



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)

MAY 22, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Invest in the Planet — Turn Hope into Action ... Together

What we do or don't do right now will affect my entire life and the lives of my children and grandchildren. What we do or don't do right now, me and my generation can't undo in the future.
(Greta Thunberg, teen Swedish climate activist, in 2019)

John Knowles Paine (1839-1906) was appointed Harvard University's first organist and choirmaster in 1861.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:
Lord, the wounds of the world are too deep for us to heal. We lift up the sick in body and mind as well as the withered in soul and spirit. We lift up the victims of greed and injustice as well as the prisoners of grief and heartache. We ask for your care and mercy upon all of us. Instill compassion within us for those suffering from injustice. Make us generous with the resources you have entrusted to us. Let your work of rescue be done in us and through us all.
Amen.
(Adapted from *The Oxford Book of Prayer*)

TIME OF PREPARATION

We hold brothers and sisters who suffer from storms and droughts intensified by climate change. We hold all species that suffer. We hold world leaders delegated to make decisions for life. We pray that the web of life may be mended through courageous actions to limit carbon emissions. We pray for right actions for adaptation and mitigation to help our already suffering earth community. We pray that love and wisdom might inspire my actions and our actions as communities. . . so that we may, with integrity, look into the eyes of brothers and sisters and all beings and truthfully say, we are doing our part to care for them and the future of the children. May love transform us and our world with new steps towards life.

— *"We Hold the Earth"*

(Faith Climate Action Week by Interfaith Power & Light)

MUSIC MINISTRY "Prelude in D-flat Major, Op. 19, No. 1" John Knowles Paine
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
"O For a Thousand Bells to Ring" arr. Lloyd Larson
ELPC Ringers

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

INTRODUCTION TO THE EARTH DAY THEME Nancy Heastings

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE Kathryn Ophardt

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 Isaac Smith

Leader: Creator God, we declare with joy and trust that our world belongs to you. For the fierce love with which you hold us and the rest of your creation, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Leader: For the manifold ways that it reveals your glory and draws us closer to you, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Leader: Amidst its present groaning, we declare:

People: Our world belongs to God.

Leader: As your people, participating now in your ongoing work of renewal and longing for the day when you will bring that work to completion, we declare:

Continued on next page

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

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"The Fierce Urgency of Now" is a phrase that

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. deployed in his address at New York's Riverside Church when he articulated his opposition to the Vietnam War:

We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history there is such a thing as being too late. Procrastination is still the thief of time. Life often leaves us standing bare, naked and dejected with a lost opportunity. The 'tide in the affairs of men' does not remain at the flood; it ebbs. We may cry out desperately for time to pause in her passage, but time is deaf to every plea and rushes on. Over the bleached bones and jumbled residue of numerous civilizations are written the pathetic words: "Too late."

Born on this date in history were LaSalle Leffall Jr., the first black president of the American Cancer Society and the American College of Surgeons (1930); Ian Underwood, an American woodwind and keyboard player (1939); and American poet and academic Lucie Brock-Broido (1956).

People: Our world belongs to God.
Leader: Our world belongs to you, O God!
People: Come, let us worship in spirit and in truth. Hallelujah!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #14

DIX

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

BELL ANTHEM

"Be Still My Soul"

arr. Lloyd Larson

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

O God, in Christ Jesus you proclaimed your love for all creation. Have mercy on us as we confess our sin. We have overpopulated the earth and violated its goodness. We have depleted nature of its vital resources. Pollution besets us, waters lie stagnant. We care not for ourselves as temples, nor for communities as buildings not built with hands. We plead for forgiveness and ask for your guidance. Help us to be disciplined in taking care of your gifts, lest in neglecting them we lose them forever. Receive our silent prayers of confession, O God.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Everyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old has passed away; see, everything has become new. 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 HYMN #21

LACQUIPARLE

"Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works"

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:1-17

Kathryn Ophardt

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 now open and staffed for children age 3 and under.

* HYMN #7

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

NORWICH

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:18-2:4a

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

"And It Was Good..."

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

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.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Shall We Gather at the River was composed by American hymn writer and Baptist minister Robert Lowry (1826-1899). Aaron Copland (1900-1990) included the tune in the second set of his *Old American Songs*, in an arrangement for solo voice. It premiered in 1958 with William Warfield as soloist and Copland at the piano. **This morning's anthem** is an adaptation for SATB chorus of Copland's original.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:
Roman Emperor Constantine was baptized on his deathbed (337); American painter Mary Cassatt, known for her Impressionist works of the intimate lives of contemporary women, was born in Allegheny City, PA (1844); one of the largest earthquakes on record struck the southern coast of Chile, killing about 5,700 people and creating seismic sea waves in distant Pacific coastal areas, (1960); and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. adopted the Confession of 1967, the first major new confession to be adopted by Presbyterians since the Westminster Confession of 1647 (1967).

