



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)

OCTOBER 17, 2021 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

We gather to worship on land originally in the care and protection of the Adena and Hopewell Nations, and the Monongahela Peoples, and shared over time by many Indigenous Nations, including the Delaware, Iroquois, and Shawnee Tribes. We honor their legacy and seek justice for all Indigenous people.

Fear not, for God's power is perfected in our weakness. Go in God's strength to love and serve!
(adapted from 2 Cor 12:10)

TIME OF PREPARATION

"One so often hears people say, 'I just can't handle it,' when they reject a biblical image of God as Father, as Mother, as Lord or Judge; God as lover, as angry or jealous, God on a cross. I find this choice of words revealing, however real the pain they reflect. If we seek a God we can "handle," that will be exactly what we get. A God we can manipulate, suspiciously like ourselves, the wideness of whose mercy we've cut down to size."
— Kathleen Norris, *Amazing Grace*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

"Praise"

Mike Tomaro and Combo
Pat Metheny

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.
People: Y también contigo.

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 8)

Barbara Griffin

Leader: O Lord, Creator God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
People: You have set your glory above the heavens, yet you are mindful of all our needs.
Leader: You have given us authority over the works of your hands and called us to be stewards of all manner of life here on earth.
People: Such things are too wonderful for us! May your sovereign name be ever praised!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #766

McKEE

"The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound"

INTRODUCTION OF SERMON THEME

The Rev. Dr. Bush

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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!

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 10:17-27

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

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

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Edward Kennedy “Duke”

Ellington (1899-1974) was born in Washington, DC and later moved to New York City, where he established himself as **one of America's** foremost jazz musicians. Ellington was a frequent collaborator with **Pittsburgh's own Billy Strayhorn** (1915-1967).

Ellington composed three *Sacred Concerts* later in his life. He called **these concerts “the most important thing I have ever done.”** The three concerts were premiered at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco (1965), the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City (1968), and Westminster Abbey in London (1973). All three *Sacred Concerts* were later released on recording. *Come Sunday* began as an instrumental piece. Ellington added words to that arrangement and included it in the first *Sacred Concert*.

CELEBRATE NEW MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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.

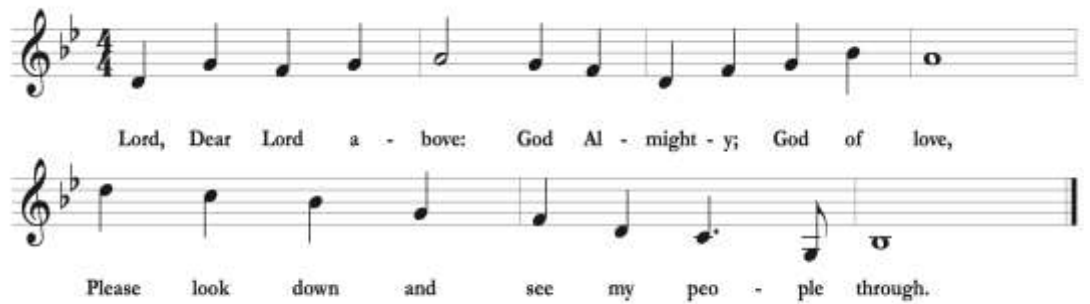
We have provided an expanded Kid's Corner with individually packaged materials, and family-friendly spaces in the Courtyard and the Garth Overlook Room (where you will be able to see and hear worship on a monitor in both spaces).

ANTHEM

“Come Sunday”

Duke Ellington

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain when directed.



Refrain: Lord, Dear Lord above, God Almighty, God of love,
Please look down and see my people through.

Verses: (sung by the choir)

I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky.

I don't mind the gray skies 'cause they're just clouds passing by.

Heaven is a goodness time. A brighter light on high.

Do unto others as you would have them do to you.

And have a brighter by and by.

I believe God is now, was then and always will be.

With God's blessing we can make it through eternity.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Corinthians 2:1-10

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Bush

“Intervals of Faith: Major 7th – Expanding What’s Possible”

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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.

