



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 16, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. Never again can we afford to live with the narrow, provincial "outside agitator" idea. Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider anywhere within its bounds.
(Martin L. King, Jr., Letter from Birmingham Jail)

TIME OF PREPARATION

The Rev. Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., renewer of society, martyr, pastor, and arbiter of non-violent resistance, is remembered as an American prophet of justice among races and nations., a Christian whose faith undergirded his advocacy of vigorous yet non-violent action for racial equality. He pastored churches in Montgomery, AL, and Atlanta, GA; his witness was taken to the streets in other places, such as Birmingham, AL, where he was arrested and jailed while protesting against segregation. He preached nonviolence and demanded that love be returned for hate. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, he was killed by an assassin on April 4, 1968. Annually, a civil national holiday and commemorations are celebrated on or near the day of Dr. King's birth, January 15.

MUSIC MINISTRY

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"
"Give Me Jesus"

Peter Pindar Stearns
Richard Billingham
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

David Jennings-Smith

Leader: We are the Body of Christ — let us gather to worship the Living God!
People: We are the Body of Christ — let us see the world and one another through the loving eyes of Christ!
Leader: We are the Body of Christ — let the Holy Spirit use our gifts in service of justice for all of God's people!
People: We are the Body of Christ — **made in God's image, united across** difference, uniquely gifted, collectively called.
Leader: May we praise our God, bearing witness to God's gracious love poured out for us in Christ Jesus, who makes us one.
People: Let us worship God together in Spirit and in truth! Hallelujah and Amen!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #611

HYMN TO JOY

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

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

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WORDS BY
ROSA PARKS,
CIVIL RIGHTS ICON:

"You must never be
fearful about what you
are doing when it is
right."

"Each person must live
their life as a model for
others."

"I would like to be
remembered as a person
who wanted to be free...
so other people would
also be free."

"I knew someone had to
take the first step and
I made up my mind not
to move."

We Shall Overcome is
recognized as the
unofficial anthem of the
Civil Rights Movement of
the 1960s. It was popular
with folk singers,
including Pete Seeger.
Joan Baez led a crowd of
300,000 in singing *We
Shall Overcome* at the
Lincoln Memorial in
August 1963. Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr. recited
the words to the hymn in
Memphis on Sunday,
March 31, 1968 during
his final sermon before
being assassinated the
following week.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

God of justice and love, you made all of humanity in your image and claimed us as your own, yet we have failed to acknowledge our oneness in you. We are your Body, united in Christ, yet we build walls between ourselves and those who are different from us. We cling to your love for us, but then we turn and embrace systems that foster inequality. We give thanks for all you have done for us, but then we hide behind our privilege and fail to acknowledge the rampant discrimination that still plagues our hearts and world. Forgive us, we pray. Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that the barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that, with our divisions healed, we might live in justice and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Leader: God has lifted us up from all that has caused us to sin against God and one another. Gone are the old names that defined us: unforgiving, unjust, unfaithful, divisive. Through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, God names us anew: merciful, just, faithful, righteous. Hear, trust, and believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Gracias a dios y aleluya! Thanks be to God and hallelujah!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #288

LIVING GOD

"Spirit of the Living God"

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

David Jennings-Smith

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

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).

SPECIAL MUSIC

"We Shall Overcome"

Soloists: Adrianna Cleveland

Todd Farwell, David Jennings-Smith
Robin Schneider, Denise Sheffey-Powell

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 29:1-14

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

"Providence, Prophecy, and Plans"

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* HYMN #39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

FAITHFULNESS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kathryn Ophardt

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:
The groundbreaking novel, Miguel de Cervantes' *El ingenioso hidalgo Don Quixote de la Mancha*, better known as *Don Quixote*, was published (1605); the Crittenden Compromise, the last chance to keep North and South united, died in the U.S. Senate (1861); the 18th Amendment prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating beverages was ratified by the requisite number of States (1919); The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born (Jan 15, 1929); General Marcelite Jordan Harris, the United States Air Force's first African American female general was born in Houston, TX (1943); and Robert C. Weaver became the first Black presidential cabinet member when sworn in as Secretary of Housing and Urban Affairs under the Johnson Administration (Jan 18, 1966).

Composer Carl Haywood is a native of Portsmouth, Virginia. Dr. Haywood served as director of choral activities at Norfolk State University and for twenty-six years he served as organist/choir director at Grace Episcopal Church, Norfolk. *Improvisation on We Shall Overcome* was composed for the MLK service at St. James' Church in Richmond, Virginia.

