meditation

Susan Spangler and Ted Cmarada will guide participants in mindfulness meditation practices and offer supports for practicing meditation in every day life on Zoom ([www.Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us)).

Thursdays, 8 am to 8:30 am

Meeting ID #959 8065 3992

Passcode: bestill

Cathedral Yoga

Yamuna will lead yoga in-person in the Sanctuary before the 7 pm Taizé Prayer service.

Wednesdays, 6 to 7 pm

## WELCOME VISITORS!

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this morning and ask you to register your name in our red Friendship Books.

*To learn more about our programs, church activities and volunteer services, we invite you to also:*

Pick up a copy of our newsletter, the *Reaching Out*, either in the Narthex or at the Hospitality Desk near the Highland Avenue doors.

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church).



## WELCOME TO ELPC!



Thank you for joining us  
in worship at ELPC!

Please make note of this information  
to help you navigate through some  
technology and donation updates and  
**revisions to our children's ministries.**

ELPC's Wi-Fi info: ELPC Guest, password is Guest116 (no space).

There is currently no Extended Session program or childcare in the Nursery Suite available.

We have provided an expanded *Kid's Corner* with individually packaged materials, and family-friendly spaces in the Courtyard and the Garth Overlook Room (with monitors so you can see and hear the service).

You are invited to use this QR code if you would like to make a donation in support of ELPC. Collection plates will be circulated during the *Offering*. A donation box is also available near the Sanctuary center aisle.



Please inform an ELPC staff member if you should become ill with COVID after being in the church building so the necessary protocol can be implemented.

## TODAY AT ELPC

### Explore Our Church Life

ELPC's annual *Church Life Sampler* will be held following today's 11 am Sanctuary worship service outdoors on South Whitfield St (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.



### Club one sixteen Resumes — Wednesdays

This year, kids in grades 1–12 are welcome to join us on Wednesdays from 4:30–6:30 pm. We will meet outside this fall, and so our theme for the year will be *inside out*. Through Bible study, art, recreation, and discussion, we will explore all the ways in which God shows up when our world is turned inside out. Register online or at the church. Masks will be required for all participants.

### 2021 CONSPIRE Conference Simulcast — Sept 24 to 26

Join us in person for a virtual simulcast of the Center for Action and Contemplation's CONSPIRE Conference, *Me/Us/the World: Living Inside God's Great Story* for free at ELPC! Rev. BJ Woodworth will stream the conference in the McKelvy Room. And lunch will be provided. Today is the final day to register at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church).

### Baptism Celebration During Worship — Sept 26

Join us during the 11 am Sanctuary worship service next Sunday when we will celebrate the sacrament of baptism and recognize all the children, youth, and adults in our faith family who were baptized over the past two years.

### Justice Committee to Host Clothing Drive

#### for Allegheny County Jail — Sept 26

We are seeking to provide dignity and clothing to those who are returning to our community from the Allegheny County Jail. 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 Sept 26 at the Highland Avenue 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. For more info, contact Judy Mancini ([mancinijs@gmail.com](mailto:mancinijs@gmail.com)).

### SSL Information Session—Sept 26

Have you ever considered language learning as a spiritual practice? Are you interested in learning Spanish as a second language (SSL)? Come to our SSL information session on Sunday, Sept 26 at 12:30 pm on Zoom ([www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us); Meeting ID # 829 1134 1253; or call 1 646 558 8656).

This will be a new beginners class, where we can answer your questions and gather ideas of what you want to study together. Attend this information session and learn more about the unique perspective of the SSL class at ELPC.





*As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:*

Linda Benedict's cousin Rhonda,  
Sarah Heppenstall, Buzz Hutchison,  
Diane Jackson's sister and niece;  
the Leisher's family friend Sydney,  
Karen Overfield, Ginny Seybold and  
Herma Stewart's sister Edris.

*Condolences to Linda Benedict on her  
friend's passing.*

*Condolences to Katie Haas-Conrad on her  
great aunt's passing.*

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#### LGBTQ Ministry — Sept 26

All LGBTQIA+ folks and allies are welcome to attend our next Spiritual Gathering on Sunday, Sept 26 at 12:30 pm. For more info, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

#### Want to Show Your ELPC Pride? — Sept 26

Stop by the Balaka Room after Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Sept 26 to pick up an ELPC tie dye t-shirt from members of the LGBTQ Ministry for just \$10. The front says *East Liberty Presbyterian Church* and the back says *God Created You. God Loves You. Be Yourself.*

#### Confirmation Class to Begin Meeting — Sept 26

ELPC's is offering **Confirmation Class** for children and youth in grades 8 and up. Students who are interested in learning more about Confirmation Class, as well as their parents/caregivers, are invited to an informational meeting following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Sept 26 to discuss the meaning and purpose of Confirmation, review our schedule, and answer questions.

To RSVP for the initial information session and/or to receive a complete schedule, contact Pastor Heather (HeatherS@coh.net) or Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

#### YAM Fall Series — Sept 28

All young adults are invited to join us on Tuesday, Sept 28 from 6:30–8 pm for our fall series to learn about, discuss, and attend Taizé prayer services. ELPC's Taizé service is based on a style of worship developed at the Taizé community in France in the 1940s by the late Brother Roger. Come explore as we collectively learn and discuss what Taizé is, its roots, and how we can implement it into the ways we practice our faith. We will use a variety of texts, stories, and images, and welcome a few speakers. Contact Kelli Booher for details (KelliB@coh.net).

#### Environmental Book Club Studies *Walden* — Sept 30

The Environmental Team invites you to read Henry David Thoreau's classic nature book *Walden*, and join a discussion on Thursday, Sept 30 at 7 pm. Katherine Hackney will lead our discussion. For more info or to tell us you are coming, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

## Spiritual Life Offerings

The Spiritual Life Committee is excited to restart some regular times and spaces to practice together, and live into some unforced rhythms of grace. Read an overview of each offering below and visit [ELPC.church](http://ELPC.church) for complete details.



CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER  
Mondays, 7:30–8 am, via Zoom

CATHEDRAL YOGA  
Wednesdays, 6–7 pm, in the Sanctuary

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE  
Wednesdays, 7 pm, in the Chapel

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION  
Thursdays, 8–8:30 am, via Zoom

ENNEAGRAM LUNCH CONVERSATION  
Third Mondays, 12:30–1:30 pm, via Zoom

JOURNEY DANCE  
Third Fridays of month, 6:30–7:45 pm,  
in the Sanctuary

INDIVIDUAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTION  
Contact Pastor BJ to schedule  
an appointment (BJW@coh.net).

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

*Sept 26 • 9:45 to 10:45 am*

### ◆ ADULTS ◆

Both in-person and on Zoom

Contact Sara Hackett or Rev. Heather Schoenewolf for Zoom links.

Journey with Scripture — Psalm 25:1–11; Amos 3:1–8; Luke 6:20–26; Galatians 2:1–10, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Lyle Irvin

Parenting Circle — “The Sandbox Revolution” facilitated by Trish Buben

Seekers — “Richard Rohr on the Cosmic Christ” facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food — Report and discussion with class members who have been attending the CONSPIRE Conference, facilitated by the Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members. The following Sunday, Oct 3, we will begin discussing our next book, *No Other Gods—The Politics of the Ten Commandments*, by Ana Levy-Lyons. New participants are always welcome at Soul Food. Please contact Rev. Joe Hajdu for more info (hajdu625@comcast.net).

### ◆ CHILDREN & YOUTH ◆

Pre-school through Grade 5 — Courtyard

Grades 6 through 12 — Play Yard (facing Baum Boulevard)