



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)

FEBRUARY 27, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

The tune UNSER
HERRSCHER was
composed by Joachim
Neander (1650-1680).
It is in our *Glory to God*
Hymnal three times,
#360 and #403, and
also with a text for
Transfiguration, #193 —
Jesus, Take Us to the
Mountain.

PRAYER:
God of shining splendor,
your voice makes the
earth tremble in wonder.
Overshadow us with
your Spirit so that we
may hear your Word,
recognize your call on
us as beloved children,
and live as faithful
disciples and covenant
people; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

TIME OF PREPARATION

Wherever you turn your eyes the world can shine like transfiguration. You don't have to bring a thing to it except a little willingness to see... Theologians talk about a prevenient grace that precedes grace itself and allows us to accept it. I think there must also be a prevenient courage that allows us to be brave — that is, to acknowledge that there is more beauty than our eyes can bear, that precious things have been put into our hands and to do nothing to honor them is to do great harm.

— Marilynne Robinson, *Gilead*

MUSIC MINISTRY

Ludwig Maurer/Robert Nagel
from “Three Pieces for Brass Quintet” The Brass Roots
I. Maestoso alla Marcia
III. Allegro Grazioso

arr. Mark Schweizer

“Unser Herrscher/Jesus Take Us to the Mountain”

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
The Brass Roots

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

Pamela Kimmel

Leader: At the dawn of time, God spoke, calling light out of darkness.
People: In the fullness of time, God came to us in Christ, offering hope to a troubled world.
Leader: On a high mountain, Jesus was transfigured,
People: **And God said, “This is my Child, my beloved; listen to him.”**
Leader: On this day, we gather to worship God, known as Creator, Savior, and Spirit;
People: **May we become heirs of heaven's glory and always walk in its life-giving light.**
Leader: Together let us worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #189 (vs. 1, 2, 5)

DEO GRACIAS

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair”

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

Feb 27 • Transfiguration of the Lord

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

On this day in history, the following people were born: poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807), author John Steinbeck (1902), and operatic singer Marian Anderson (1902). It is also when Congress established the District of Columbia (1801), the Dominican Republic gained independence from Haiti (1844), the American Indian Movement occupied Wounded Knee in South Dakota for 3 months (1973), and Paul McCartney and Stevie Wonder recorded the single *Ebony & Ivory* (1981).

If ye do not recognize God, at least recognize God's signs.
(Sufi spirituality)

In the Transfiguration of Christ, there is an aura of unnatural brilliance. This is associated with transcendent experiences elsewhere, such as when Moses came down from Mt. Sinai (Exodus 34) and when Saul/Paul encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus (Acts 9). It is also an element in the resurrection story, such as when two angels in glowing robes encountered the women at the tomb (Luke 24:4).

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and impetuously act when we should wait for your leading. Forgive our aimless enthusiasms. Grant us wisdom to live in your light and to follow in the way of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: The same one who calls light out of darkness now shines in our hearts to reveal the fullness of God's love for each of us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

SUNG RESPONSE

"It Is Good To Trust"

Bo - num est con - fi - de - re in Do - mi - no,
It is good to trust in the Lord our God,
bo - num spe - ra - re in Do - mi - no,
trust and hope in the Lord our God.

Music by Jacques Berthier © 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé.
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OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 34:29-35

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Children in preschool through grade 3 are invited to the Chapel for a time of learning together. Children younger than age 3 are welcome to attend, if accompanied by their parents. Parents and caregivers should meet their children in the back of in the Sanctuary during the Doxology, when children will return to the worship service.

The nursery is open to young children who are accompanied by their parents/caregivers during worship (there will be no staff/volunteers present); the service is livestreamed into that space.

* HYMN #190

"Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"

GENEVA

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 9:28-36

The Rev. Dr. Bush

SERMON

"Waking to a Different Light"

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Feb 27 • Transfiguration of the Lord

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

The words and music to *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* were written by Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) in 1966. She gave the music the tune name HOUSTON after a visit to the Church of the Redeemer in Houston, Texas.

We each have two eyes.
One only sees what moves in fleeting time,
but the other sees what is eternal and divine.
(Angelus Silesius)

BLESSING:
May the glory of God
shine upon you, the
Word of God live within
you, and the Spirit of
God give you peace.

Aaron David Miller (b. 1972) is Director of Music/Organist at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota. The tune *Deo Gracias*, also known as *The Agincourt Song* is found three times in our *Glory to God Hymnal*, #189, 258, 618.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee

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. BJ 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

Kathleen Thomerson

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

The text can be found in the Glory to God Hymnal #377.