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.

Kathryn Ophardt



OFFERTORY ANTHEM "There Is a Longing in Our Hearts"

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.

There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God:

For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.

In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God.

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.

In weakness, in fear: be near; hear our prayer, O God.

For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.

In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God.

Lord, save us, take pity, Light in our darkness.

We call you; we wait: be near, hear our prayer, O God.

Anne Quigley

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

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

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: Lord Jesus Christ, your goodness is beyond the reaches of our limited imaginations, a fullness of love that embraces all of life. From you we have received grace upon grace. All that we have is yours, and all we return to you is but a reflection of your love for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #372

"O For A World"

AZMON

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

"Improvisation on We Shall Overcome"

Carl Haywood

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. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Sara Hackett
David Jennings-Smith
Kathryn Ophardt
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Soloists: Adrianna Cleveland
Todd Farwell
David Jennings-Smith
Robin Schneider
Denise Sheffey-Powell
Beadle: Polly McQueen
Crucifer: Erich Stein
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 23 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf 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 23 — 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 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

Helping from Home

You are invited to join us for *Helping from Home* today from 1-2 pm on Zoom for a MLK day of service when we will be using art to educate, build community, and reflect on King's call to service. This is an intergenerational event and all ages are invited. Supplies needed are: paper and envelopes, crayons or markers, as well as other art supplies you have for making posters or notecards. If needed, supplies can be picked up from the church today.



LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering

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

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 Elaine Phillips.



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.

Bowling at ELPC

Families can reserve a time through Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) to come in and use the church's bowling alley throughout the month of January.

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

Anyone from the church is welcome to join us as we have reserved the snowtubing area for the afternoon. You must be 42" tall to snow tube. Participants between 42"-50" must be linked to an adult while tubing. All 6th-12th graders can be dropped off as youth leaders will be there to chaperone. Cost to snow tube is \$10 per person but scholarships are available. RSVP to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) as there are a limited number of tickets.

Sanctuary/Chapel Tour — Jan 23

Following the 11 am service on Sunday, Jan 23, 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.

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:

Remembrance and Reflection — Jan 30 (*first of a 3-part series*)

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 and proves to be a relevant topic for these times.

During the Church School hour on Sunday, Jan 30, the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush, 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 prophetic letter.

For this first installment of the series, Dr. Bush, who has done substantive research on the letter as part of his dissertation, will serve as the principal presenter.

Join us in person in the Social Hall or via Zoom (tiny.cc/MLK-letter or call 312.626.6799, enter meeting ID 874 9214 5751 and passcode 651698). Dr Bush's remarks will also be recorded. *Details, dates and times for the remaining two parts of the series will be forthcoming.*



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

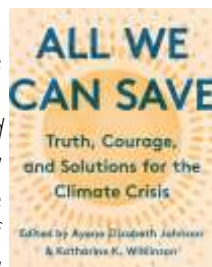
Linda Benedict,
Wil Forrest's brother Loren,
Joe and Cathie Hajdu's son Jeremy,
Rev. Hydie Houston,
Nancy Phillips, and
Rev. Heather Schoenewolf's father.

Condolences to the family of Hugh VanderVeer on his passing.

Condolences to the family of Gretchen Lewis on her passing.

Foundation of HOPE | Adult Diversion Presentation — Feb 3
On Sunday, Feb 3 from 12:30-1:30 pm, please join the Justice Committee for a presentation about the Foundation of HOPE Adult Diversion Program that redirects adults involved in low-level offenses into a restorative program and away from a criminal record, prosecution, and incarceration. Services include mental health support, substance use treatment and harm reduction support, medical treatment, housing, food assistance, and more. ELPC will be joined by the Foundation of HOPE Adult Diversion Director Mica Williams, and a case manager, who will discuss their work in the community and opportunities for involvement by ELPC members. The presentation will be in-person in the Social Hall and also available Zoom. Light snacks will be provided. For more info, contact Stephanie Creasy (screasy16@gmail.com).

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).



DONATIONS TO ELPC

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.



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>).

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'

There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right.

— The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Jan 23 • 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 — Incantation (11QPs); Hosea 6:1–11; Galatians review; Luke (Q) 11:14–26 (Refuting the Beelzebub Accusation, The One Not With Me, The Return of the Unclean Spirit), facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Lyle Irvin

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

Seekers — “The Origin of Satan” by Elaine Pagels facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food — We will have a concluding review discussion of *No Other Gods* and preview our next book, *Wholehearted Faith*, which we will begin discussing on Feb 6, 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)