SUMMER WORSHIP





East Liberty Presbyterian Church SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2022 10 AM IN THE COURTYARD

116 SOUTH HIGHLAND AVE PITTSBURGH, PA 15206

www.ELPC.church



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)

July 24, 2022 — 10 am Summer Worship Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING MUSIC (music printed in bulletin)

Hymn #694"Great God of Every Blessing"AURELIAHymn #635"Sing, Praise, and Bless the Lord" (sing 3x)LAUDATE DOMINUMHymn #722"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"CANONBURY

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

* Sharing God's Peace

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

Leader: Let us hear what the Lord our God speaks.

People: God speaks peace to God's people, to the faithful.
Leader: God speaks to those who turn to God in their hearts,
People: Seeking peace, in word, in song, and in prayer.

Leader: Let us worship God!

* Opening Hymn #39 (music printed in bulletin)

FAITHFULNESS

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

Prayer of Confession

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

Gracious God, we humbly confess that we have fallen short of who you call us to be. We seek peace and comfort in our own lives, ignoring the needs of others around us. We live our lives in ways that bring chaos and calamity to our neighbors. Cleanse us from sin and show us your steadfast love, so that in turning to you, we may seek unity and peace for all of creation.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #469 (music printed in bulletin)

CHILDREN PRAYING

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

Leader: Beloved, God has forgiven all of your trespasses. You are alive together with God. Know

that you are forgiven and be at peace. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 138 Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS & FRIEND

Members: Catherine and George Toro

Friend: Judy Morrow

Moments with our Children

Amy Bialek

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 the Chapel 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 #465 (music printed in bulletin)

Converse

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Prayer of Illumination The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 42:16-21 The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON "God's New Thing" The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

The Rev. Woodworth

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 Narthex.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Down By The Riverside"

arr. Rollo Dilworth

War, no more. Study war, no! War no more!

Ain't gonna study war no more.

Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside.

I ain't gonna study war no more.

Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside.

I ain't gonna study war no more.

* Doxology at the Presentation

OLD HUNDREDTH



^{*} Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

July 24 • 7th Sunday after Pentecost -

* Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication

The Rev. Woodworth Carla Depperman

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 It is right to give God

alabanzas a Dios. thanks and praise.

Leader: Abounding in hope, we come before you, O God; you are deliverance and life divine. You

build a storehouse of goodly blessings and set us within it to sample your love. Whatever our needs, you meet them completely. You surround us with your compassion and care. Receive the offerings that we lay before you. We dedicate all our possessions to your

continuing glory. Amen.

* Closing Hymn #634 (music printed in bulletin)

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

"To God Be The Glory"

* Charge & Benediction

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy



^{*} Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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. BJ Woodworth

Amy Bialek Doug Booth

Susan Wadsworth-Booth

Carla Depperman

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore

Organist/Music Director

ELPC Summer Choir

Sound: Tim Benedict

Wayne Gaines

♦ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Each Sunday morning, there is iced water available in the Narthex from 9 am to Noon.

♦ Worship Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Bob and Doris Riethmiller and Bill Riethmiller from the Egelston Family.

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 (\$75 when we worship in Courtyard).

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP

10 am...... Summer Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from piano and choir and soloists. The service is also livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook. Weather permitting, this service will be held in the Courtyard. Additional seating is available in the Garth Overlook Room.

July 31 — The Rev. Dr. Sheldon Sorge, Executive and General Minister for Pittsburgh Presbytery, 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

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

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.

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on Sunday, Sept 25 after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Contact Megan Leisher to register or for more information (MeganL@coh.net).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.



Written for the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth, this text sums up his liturgical theology, ending each stanza with his motto: Cor meum tibi offero, Domine, prompte et sincere. By moving from plural to singular the stanzas show how corporate faith becomes personal piety.

