



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 S. 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)

APRIL 24, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

The resurrected Jesus Christ is presenting impaired hands and feet and side to be touched by frightened friends alters the taboo of physical avoidance of disability and calls for followers to recognize their connection and equality at the point of Christ's physical impairment.
(Nancy Eiseland, *The Disabled God*)

EASTER PRAYER:
God of the Resurrection, you invite us to sing and dance in the new life you give us. In Jesus Christ, whose wounds are not erased but glorified in resurrection, touch our wounds that they may be transformed into channels of healing for others. Holy Spirit, breathe into us the power to forgive so that all may have new life. In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.

TIME OF PREPARATION

Jesus Christ the disabled God [Crucified and Risen Christ], is not a romanticized notion of “overcomer” God. Instead here is God as survivor.

— Nancy Eiseland, *“The Disabled God”*

MUSIC MINISTRY

Johann Sebastian Bach

“Jesus Christus, Unser Heiland, Der Den Tod Überwand” BWV 626

(Jesus Christ Our Savior, Who Overcame Death)

“Heut Triumphieret Gottes Sohn” BWV 630

(Today the Son of God Triumphs)

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

Dr. Valire Carr Copeland

Leader: Let all who have breath praise God!

People: God is the one who gives us life, breath, and our very being.

Leader: Let our hearts and hands, minds and mouths make a joyful noise to our Creator!

People: May our worship, prayer, and song be a witness to the Risen God.
Amen.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #255

O FILII ET FILIAE

“O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Valire Carr Copeland

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dr. Valire Carr Copeland

God, you breathed into us the breath of life. Forgive us when we take that breath for granted. Too often we have spoken words of hate. Forgive us when we are slow to apologize and even slower to forgive. Though you share your love abundantly with all, we have tried to judge who is worthy of love, forgetting that we are all your children. Have mercy on us, O God.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

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(Regarding Sung Response Hymn #240)
During Lent, we do not sing alleluias. The word "alleluia" or "hallelujah" expresses praise, adoration, or gratitude to God. After the Lenten season of lament, may your praise and "alleluias" be a witness to the resurrection!

The book of Psalms is the ancient prayer book and hymnal of the Jews and Christians. Psalm 150 is the last prayer in the book. How beautiful it is that it ends with a word of praise!

Charles Wood (1866-1926) was an Irish composer and teacher. Among his students were Ralph Vaughan Williams and Herbert Howells. The tune of *This Joyful Eastertide* is based on a Dutch Psalm tune from 1685. The text was published in 1894 by George R. Woodward (1848-1934).

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Dr. Valire Carr Copeland

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Amén! Amen!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #240 (refrain only; sing 3 times)

ALLELUIA NO. 1

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 150

Sara Hackett

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

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 #254

"That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright"

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Kathryn Ophardt

GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-31

Kathryn Ophardt

SERMON

"A Resurrection Reality"

Kathryn Ophardt

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Patrice 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.

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

"This Joyful Eastertide"

arr. Charles Wood

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.*
My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber:
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.
Had Christ, that once...

Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river:
Lovers of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, that once...

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
God of the Resurrection,
you open the tomb and
invite us to sing and
dance in the new life you
give us. In Jesus Christ,
whose wounds are not
erased but glorified in
resurrection, touch our
wounds that they may be
transformed into
channels of healing for
others. Holy Spirit,
breathe into us the power
to forgive so that all may
have new life. In the
name of Jesus we pray.
Amen.

By God's great mercy we
have been born anew to
a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus
Christ from the dead.
(1 Peter 1:3)

Christ Lag in
Todesbanden is an
Easter hymn by Martin
Luther. The organ setting
by Bach is one of 46
chorale preludes in his
Orgelbüchlein (Little
Organ Book.) Bach's
original plan was to
include 165 chorales in
this collection for use
throughout the
church year.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Bush
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:	God, we pray that you accept our humble offerings. Through you may they become a blessing to the Church and our community. Bless all that we say, that they may be life-affirming. Bless all that give, that our generosity might have a ripple effect in the world. Bless all that we do, that it might be a testimony to the hope and truth of the resurrection.	
People:	Amén.	Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN #249 “Because You Live, O Christ”

VRUECHTEN

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Kathryn Ophardt

POSTLUDE

Johann Sebastian Bach

“Christ Lag In Todesbanden” BWV 625
(*Christ Lay In Death's Fetters*)

Dr. Moore, organ

Our worship concludes with the postlude. For the benefit of those who wish to listen to the postlude, please refrain from visiting with your neighbors until you have left the sanctuary, or until the postlude has concluded.