* 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: Loving God, we praise you for your saving grace. We respond today with these gifts and offerings. Transfigure them to your glory and transform us that your love may shine forth in all we say and do. We rejoice in your radiant light guiding all of creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amén.

Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN #273

"He Is King of Kings"

HE IS KING

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Bush

POSTLUDE

"Deo Gracias"

Aaron David Miller

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.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee,
President, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Pamela Kimmel
Kathryn Ophardt
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
The Brass Roots:
Samuel Eisenhandler, *trumpet*
Matthew McCormack, *trumpet*
Rana Jurjus, *horn*
Morgan Wynn, *trombone*
John Caughman, *tuba*
Beadle: Liz Hopkins
Crucifer: Mark Statler
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 amJourney Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The service is also streamed on Zoom.
March 6 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.
11 amSanctuary 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.
March 6 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf 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 (Meeting ID 959 8065 3992) to practice a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art and our bodies.
Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am
Meeting ID #959 8065 3992
Passcode: bestill

February Yoga and Mindful Meditation
Start your day on your mat, stretching and moving your body for 45-50 minutes of gentle Hatha yoga and 10-15 minutes of guided mindful meditation. February classes will have gentle and slow mindful movement, linking postures and breath and end with guided silent meditation. Donation-based. Must register online at <https://tinyurl.com/Feb-Yoga-and-Meditation>.
Feb 28, 8-9 am

Cathedral Yoga
Yamuna will lead yoga in-person at 6 pm in the Sanctuary (before the 7 pm Taizé Prayer service).
Wednesdays, 6 to 7 pm

Journey Dance

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

Congregational Meeting

At 12:45 pm today, we will convene for our annual *Congregational Meeting*. This is a time to reflect on the past year, receive reports and budget information, and elect officers to serve on our governing councils. It also is a time to consider the ways in which God is at work in our congregation's programmatic, educational, mission-oriented, and worship lives.

You are invited to attend the meeting in the Social Hall or on Zoom (www.Zoom.us; Meeting ID 895 1736 2467).

Copies of the 2021 Annual Report are available at the entrances and on our website. One copy per family please.

ELPC's Updated Mask Usage Policy

All people visiting and working in ELPC will be required to wear a face mask both inside and outside (on the property) regardless of vaccination status. It is recommended that the mask be an N95, surgical, or comparable mask.

Tread Lightly for Lent: Daily Reflection/Action Calendar

This Lenten Devotional is being co-sponsored by the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee and the Faith Formation Board. It is available to download at www.presbyterianmission.org/resource/tread-lightly-for-lent.



Yoga and Mindful Meditation — Feb 28

Start your day on your mat, stretching and moving your body for 45-50 minutes of gentle Hatha yoga and 10-15 minutes of guided mindful meditation. This Spiritual Life offering will gather on Zoom on Monday, Feb 28 from 8-9 am. Please register online at <https://tinyurl.com/Feb-Yoga-and-Meditation>.

Club One Sixteen Resumes Full Schedule — March 2

Club One Sixteen resumes its regular schedule on Wednesday, March 2 from 4:30-6:30 pm. All children in grade 1 and up can participate. Registration required.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study — March 1 and 7

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study lesson *Mary* on Tuesday, March 1 from 10 am-Noon and Monday, March 7 from 7-8:30 pm. Both sessions will meet on Zoom. This is the first of two lessons about *Mary*. In April, we will consider “*Mary in the Faith and Tradition of the Church*.” For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Church Tours — March 6 and 20

Join us on March 6 for a tour of the Sanctuary and Chapel; and again on March 20 for a tour of the tower. Please wear closed-toe walking shoes for the tower tour. Both tours begin after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Please gather in the Highland Lobby at the hospitality desk to join the tour guide.

Letter from Birmingham Jail (part 2) — March 13

Following the 11 am worship service on Sunday, March 13, the Facing Systemic Racism Committee will present the second session on *The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Letter from Birmingham Jail*. Led by Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz, we will explore a summary of one of the seminal issues in Dr. King's letter: “just” vs “unjust” laws.

Join us in person in the Social Hall or online at tiny.cc/mlk-letter-2. You also may call in by dialing 301.715.8592 and entering meeting ID 841 7387 8710 and passcode 442300. Please note: The final session will be held on Saturday, April 9 at 6 pm. Together, we will explore Dr. King's disappointment in the white church of his day, and how that relates to our current reality.

Lenten Silent Retreat — March 18 to 20

We invite you to come away with God in the middle of the Lenten season for a weekend of quiet and rest at St. Emma's Retreat House in Greensburg from Friday, March 18 at 5 pm to Sunday, March 20 at Noon.

