



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)

JANUARY 9, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) was a meticulous composer, constantly revising his music, which resulted in a smaller output of compositions than many of his contemporaries.

This perfectionism resulted in pieces of the highest quality, which are held in high regard in the organ literature. His shortest composition for the organ, this prelude was composed in 1962 and is based on the Gregorian plainsong sung at the introit on Epiphany.

For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:13)

TIME OF PREPARATION

Simony: the buying or selling of something spiritual or connected with the spiritual.

Simony in the form of buying holy orders or offices was virtually unknown in the first three centuries of the Christian church, but it became familiar when the church had positions of wealth to bestow. The name is taken from Simon Magus (Acts 8:18) who tried to buy from the Apostles the power to confer gifts of the Holy Spirit.

MUSIC MINISTRY “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” arr. Wayne L. Wold
 “Prelude for the Introit of Epiphany” Maurice Duruflé
 Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

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. The peace of Christ be with you.
People: Y también contigo. And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Kathryn Ophardt
Leader: The voice of God resounds upon the waters;
People: The Spirit of the Lord hovers over every baptism fount.
Leader: The Son of God is named “Beloved,”
People: **And all who worship shout out, “Glory!”**
Leader: Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.
People: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #475 NETTLETON
 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

CALL TO CONFESSION Adrianna Cleveland

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Adrianna Cleveland
Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and newness of life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, old grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life and live together in grace. Hear our silent prayers of confession.

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

Jan 9 • Baptism of the Lord

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:

The explorer Marco Polo died in Venice at the age of 70 (1324); Fisk University in Nashville, TN started classes for former slaves (1866); New York State introduced a bill to outlaw flirting in public (1902); The Seeing Eye, the first school to train dogs to guide the blind, opened in Nashville (1928); and Mahmoud Abbas was elected President of the Palestinian Authority (2005).

As a sign and seal of **God's gracious action** and our grateful response, baptism is the foundation for all Christian commitment. In it we are set free from **sin, marked as Christ's** own, sealed by the Holy Spirit, welcomed to the **Lord's Supper, made a** member of the church, and set apart for a life of service.
(Book of Order W-4.01, 4.02)

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Adrianna Cleveland

Leader: Rejoice, for you have been named children of God, heirs of the promise, washed by the waters of baptism hope. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 3:15-22

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

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 a family-friendly space in the Garth Overlook Room (where you will be able to see and hear worship on a monitor).

* HYMN #480

"Take Me to the Water"

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 8:4-14, 18-22

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

"Something Money Can't Buy"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM VOWS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

People: I do.

Leader: Who is your Lord and Savior?

People: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Leader: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Leader: Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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. Schoenewolf

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.



Jan 9 • Baptism of the Lord

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day first appeared in a collection of carols in 1833, but is most likely much older than that. The verses tell of the life of Jesus as told in his own voice. His life is characterized as a dance, as it does in the later hymn *Lord of the Dance*.

PRAYER:

Glorious God, when Jesus was baptized for your healing mission the heavens opened in glory as vision and voice blazed upon the waters. May your Spirit so burn in us that we hear your word translated into deed and follow Jesus in paths of justice and peace. Amen.

BLESSING:

May the grace of Christ, who stood with sinners on the river bank, uphold you. May the love of God, who calls us beloved children, bless you. May the power of the Holy Spirit, who descended upon Jesus as a dove, give you peace. Amen.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day”

Richard Shepherd

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day, I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance.*

Sing, O my love, this have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance.

Thus was I knit to all of nature, to call my true love to the dance.