Arthur Foote (1853-1937) was a composer and organist at First Unitarian Church in Boston. Along with John Knowles Paine, he was a founder of the American Guild of Organists.

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.

The Rev. Woodworth



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“At the River”

Aaron Copland/R. Wilding-White

*Shall we gather by the river, where bright angel's feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?*

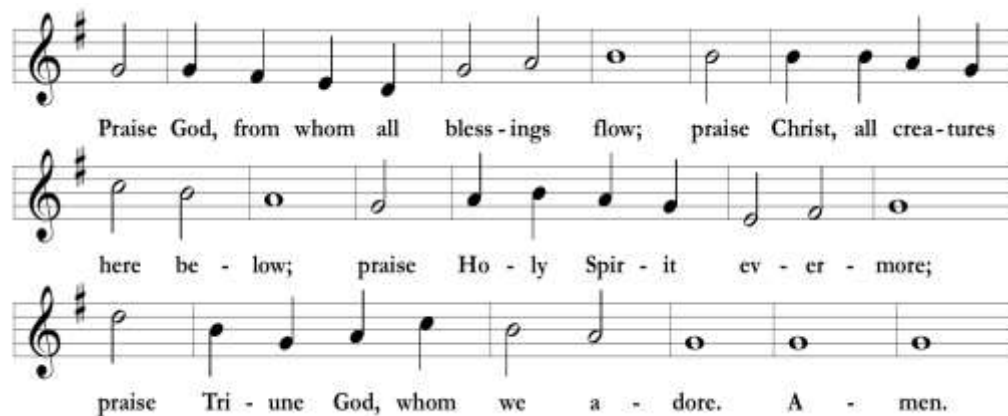
*Yes, we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.*

*Ere we reach the shining river lay we every burden down,
Praise our spirits will deliver and provide our robe and crown.*

*Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.*

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Kathryn Ophardt
The Rev. Woodworth

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:	O God, we offer those gifts you bestow abundantly upon us. Take them and blend them into a composite of commitment. Empower our hands to reach out to others. Enlighten our minds to perceive clearly your will. May the gifts we give support our ministries, mission, and endeavors, in Christ's name, as we seek faithfully to respond to your will. Amen.	

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #69 “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

HERE I AM

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

“Postlude in C Major”

Arthur Foote

— CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWS WORSHIP —

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. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Nancy Heastings
Kathryn Ophardt
Isaac Smith
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
ELPC Ringers
Beadle: Polly McQueen
Crucifer: Erich Stein
Sound: Tim Benedict and 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.

◆ 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.*

◆ 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.
May 29— 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 29— The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.

◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Taizé: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation
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 on 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

June 17, July 15, Aug 19, Sept 16,

Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 9 (*second Friday*)

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

Congregational Meeting

There will be a *Congregational Meeting* immediately after today's 11 am service. Please remain in the Sanctuary to attend. Online participants will need to disconnect their livestream connection, then reconnect to join the meeting.

GCF Sidewalk Seedling Sale

Garfield Community Farm will be hosting a Sidewalk Seedling Sale on Penn Ave in front of ELPC today from Noon–2 pm. Stop by and get started on your garden while supporting a local neighborhood community farm.

Making a Difference Together Panel Presentation

Join the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee today at 12:30 pm for the *Making a Difference Together Panel Presentation*, led by Local Active Hope Innovators: Stefani Danes (founder of Rachel Carson Ecovillage), John Creasy (founder of Garfield Community Farm), and Fred Kraybill (renewable energy advocate). Attend in-person in the McKelvy Room or via Zoom (Meeting ID: 81600563547). Light refreshments, stimulating ideas, good company and inspiration provided. For more info, contact Nancy (n.heastings@comcast.net).

LGBTQ Ministry Gathering

All are invited to the spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry at 12:30 pm today both in person and via Zoom. Contact Wil Forrest to attend (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).



Wednesday Morning Yoga and Contemplation Series

Join Katrina Woodworth for a Hatha yoga class on Wednesdays at 8 am on Zoom in May and June to explore our relationship with creation through the 4 elements of water, wind, earth and fire. Register in advance at www.tiny.cc/n1truz. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Part-Time Gardener Wanted

The Property Committee is looking for someone to help maintain the flower beds around the church on a regular basis. 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. Please contact Don Breitbarth (donbreitbarth@gmail.com) or Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

Child Care Worker Needed

ELPC is looking to hire a Child Care worker to provide care for infants and toddlers on Sunday mornings in our nursery. The ideal candidate for this position will create a welcoming, engaging, safe, and age-appropriate environment for infants and toddlers. If you know someone who might be interested, please visit www.elpc.church/careers for more info.