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE FOR MISSION

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ON THIS DATE

IN HISTORY:

British forces under General John Burgoyne surrendered to American troops in Saratoga, NY, a turning point in the Revolutionary War (1777); playwright Arthur Miller was born (1915) and the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) was created (1919); Albert Einstein came to America as a refugee (1933); African American physician and astronaut Mae Jemison was born (1956); and Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (1979).

Parent, behold thy child:
Creator, behold thy creature:
Teacher, behold thy disciple:
Savior, behold thy redeemed one:
Spirit, behold thy cleansed one:
Comforter, behold one whom thou dost uphold:
I come to thee, O infinite and unimaginable,
To worship thee.
(Margaret Cropper)

OFFERING INVITATION

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.

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Gather ‘The Spirit”

Mike Tomaro and Combo
Jim Scott

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush
The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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:	At times your words to us are filled with puzzles and riddles. We are told to consider camels and needles, the smallest sparrow, the pennies given out of devotion to you. Open our hearts anew to your expansive vision of faithful living. Receive these gifts as part of our response to you this day, in the name and to the glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.	

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #722 (vs. 1, 4, 5)

CANONBURY

“Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

“Joy”

Mike Tomaro and Combo
Gerry Niewood

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. 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. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Barbara Griffin
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Mike Tomaro, *Sax*
Eric Susoeff, *Guitar*
Paul Thompson, *Bass*
David Glover, *Drums*
Beadle: Polly McQueen
Crucifer: Liz Hopkins
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). The cost is \$150.

♦ 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.

Oct 24 — The Rev. BJ Woodworth 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.

Oct 24 — 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).

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).

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.

TODAY AT ELPC

A Conversation on Critical Race Theory

Today at 12:30 pm in the Social Hall, we will present a conversation on Critical Race Theory (CRT), which has come to the forefront of the racial issues in our country. We will welcome keynote speaker Dr. James Phillip Huguley, associate dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and associate professor at the School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh, and a panel of our own ELPC educators who represent early childhood through higher education. We invite you to please join us.



Confirmation Class Meeting

Our Confirmation Class will meet today in the Courtyard from 12:30–3:30 pm. Contact Rev. Heather Schoenewolf (HeatherS@coh.net) or Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) for more info.

Outdoor Livestreaming Space for Sanctuary Service



We have set up an outdoor streaming area for our Sanctuary worship service on Sundays at 11 am. If your family is not yet comfortable attending worship indoors, join us in the Courtyard. Parents and guardians must remain with their kids.

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Every Sunday, a DOD (*Deacon-on-Duty*) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our services.

The *Journey* service DOD is Dana Carl

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Sharla Yates



Intermediate SSL Class — Thursdays

Our intermediate Spanish as a Second Language class meets on Thursdays at 4 pm. You are welcome to join us as we learn about ourselves, our neighbors, and God through the Spanish language! Join us on Zoom at tiny.cc/elpc-ssl-class.

Need Yardwork Help? — Oct 23

Need some help with yard work this fall? Know someone who could use some extra hands outside? ELPC youth would love to be of service on Saturday, Oct 23. Contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

LGBTQ Ministry — Oct 23

Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks are invited to attend our LGBTQ Ministry's *Spiritual Gathering* on Saturday, Oct 23 at 9 am to share food and fellowship. Contact Wil Forrest to attend or for more info (Wil@coh.net).



Connections Group to Visit Asian Lantern Festival — Oct 24

Would you like to reunite with some old friends, or make some new ones? Our Connections Group will meet at the Pittsburgh Zoo on Sunday, Oct 24 at 6:30 pm to explore the Asian Lantern Festival. Tickets are \$20 (\$17 for Zoo members), and may be purchased online (specify Oct 24 at 6:30 pm) or at the gate. Bring your mask. Please RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com.

Special Acknowledgements During Worship — Oct 24 and 31

On Sunday, Oct 24 at the 11 am worship service, we will acknowledge the couples who were joined in matrimony during the past 20 months, and offer a chance for all those in committed, loving relationships to renew their vows.