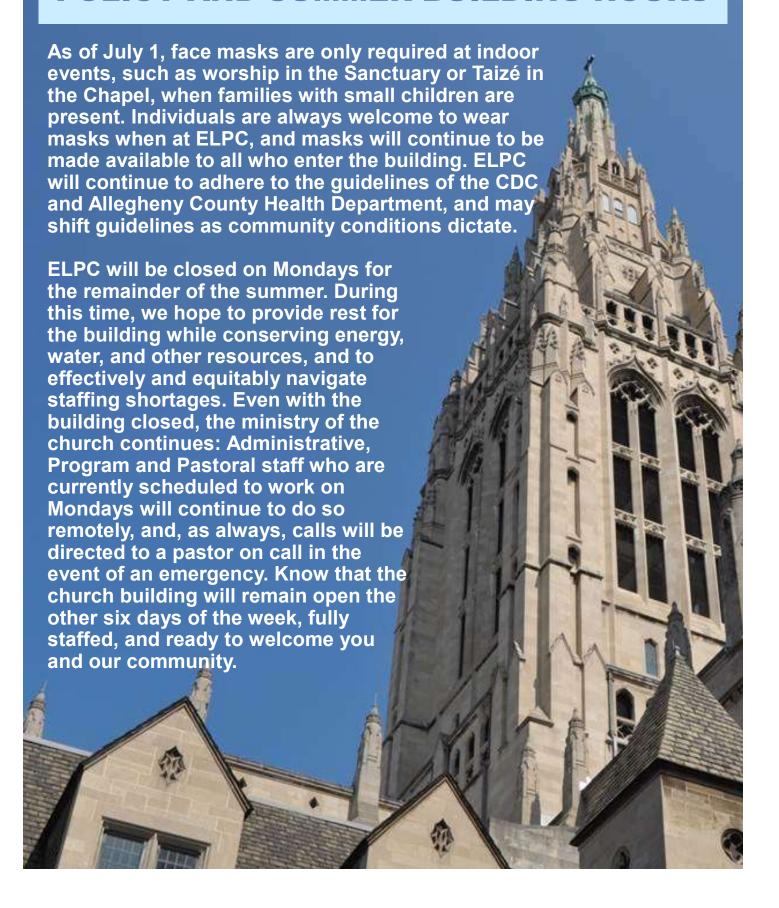


By the way the notes fall on the syllables, repeated singing reveals that this refrain based on Psalm 117:1 originally set the Latin text. The refrains of the ecumenical community at Taizé, France, often use Latin because it is not the language of any current political power.



Two great truths inform this text: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

INFORMATION ABOUT ELPC'S MASK POLICY AND SUMMER BUILDING HOURS





*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.





This chorus from a longer song has become a popular sung prayer for the presence of the Holy Spirit. Easily memorized, it makes a very suitable sung response at appropriate points during a series of prayer concerns or with repeated singing can open or close a time of prayer.

TEXT and MUSIC: Ken Medema, 1970 Text and Music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company CHILDREN PRAYING Irregular



This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.



This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.





East Liberty Presbyterian Church www.ELPC.church



Church Events and Announcements

July 24, 2022 • Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

www.ELPC.church

TODAY AT FIPC

Film Discussion: "Day of the Stranger"

Join us in the Garth Overlook Room after today's 10 am worship service for a short 30-minute film made in 2021 about Trappist monk Thomas Merton, one of the most influential spiritual writers of the twentieth century. Through rare audio



recordings, this film explores the final years of Merton's life from 1965-1968, when he lived as a hermit in the Kentucky woods. Interweaving meditative images of his hermitage nestled deep in the woods of Kentucky and rare audio recordings he made as a hermit, the film pieces together a first-person narrative. For more info, visit www.dayofastranger.com/home. Snacks will be provided.

Need Something to Read?

Pastor Randy Bush left books on a variety of topics to share with the ELPC family. They will be in the Narthex this morning. Please help yourself!



ELPC's Elevator

Starting on July 25 through the week of Aug 22, the main ELPC elevator will be shut down as it gets modernized and replaced. Please plan your visits to the church accordingly.

IPNC Update

The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC) is finishing up a draft of the *Ministry Information Form* (MIF). The MIF is our church's job description for potential interim pastoral candidates to review. After our MIF is completed, it is sent to the Pittsburgh Presbytery for review and approval. Once the Presbytery signs off on our MIF, then the IPNC will share it with our Session for their review and approval. What can you do to help?

- Pray for Pastors Heather and Patrice as they lead us during this time ahead of an interim pastor.
- Pray for the ELPC congregation that God will prepare us for our interim pastor.
- Pray for the IPNC for God's discernment as we continue to move through this process.
- Pray for the candidates and their families as they discern God's call to apply for our interim pastor position.
- Pray for Session as they work with the IPNC to eventually call an interim pastor to ELPC.

YAMs to Host a Game Day for All - July 30

Rest is essential, relaxation is great, but play is even better! Our Young Adult Ministry will host a *Game Day* on Saturday, July 30 from 9 am—3 pm, for all people with various abilities. There is no cost to attend. Food and entertainment will be provided, but we could use some volunteers! To RSVP or volunteer, contact Derail Holcomb (DerailH@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x133).

Guest Preacher - July 31

The Rev. Dr. Sheldon Sorge is the Executive and General Minister for Pittsburgh Presbytery, and will be our guest preacher next Sunday, July 31 at the 10 am Courtyard service. Before his election to this office in 2009, he was a pastor in congregations in North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia,



and served the national Theology and Worship Office in Louisville, KY. He is married to The Rev. Dr. Tammy Wiens, who serves as Director of Christian Education and Christian Formation for the National Council of Churches. Together they enjoy writing and performing music, rail-to-trail bicycle rides, and long walks on golf courses.