Church Tour — May 29

All are invited to join a *Hidden Places Tour* after the 11 am Sanctuary service on Sunday, May 29. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to join this exciting tour!

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 at 3 pm in the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 29. A freewill offering will be accepted. The concert will also be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

Tween Gym Night — May 29

Tweens in grades 4–6 will be gathering for pizza and games in the church gym on Sunday, May 29 from 4-6 pm. RSVP to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net). We will stay at a safe distance while eating and wear masks the rest of the time.

Environmental Book Club — June 2

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to read *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs The Climate* by Naomi Klein. Then join the book club for a discussion on Thursday, June 2 at 7 pm, led by Amanda DeWitt. For more info, please contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Pentecost Sunday — June 5

Pentecost Sunday, June 5, will be the last Sunday of our 2021–2022 Church School Year. On this day, we will:

- Give thanks for the musical leadership of Dr. Michael J. Warren, who has directed ELPC's Journey Praise Team for the last three years. Michael is relocating to Ohio as his wife begins medical school.
- Participate in our final Sunday of Church School before summer break.
- Receive three youth as members, and one youth as a friend at our Sanctuary worship service.

The *Pentecost Offering* will also be received. Your gifts will support ministries with children, youth, and young adults in our community, across the nation, and around the world.





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

Frank and Paula Bauerle's son-in-law Brian,
Kathy Callahan's parents,
David Carl's father and his friend's parents,
Joe and Cathie Hajdu's son Jeremy, Liz Hopkins,
Jon Nelson's cousin Rayna,
Rev. Heather Schoenewolf's mother,
Vivienne Selia's friend, and Herma Stewart's nephew.

Condolences to Jaszmiar Branch on her father's passing.

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 help sorting clothes and staffing the Chapel Marketplace. We also need 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 at Highland Ave. If interested, please contact Frank Bauerle (frbauerle@yahoo.com). Someone will contact you about how and when you can help.

Summer Worship Schedule — Begins June 12

We will begin our summer worship schedule on Sunday, June 12 with one service at 10 am. We will continue to worship in the Sanctuary throughout June, but will move to the Courtyard beginning July 3 (weather permitting). We hope that you will make worshiping with our faith family a consistent part of your summer!

Inquirers Class — June 12

If you are interested in learning more about ELPC and would like to join our faith family, please attend the next *Inquirers Class* on Sunday, June 12 after the 10 am Sanctuary worship service in the Fellowship Room. To register or for more info, please contact Megan (MeganL@coh.net).

Celebrating the Gifts of Our Youth — June 12

Join us on Youth Sunday, June 12 at 10 am, as we celebrate **the Spirit's presence in our church through the leadership** of our youth in worship. On this special Sunday, the liturgy will be written and led by ELPC youth, and graduating seniors will share a message with the congregation.

Registration is Open for VCS Campers and Volunteers

ELPC will be hosting Vacation Church School for children in pre-K (age 4 and potty-trained) through grade 5 (completed), during the week of June 20–24 from 9 am–3 pm. Our theme will be *Passports to Peace*. Registration is now open for students and volunteers. Visit our website for registration forms and more info (www.ELPC.church).

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Summer Jobs at the Presbyterian House in Chautauqua

Are you looking for a summer job? Would you like to spend some time in Chautauqua, New York? The Presbyterian Association of Chautauqua is looking for individuals to fill open positions at the Presbyterian House this summer. Please contact Kathy Taylor if interested (kathy@presbychq.org; 203.605.1544).

VCS Volunteer Training — June 19

There will be training and orientation for all adult and teen volunteers for VCS on Sunday, June 19 from 11 am–2 pm in the Social Hall. Lunch will be provided. If you cannot attend this event, contact Megan Leisher (MeganL@coh.net) so we can schedule an alternative time to get you all the information you will need.



Contact Info for The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Beginning June 1, The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush will be serving as the interim Head of Staff for Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church in Severna Park, MD. The church's address is 611 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Severna Park, MD 21146. He also has a gmail.com account with the user name of Revrandykbush for email messages.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

May 29 • 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 — *Class will meet, but details TBD*

Parenting Circle — *Not meeting on May 29*

Seekers — **“Ukrainian Christian Pastor telling us about the strength of the Christian church in Ukraine, ministering to its people,” facilitated by Gwen Puza**

Soul Food — (Zoom only) A discussion of a reading by Nadia Bolz-Weber entitled *Between Exhaustion and The Deep*, led by Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members.

◆ CHILDREN & YOUTH ◆

Children under Age 3 — Nursery

Age 3 through Grade 3 — Room 206

Grades 4 and 5 — Room 211

Grades 6 through 12 — 2nd floor Parlor