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: Kathryn Ophardt
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
Dr. Valire Carr Copeland
Sara Hackett
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Beadle: Jo Ellen Aleshire
Crucifer: Mark Statler
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Each Sunday morning, there is coffee available from 9:30 – 10 am in the Whitfield Lobby (lower level) and the Highland Ave Lobby. There will also be coffee available in the Narthex following the 11 am worship service.

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

Due to the Pittsburgh Marathon, ELPC is unable to offer worship services next Sunday, May 1. A pre-recorded message will be available to view that morning.

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.
May 8 — 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.
May 8 — The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush preaching.

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor flowers for our weekly worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact Norma (412.441.3800 x111). The cost is \$175. *No scented flowers are used at our worship services.*

◆ 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

In the Season of Eastertide we will be mediating and dwelling in the stories of resurrection and new life. The group will take a break starting May 30 through Labor Day and resume on Monday, Sept 12.

Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am

Meeting ID #959 8065 3992

Passcode: bestill

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

Enjoy an evening of healthy, energizing, funky and divine dancing on the 3rd Friday of every month

May 13, 6:30-7:45 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

Church Tour

All are invited to join a tour of the majestic ELPC tower today after the 11 am Sanctuary service. Please wear comfortable, closed-toe walking shoes. Gather in the Highland Lobby to join the tour.

LGBTQ Ministry Gathering

All are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry today at 12:30 pm both in person at ELPC and via Zoom. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. Contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118) for details or to attend.



Part-Time Gardener Wanted

The Property Committee is looking for someone to help maintain the flower beds around the church on a regular basis, especially the Rain Garden that extends along Penn Ave and Whitfield St. This paid position would require approximately 3 hours per week from May to the end of October. This person would also work closely with the Gardening Crew to help organize and lead volunteer workdays throughout the summer. Contact Don Breitbarth (donbreitbarth@gmail.com) or Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

Contemplative and Centering Prayer — April 25 to May 23

In the Season of Eastertide we will be mediating and dwelling in the stories of resurrection and new life. The group will take a break starting May 30 through Labor Day, and resume on Monday, Sept 12. Join Rev. BJ Woodworth on Zoom on Monday mornings from 7:30-8 am (Meeting ID: #959 8065 3992; Passcode: bestill).

Yoga, Pranayama, and Meditation Retreat — April 30

On April 30 from 9 am-4 pm, join Yamuna Morgenstern and Katrina Woodworth for a day of enjoying practicing yoga in the Sanctuary and learning pranayama (yogic breathing techniques) to facilitate meditation, relaxation and good health. The day will include 2 yoga classes, pranayama instruction, time for reflection/group activity, meditation practices, and lunch. Suggested donation is \$35-\$60 (lunch included). Register at www.tiny.cc/yoga-retreat. MUST REGISTER BY TODAY!

Presbyterian Women Bible Study — May 2 and 3

Join Presbyterian Women for their final Bible Study lesson *What Are These Women Doing in a Place Like This?* on Monday, May 2 from 7-8:30 pm or Tuesday, May 3 from 10 am-Noon. Both sessions will meet on Zoom. For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany's Celebration — May 8

ELPC's former Music Director, The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany, cordially invites you to join the festive celebration of his 73 years of *Ministry of Word and Sacrament* and *Ministry of Music* to the glory of God on Sunday, May 8 at 3 pm in the Sanctuary. Come be inspired by organists J. Richard Szeremany, Michael P. Frank, Dr. Edward Alan Moore and Jon Tyillian, and pianist The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush. This will be an interesting, historical narrative of Richard's life.



Enneagram Study Group — May 9 and 23

Join facilitator Lynn Holden on the third Mondays now through June and Sept through Dec, from 12:15-1:30 pm on Zoom (www.Zoom.us; Meeting ID: 966 6904 5127, Passcode: 9types) for an Enneagram Study Group. Required book is *The Sacred Enneagram: Finding Your Path to Spiritual Growth* by Christopher L. Heuertz. (Please note: During May, the group will meet on May 9 and May 23, instead of May 16, due to scheduling conflicts.)