In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor; this was my chance,

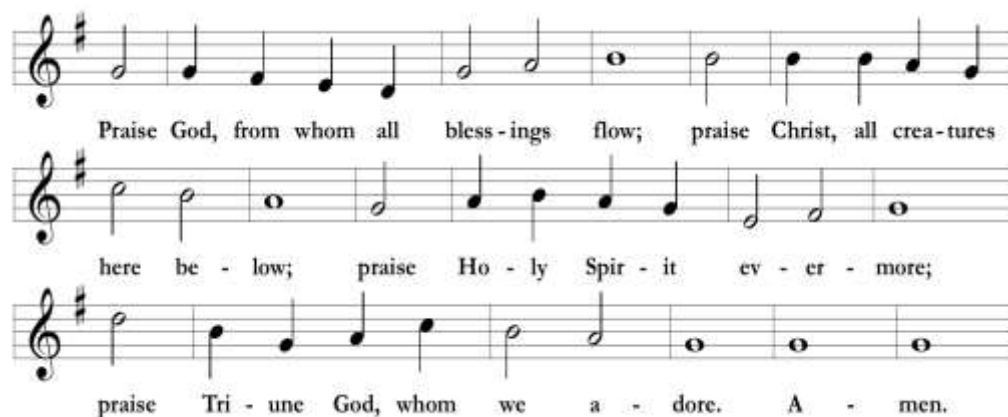
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance.

Then afterwards baptized I was; the Holy Ghost on me did glance,

My Creator's voice heard from above, to call my true love to my dance.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf
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: We give you thanks and praise for the many ways your Spirit still moves
over us today and grants us new life. Receive the gifts and offerings we
share. Continue to wash us and nourish us in the days to come. May we
ever live as your beloved children, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #490

BEACH SPRING

“Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

“Fugue on the Carillon of Soissons Cathedral”

Maurice Duruflé
Dr. Moore, organ

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
Adrianna Cleveland
Kathryn Ophardt
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Beadle: Jo Ellen Aleshire
Crucifer: Mario Seneca
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ FELLOWSHIP TIME SUSPENDED

Due to the pandemic, our Fellowship Time is suspended. 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 \$175.

◆ 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.

Jan 16 — The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy preaching.

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

Jan 16 — The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy 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 on Zoom to practice a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art and our bodies.

Mondays, 7:30 am to 8 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

Yoga Retreat

Join Yamuna Morgenstern and Katrina Woodworth for a yoga retreat at ELPC. We will begin the day with yoga, followed by moments for movement, reflection, meditation, and lunch. We hope also to offer the experience of *kirtan* (sacred call and response chanting in Sanskrit). Register by Jan 23 to Norma (412.441.3800 x111). *Suggested donation: \$35-60.*

Saturday, Jan 29, 9 am to 5 pm (*includes lunch*)

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

Purchase Café Justo Coffee

Stop by the Narthex after today's 11 am worship service to purchase a bag of Café Justo coffee. All varieties are available in ground and whole bean bags for \$10 (cash or check only). If you are unable to pick up your coffee in person, contact Ryan Booher (rabooherco@gmail.com).

Sanctuary/Chapel Tour

Following this morning's 11 am service, join a tour of ELPC highlighting church history and architectural contrasts of the Chapel and Sanctuary. The Narthex, Trinity Chapel, and Chancel will be included. Please gather at the Highland Lobby after worship.



LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — Jan 16

You are invited to the next spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, Jan 16 at 12:30 pm. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. This month we will meet via Zoom only. Contact Wil Forrest for more info (412.441.3800 x118; Wil@coh.net).



Taizé Prayer and Cathedral Yoga — Jan 19

There will be no Taizé service on Wednesday, Jan 19. That evening's Cathedral Yoga will be virtual.

Snow Tubing at Boyce Park — Jan 23

Youth in grades 6–12 are going snow tubing at Boyce Park! Families are STRONGLY encouraged to drive youth to and from the park. Families are welcome to stay and snow tube with us! RSVP to Sara Hackett by Sunday, Jan 16 (SaraH@coh.net). *Also now happening ... Family Bowling!* Reserve a time for your family to come in and bowl at the church. Contact Sara for details and to reserve a time.



Yoga Retreat — Jan 29

Start your 2022 with a journey within. Treat yourself to the first ever *yoga retreat* at ELPC! Whether you are a regular attendee to Wednesday night Cathedral Yoga or not, consider joining Yamuna Morgenstern and Katrina Woodworth for a yoga retreat from 9 am-5 pm on Saturday, Jan 29. We will begin the day with yoga, followed by moments for movement, reflection, meditation, and lunch. We hope also to offer the experience of "kirtan" (sacred call and response chanting in Sanskrit) and perhaps the labyrinth. We will end the day with a luscious restorative yoga class to send you on your way with a divine sense of renewal. Suggested donation of \$35-\$60 includes lunch. Register by Jan 23 with Norma (412.441.3800 x111).