As part of our All Saints' Day service at 11 am on Sunday, Oct 31, we will remember those in our congregation and larger church family who have passed away since January 2020. Please join us for these special services!

Role of Educators in Affirming Racial Identity — Oct 31

The topics of race and education are—and have always been—inextricably intertwined. So, let's talk about it! Join the Facing Systemic Racism Committee during the Church School hour on Sunday, Oct 31 for an intergenerational conversation through story with Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz and Dr. Linda Lane. If interested in learning more about racial identity in the classroom from the lived perspective of Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz, please join us!



A Return to In-Person Taizé Prayer Services

If you find yourself weary and your devotion to justice and peace wavering in these hard times, join us on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Chapel to pray and meditate in song, silence, and body and find your spirits renewed.



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

Linda Benedict's cousin Rhonda,
Bill Buchanan, Martha DeMarzi's cousins, and
Karen Overfield.

Condolences to the family of
Stuart "Buzz" Hutchison *on his passing.*

Condolences to the family of
Jean Kennedy *on her passing.*

The congregation is invited to special funeral services being held on Saturday, October 23 for Jane Sampson (11:00 am) and Nancy Latshaw (2:00 pm).

YAM "Champing" Fall Retreat — Nov 5 to 7

You may have heard of "glamping," but this year's Young Adult Ministry's retreat is unique in that it is *champing*—camping at a church that is no longer used for services. We will travel outside of Pittsburgh



from Friday, Nov 5 to Sunday, Nov 7 to a historic church built in 1903. We will have access to the main sanctuary, balcony, kitchen, and yes, it does have hot showers! Tents, camping mats, and/or cots are provided, but you may bring your own. There is more than 3,000 square feet of space, so plenty of room for us to spread out.

The cost is \$30/person (scholarships are available). Contact Kelli Booher (KelliB@coh.net) for more details about this retreat. RSVP by Friday, Oct 29.



Save the Dates for the Giving Tree

The Deacons are making plans for their Annual Giving Tree Ministry. ELPC members have always been extremely generous in supporting this important ministry, and we look forward to providing gifts to children in our community once more. This year, you will have three Sundays to take gift tags or participate online using SignUpGenius.

Tags will be distributed in person and online via SignUpGenius on Sundays, Nov 14, 21 and 28. Gifts will be due at the church no later than Sunday, Dec 5.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Join us for worship on Stewardship Sunday, Nov 7 and come forward with your pledge and food donations.

How many of us have wished that God would work on our timeline and just do exactly what we ask? How many of us have been awakened by the brilliance of God's glory when it showed up in God's way, in God's time?

It takes faith to go where God leads. This year, we are summoning our faith as we walk with God in re-activating our church and manage the ongoing effects of the pandemic. In order to keep ELPC vital and be prepared to follow God, we are planning a pledge goal of \$760,000, which is a 4% increase over last year.

We also are planning a fall food drive to support our sisters and brothers who are experiencing food insecurity. Requested items include canned fruits, vegetables, and tuna; pastas; instant potatoes; etc.

During this season, *listen* for the sounds of God's presence in birds singing, belly laughter, and the choir's anthems. *Watch* for God's presence in spectacular murals, crunchy leaves, and purple sunrises. *Experience* God's presence in the courage of civil servants, the tenderness of caregivers, and the deep commitment of our teachers.

As we attend to all that God has given us and to where God has led us, our hope is that we all can be prayerful and faithful in pledging, so that our church can follow where God is leading us in 2022.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Oct 24 • 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 134; Amos 6:11–14; Luke (Q) 6:46–49 (*Not Just Saying Master, Master: Houses Built on Rock or on Sand*); Galatians 3:6–26, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Lyle Irvin

Parenting Circle — "The Sandbox Revolution" facilitated by Trish Buben

Seekers — "AJAPO Refugee Resettlement in Pittsburgh," facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food — We will discuss the Third Commandment with our book *No Other God — The Politics of the Ten Commandments*, led by Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members.

◆ CHILDREN & YOUTH ◆

Pre-school through Grade 5 — Courtyard

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