➤ The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush ➤

Last Sunday at ELPC is May 15



Following the Sanctuary service on Sunday, May 15 in the Social Hall, ELPC family and friends will have an opportunity to say *thank you* and send our prayers and best wishes to our departing Senior Pastor Randy Bush and his wife, Beth.

There will be a box at the event to collect cards sharing reflections and good wishes for the Bush family. Cards can also be mailed to ELPC c/o Wil Forrest.

➤ *Share your Picture Memories of the Bush Family* ➤

Do you have pictures that include Pastor Randy, Beth, Ian, and/or Charlotte over their 16 years with us at ELPC that you are willing to share? Please send any pictures to Norma in the church office by Noon on Friday, May 13 so they might be included as we celebrate the Bush family and their time in Pittsburgh! Her email is on the church's website: www.ELPC.church, or call 412.441.3800 x111.



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

Kathy Callahan, David Carl's friend's parents,
Joe and Cathie Hajdu's son Jeremy, Liz Hopkins,
Joe Kennedy, Jon Nelson's cousin Rayna,
Rev. Heather Schoenewolf's mother, and
Herma Stewart's nephew Damien.

*Condolences to The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
on her father's passing.*

Organ Concert — May 15

ELPC and *The Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh* are co-sponsoring an organ concert presented by Jan Kraybill on Sunday, May 15 at 3 pm. Dr. Kraybill is Principal Organist for the Dome and Spire Organ Foundation, an affiliate of the international headquarters of Community of Christ, in Independence, Missouri, and Organ Conservator at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City. ELPC members should contact Dr. Ed Moore for complimentary tickets to this concert (EdM@coh.net). The concert will also be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

Volunteer Flower Planting Day — May 21

Would you like to help ELPC live into its commitment to care for God's green earth? Please plan to join the Gardening Crew on Saturday, May 21 for their annual volunteer flower planting day. Each spring a group of dedicated members and friends refresh the Highland Ave entrance with beautiful flowering plants, so it is vibrant and welcoming, and the Courtyard, so it is a lovely setting for summer weddings and worship. Green thumbs are not required—just bring your generous spirit and a pair of work gloves to the Highland driveway around 9 am. If you're interested in helping, or would like to learn about other upcoming garden workdays, please contact Don Breitbarth (donbreitbarth@gmail.com).

Brass and Organ Concert — May 29

The Brass Roots and conductor/arranger Jim Nova return to team up with Dr. Edward Alan Moore in a concert of music adapted from the movies and video games. The concert begins at 3 pm in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 29. There is no admission charge. A freewill offering will be accepted. The concert will also be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

NO WORSHIP SERVICES ON MARATHON SUNDAY

Due to the Pittsburgh Marathon, ELPC is unable to offer in-person worship services on May 1.

Dr. Bush's pre-recorded message will be available to view that morning at www.ELPC.church.

In our

COMMUNITY



Belle Voci in Concert — May 7

Belle Voci will present their concert *Proclamations of Courage*, featuring the Pittsburgh debut of Andrea Ramsey's *Suffrage Cantata*, on Saturday, May 7 at 7:30 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary. Purchase tickets at www.bellevocipgh.com.

The Chapel Marketplace is Re-Opening! — June 6

We've been waiting for this day!

Keep it on your calendar and in your prayers!

The Chapel Marketplace is a clothing ministry of ELPC where people from the community can come and shop (no cost) for clothing. To re-open, we need your help — especially sorting clothes and staffing the Chapel Marketplace, and donations of new or gently used clothes (spring-summer seasonal — please, no men's suits or ties right now). You can leave your donations in the bins near the main desk on Highland Ave. If interested, please contact Frank Bauerle (frbauerle@yahoo.com). Someone will contact you about how and when you can help.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

May 8 • 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 — Micah 6:6–16; Qumran (selected reading); Romans 11:1–36; Luke (Q) 15:4–10; 17:1–4, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Lyle Irvin

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

Seekers — “Mission Worker Shares Her Perspective on the War Between Ukraine and Russia,” presented by Ellen Smith, regional liaison for Central and Eastern Europe PC (USA) World Mission, and facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food — Discussion of short readings by Rachel Held Evans, Barbara Brown Taylor, and Shauna Niequist, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members. (Please note: this class will meet on Zoom only on May 1).

◆ CHILDREN & YOUTH ◆

Age 3 through Grade 3 — Room 206

Grades 4 and 5 — Room 211

Grades 6 through 12 — 2nd floor Parlor