A Letter from the Birmingham Jail — Jan 30

On April 16, 1963, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., wrote "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." That statement is still true today.

During the Church School hour on Sunday, Jan 30, the Facing Systemic Racism Committee and the Faith Formation Board invite all adults and students in grade 6 and up to participate in a discussion of the Rev. Dr. King's Letter from the Birmingham Jail. Join us—either in person or via Zoom (tiny.cc/MLK-letter or call 312.626.6799; enter meeting ID 874 9214 5751 and passcode 651698 when prompted).

A New Take on Climate Change — Feb 10

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee is reading a new book titled *All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis*, edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson. This diverse collection of essays and a few poems are written by female activists, scientists, artists, architects, policymakers, and thinkers of various ages. We invite you to read the book, and join us to talk about your favorite parts on Thursday, Feb 10 at 7 pm via Zoom. To RSVP, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Children and Youth Ministries

In light of the current surge of the Omicron variant in our region, ELPC is pausing all indoor, in-person ministry to children and youth. We regret that conditions simply aren't safe enough for us to gather as we had hoped, but plan to continually monitor and reevaluate this situation so that we can gather in person as soon as it is safer to do so. For the most up-to-date info, please visit our website: www.ELPC.church.

In the meantime, 6th-12th grade Church School and 7th-12th grade club 116 will move to Zoom. And plans are already in the works for intergenerational offerings to help us stay connected during this season.



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

Linda Benedict,
Joe and Cathie Hajdu's son Jeremy,
Rev. Hyde Houston,
Tom Morton's friend Kirk,
Nancy Phillips, and
Rev. Heather Schoenewolf's father.

Condolences to the family of Garland McAdoo on his passing.

Condolences to the family of Patrick Panebianco on his passing.

Climate Change and the Green New Deal — Feb 13

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to a panel discussion on *Climate Change and the Green New Deal* following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Feb 13. Together, we will examine the issue of climate change, its implications for racial and economic justice, and how we can combat it by building a mass movement for a *Green New Deal*. Panelists include Claire Cohen, M.D., Patricia DeMarco, Ph.D. and Helen Gerhardt. For more info and to RSVP, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net). Join us in the Social Hall or via Zoom. Light refreshments will be provided.

Nursery News

ELPC leadership continues to monitor the level of local COVID-19 transmission and vaccination rates as we discern when we can safely open our Nursery. Our hope is to have it available this spring. Beginning this month, families are welcome to accompany their child (birth–age 2) to the Nursery to watch a livestream of our Sanctuary worship service on Sundays at 11 am.



ELPC IS LAUNCHING AN APP

As we enter into a new year and return to semi-normal life and **church programming**, we're launching a mobile app to serve as a hub for all ELPC-related news, events, and digital offerings.

On the app, you'll be able to stream live and archived worship services and concerts, watch sermons, listen to our Taizé podcast, download bulletins, browse events, connect with our social media pages, read up-to-date news, and more.

The app will soon be available to download for free through the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store.

In our

COMMUNITY



Contribute to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

In the early hours of Dec 11, several tornadoes ripped through multiple U.S. states, resulting in extensive damage and significant loss of life. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is in touch with affected presbyteries to coordinate resources and assistance. Please visit the PDA website and designate any financial gifts to #DR000015 (<https://pda.pcusa.org>).



USHERS NEEDED

ELPC is seeking volunteers to help usher at our 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Sundays. Usher Captains are also needed. If you are interested in participating in this ministry by greeting people who come to worship at ELPC, distributing worship bulletins and collecting the offering, please contact Pastor Randy Bush (RandyB@coh.net) or Norma (Norma@coh.net).

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Jan 16 • 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 — Deliverance Psalm (11QPs); Hosea 3:1–4:6; Galatians 6:11–18; Luke (Q) 11:2b–4, 9–13 (The Lord's Prayer, the Certainty of Answer to Prayer), facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Lyle Irvin

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

Seekers — "Religious Questions with Scholar Elaine Pagels" facilitated by Gwen Puza

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

◆ CHILDREN & YOUTH ◆

Preschool — Suspended

Kindergarten through Grade 3 — Suspended

Grades 4 and 5 — Suspended

Grades 6 through 12 — on Zoom (contact Sara for info)