



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)

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE:

Service of Light and Darkness

APRIL 15, 2022 — 7 PM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

PRELUDE

“Herzlich tut mich verlangen, BWV 727”

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organist*
Johann Sebastian Bach
based on Glory to God hymnal #221

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Leader: On this Good Friday, we contemplate the good news of the cross: how Christ our Lord stretched out his arms to embrace a world of suffering and sin in order to save us.

People: **We gather this evening in the place of the skull, the place of the cross, the place of our salvation. Show us once more the face of our Savior. And in his sacrificial love, show us again the light of your eternal grace.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(read in unison)*

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Holy One, now is the time in which Jesus was glorified. Be near to us in this service of light and darkness. Speak to us once more your solemn message of life and death. Empower us to love as Jesus loved. Then send us forth to follow his way, his truth, and his life. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN #215 *(printed in bulletin)*

WONDROUS LOVE

“What Wondrous Love is This”

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

* HYMN #217 *(printed in bulletin)*

“On a Barren Hilltop”

KING’S WESTON

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 53:1-12

Kathryn Ophardt

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

Johann Crüger

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & OUR LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 19:17-25, 28-30

The Rev. Dr. Bush

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

LITANY ON THE SEVEN “I AM” STATEMENTS

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

Leader: We have heard a description from John’s gospel of Jesus’ final hours and some of his last words. But John’s gospel also contains accounts of the many times Jesus pointed to his oneness with God through “I Am” statements. Even as we grieve Christ’s death on the cross, let us take heart from his affirmations of hope found in these other words from John’s gospel.
Jesus said, “I am the bread of life.” (*John 6:35*)

People: **O God, we thank you for our daily bread and for Christ who nourishes and sustains our spirits.**

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.” (*John 8:12*)

People: **O God, we thank you for creating light at the dawn of time and sending Christ as the light of all people in the fullness of time.**

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the gate.” (*John 10:9*)

People: **O God, we thank you for opening a path for our salvation and for the sacrifice of Christ that opened this gate for humankind.**

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd.” (*John 10:11*)

People: **O God, we thank you for leading us with your rod and your staff and for moving us to heed the call of Christ, the one true shepherd.**

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.” (*John 11:25*)

People: **O God, we praise you for your acts of re-creation and for the glory of your Son who refused to let the bonds of death have the final word.**

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” (*John 14:6*)

People: **O God, we rejoice in the assurance that with you there is perfect peace and for the promise of Christ to be with us always even to the end of the age.**

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches.” (*John 15:5*)

People: **O God, on this Good Friday, give us patience to remain watchful as the shadows fall around us, and give us the strength to remain grafted in your love as we await the first light of Easter resurrection.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

HOMILY

The Rev. Dr. Bush

* HYMN #223 (*printed in bulletin*) “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

HAMBURG

MOVEMENT TO DARKNESS / TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

CLOSING PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

HYMN #228 (*printed in bulletin*)

“Were You There”

WERE YOU THERE

DEPART IN SILENCE



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 silence 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
Kathryn Ophardt
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist/*
Music Director
David Jennings-Smith, *Cantor*
Daniel Miller, *Cantor*
Robin Schneider, *Cantor*
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *Cantor*
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES**

Below is a listing of the remaining Holy Week and Easter Sunday services we are offering at East Liberty Presbyterian Church. We invite you to join us on our journey.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 16

7:00 pm.....**Easter Vigil Service.** The Great Vigil includes reaffirmation of baptism vows, communion and announcement of Christ's resurrection. Service begins in the Narthex. The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush and the Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead this service.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17

8:45 am.....**Journey Worship.** The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy will preach at this communion service in the Social Hall.

9:30 am.....**Fellowship Time.** Please join us in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms from 9:30 to 10:45 am for a special time of fellowship and hospitality.

11 am.....**Sanctuary Worship.** Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists. Special music begins at 10:45 am. The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush will preach and lead communion.

The worship spaces will not have Easter lilies out of respect for people allergic to plant aromas.

♦ **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 and Centering Prayer

Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead Contemplative Prayer on Zoom. It will involve the reading of a Psalm and Centering Prayer (20 minutes of silence), in community with one another.

Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am

Meeting ID #959 8065 3992

Passcode: bestill

Spring Yoga and Creation Contemplation Classes

In March and April, Katrina Woodworth will teach one class on Wednesdays from 8-9 am. Winter is waning and Spring is around the corner. Seasonally and spiritually, we are entering into Lent, Easter and Spring. What better way to transition than to get on our mat and be in touch with our bodies! Inspired by the PC(USA) *Lent Daily Reflection Calendar*, our yoga practice, readings and meditations will focus in on caring for creation in solidarity with Christ's sacrifice and resurrection! *Please register in advance at:*

<http://tiny.cc/spring-yoga>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this evening 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.

#215—WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

Dm C Dm C Dm Am

1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing

Dm C Dm C

soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and

Dm Am B^b Gm Am Em

won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

G Dm C Am C Dm Am

bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing

Em Am C Dm Am C Dm

soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

#217—ON A BARREN HILLTOP

Capo 5: (Am) (G) (Am) (C) (Am) (Dm) (Am)
Dm C Dm F Dm Gm Dm



1 On a bar - ren hill - top just out - side the walls
2 Test - ed just as we are, in a world of strife,
3 Let us then come bold - ly to the heaven - ly throne,

(C) (G) (Am) (C) (Dm)
F C Dm F Gm



of an an - cient cit - y as the eve - ning falls,
through the pain and con - flict of a hu - man life,
where our hu - man weak - ness is so ful - ly known,

(G) (Em) (Am) (G) (D) (G)
C Am Dm C G C



speaks a dy - ing fig - ure hang - ing on a tree,
here at last com - plet - ed with his fi - nal breath
and the mer - cy giv - en by which we are freed,

(Am) (G) (Em) (Dm) (C) (G) (Am)
Dm C Am Gm F C Dm



say - ing "It is fin - ished," words of vic - to - ry.
is a life tri - um - phant o - ver sin and death.
and the grace pro - vid - ed for our time of need.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The first stanza of this text is based on John 19:17, 30 and the second and third stanzas on Hebrews 4:14–16. These passages and others provide the basis for the classic understanding of the atonement that sees Christ's redeeming work as a victory over all the powers of evil.

#228—WERE YOU THERE

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you
 4 Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine? (Were you
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you

there?) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 there?) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 there?) Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 there?) Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?
 there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! Some-times it caus - es me to

trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus' crucifixion as movingly as this African American spiritual. Its emotional climax (and highest pitch) comes in the great "O!" at the center of each stanza, a moment that moves beyond anything words can convey.

TEXT: African American spiritual

MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987
 Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

WERE YOU THERE

Irregular

CCLI #689547



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there?)
there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves, a treble staff on top and a bass staff on the bottom. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. There are five verses of the hymn, each with a question in parentheses at the end: "(Were you there?)".



#223—WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.