The retreat will be a time to rest your body, mind, and spirit, to play and pray, to eat and be still, to walk and sit, to talk and be silent, and simply follow “the unforced rhythms of grace.” The cost is \$150 (scholarships available). Contact Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net) for details. Spots are limited; RSVP to Norma (Norma@coh.net) by Sunday, March 13.

Ash Wednesday is March 2



The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2, and ELPC will offer two services, both of which will include the imposition of ashes. At noon, Kathryn Ophardt, our seminary intern, will lead a reflective time of word and prayer. Then at 7 pm, Pastor BJ will commemorate the start of Lent through the music and prayers of Taizé. Please join us for this sacred time of ritual and reflection in the Sanctuary.



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

Carla Depperman's friends

Maria Alarcon and her husband and children,
Cathie Hajdu and

Joe and Cathie Hajdu's son Jeremy,

Jan Pressman's sister Phyllis,

Gwendolyn Schmidt, and

Rev. Heather Schoenewolf's mother and father.

*Please send your prayer requests to Megan Leisher
(MeganL@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x122)*

Support Our Winter Food Drive — March 20

Following 11 am worship on Sunday, March 20, the Neighbors Committee will host a *Winter Food Drive* in the staff parking lot on Baum Blvd. Requested donations include: canned or dried fruit, canned vegetables, cereal, crackers, individual fruit cups, jelly, peanut butter, pasta and sauces, rice, soups and broth, salt, seasonings, and spices. Contact Tim VanFleet (tavanfleet@gmail.com) or Pastor Patrice (patricefs@coh.net) for info.

Enneagram Study Group — Begins March 21

The Enneagram is an ancient tool with modern appeal. Its accuracy can be disarming and its applied wisdom transformative. Whether you are new to the Enneagram or have been dabbling in it for years, you are invited to participate in this Enneagram Study Group where you will glean a deeper appreciation of how we are “fearfully and wonderfully made” and how that plays out in loving our neighbors. The Enneagram doesn't put you in a box; it reveals the box that you are already in and offers a path out!

Join facilitator Lynn Holden on the third Mondays of March through June and Sept through Dec, from 12:30-1:30 pm on Zoom (www.Zoom.us; Meeting ID: 966 6904 5127, Passcode: 9types). The required book is *The Sacred Enneagram: Finding Your Path to Spiritual Growth* by Christopher L. Heuertz.

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — March 27

Join us at our LGBTQ Ministry's next *Spiritual Gathering* — either in person at the church or online via Zoom on Sunday, March 27 at 12:30 pm. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome — in fact we will be focusing on our wonderful allies during this time together! For more details or to attend, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

Congratulations to Journey Music Director Michael Warren who completed the requirements for his doctoral degree this week. He successfully defended his dissertation on Thursday, Feb 24. His degree is an EdD (Doctor of Education) in Educational Leadership. Congratulations, Dr. Warren!

Hope Academy Students in PPT's Shakespeare

Monologue and Scene Contest — Feb 28

The Pittsburgh Public Theater's *Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest Showcase of Finalists* will be held tomorrow at 7pm. It will be livestreamed on their Facebook page.

Adjoa Opoku-Dakwa, Hope Academy student, is a finalist in the lower division for her Calpurnia monologue from *Julius Caesar*.

Five other Hope Academy students received honorable mentions: Mads Mocker (Benedick from *Much Ado About Nothing*), Chloe Baker (Viola from *Twelfth Night*), Bella Gonzales (Juliet from *Romeo and Juliet*), Zora Rose (Phoebe from *As You Like It*) and Shayla Esquivel (Katherine from *Henry VIII*).

ELPC and OHM Marathon: Fun, Fitness and Fellowship

ELPC is inviting runners and fast walkers to be part of the Open Hand Ministries Pittsburgh Marathon Fundraiser. Registration is free. ELPC will have two relay teams. Please join us! For ELPC relay teams, contact team captain Bob Forloines (rforloines@gmail.com; 610.331.1134).

To participate as an individual in any of the marathon races, please contact OHM's Cheryl Lowitzer (marathon@openhandpittsburgh.org; bit.ly/Ohm2022).

Visit us online at
www.ELPC.church

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

March 6 • 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 — Hosea 13:1–14:1,4; Qumran (Cave 4) The Secret of the Way Things Are; Romans 4:13–5:11; Luke (Q) 12:8–14, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Lyle Irvin

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

Seekers — “Video by Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons: The Ten Commandments, a Radical Manifesto for the 21st Century,” facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food — A discussion of *Wholehearted Faith* by the late Rachel Held Evans and Jeff Chu, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members.

◆ CHILDREN & YOUTH ◆

Preschool — Suspended

Kindergarten through Grade 3 — Suspended until March 6

Grades 4 and 5 — Suspended until March 6

Grades 6 through 12 — in 2nd floor Parlor and on Zoom