Church Tower Tour - July 31

On Sunday, July 31 after the 10 am summer worship service, Steve Evrard will guide a tour of the tower. Please wear closed-toe walking shoes. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to attend.

High School Mission Trip - Aug 6 to 13

Students who have completed grades 8–12 will be traveling to Memphis, TN for our High School Mission Trip from Aug 6-13. We will be serving with Memphis Youth Mission. For info about the trip, trip requirements, and cost, contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Join ELPC at Our Connections Groups — Aug 7 and Sept 2 ELPC's *Connections Groups* build small communities within the large ELPC congregation. We invite everyone who has participated in *Connections* in the past, as well as everyone else, to these community-building events:

- On Sunday, August 7 from 5–7 pm, we'll attend the *Reservoir of Jazz* live outdoor concert in Highland Park. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and some picnic food!
- On Friday, Sept 2 from 6–8 pm, we'll attend Fridays at Frick for some live music. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. You can bring picnic food or buy from the food trucks on site.

RSVP to Elaine Phillips (connectelpc@gmail.com).

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

Carol Chontos' niece Kailey and her family,
Joe and Cathie Hajdu's son Jeremy,
Rev. Dr. Brent Johnston from Kansas,
Morris Jordan, Gerald McClendon,
Joel Minnigh, Jon Nelson's cousin Rayna,
Libby Parker's husband Dwayne and Ashley,
and Vivienne Selia's friends Linda and Peg.

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

LGBTQ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering — Aug 14

All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to the LGBTQ Ministry's next Spiritual Gathering following worship on Sunday, Aug 14. To ask questions or RSVP, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

Pick Up Your Copy of PW Bible Study Book — Aug 21 and 28 All women are invited to participate in the 2022—2023 Presbyterian Women's Bible Study, Celebrating Sabbath. Pick up a Bible Study book after worship on Sundays, Aug 21 or 28. Bible Study begins on Tuesday, Sept 6 at 10 am, and Monday, Sept 12 at 7 pm. We will meet monthly through May 2023. For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Environmental Book Club — Aug 25

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee has selected *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler as its next book. You're invited to read the book and join us for a discussion on Thursday, Aug 25 at 7 pm, led by Nancy Heastings and Penn Hackney in the Highland Room or online via Zoom. For more details, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Published in 1993, this climate sci-fi is set in 2024 California. The story's lead character is a 15-year-old Black girl whose father is a preacher. Global climate change and economic crises have led to social chaos. Global warming has brought drought and rising seawater. The middle class and working poor live in gated neighborhoods, where they fend off the homeless with guns and walls. Fresh water is scarce and is as valuable as money. Fires are common. Public schools are being privatized, as are whole towns. In this atmosphere, a Presidential candidate named Christopher Donner is elected based on his promises to dismantle government programs and bring back jobs.

For some writers, science fiction serves as a means to delve into fantasy. But for Butler, it largely served as a vehicle to address issues facing humanity. It was this passionate interest in the human experience that imbued her work with a certain depth and complexity. Her books blended elements of science fiction and African American spiritualism.

In our COMMUNITY

ELPC Participates in Black Pride – July 28 to 30 *Pittsburgh Black Pride* has been celebrated for 27 years. This year will be a spectacular event from July 28-30. This multiday event will be an opportunity to celebrate the lives and contributions of Black LGBTQIA+ individuals in Southwestern PA. Events include the *Opening Reception* on Thursday, July 28 on Ellsworth Ave, and the annual *Community BBQ* and vendors fair in Schenley Park on Saturday, July 30. The signature event will be a *Pittsburgh Black Pride Week Concert* with Grammy-Award-winning performer Mýa at the August Wilson Center on Friday, July 29. For more info, visit www.pghblackpride.org. To volunteer to staff the booth at the BBQ, contact Stephanie

Virtual Happy Hour - Aug 26

Creasy (screasy16@gmail.com).

Let's get together for a *Virtual Happy Hour* from 6-9 pm on Friday, Aug 26! So many of us have lots of responsibilities and we need a moment to exhale and relax. Why not at our *Virtual Happy Hour?* Plan on joining us with your favorite beverage, and we'll get to know one another in anticipation of the start of the Church School year.

Summer Choir

If you would like to sing with the summer choir when we worship in the Courtyard, please contact Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net). Rehearsals will be at 9 am on Sunday mornings to sing for the 10 am service.

Rally Day Preview

On Sunday, Sept 11, we will begin our 2022–2023 Church School year with classes for people of all ages, and resume our two Sunday services with Journey worship at 8:45 am, and Sanctuary worship at 11 am. Worship and adult Church School classes will continue in a hybrid format, while classes for children will be held in person only. We are excited to kickoff a new program year of life and ministry together!

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.