

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)

August 7, 2022 — 10 am Summer Worship Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING MUSIC (music printed in bulletin)

Hymn #503"Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"O QUANTA QUALIAHymn #527"Eat This Bread" (sing 3x)BERTHIERHymn #509"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"HOLY MANNA

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 (from Psalm 50)

William Buchanan

Leader: The heavens declare the righteousness of God.

People: The earth declares God's beauty.
Leader: From the rising of the sun to its setting.
People: God's word shines forth in glory.
Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

* Opening Hymn #336 (music printed in bulletin)

Kremser

"We Gather Together"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: 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 #831 (music printed in bulletin)

Tu Fidel Idad

"I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness"

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 William Buchanan

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

August 7 • 9th Sunday after Pentecost -

Moments with our Children

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Children of any age are welcome to come forward for Moments with our Children.

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 #829 (music printed in bulletin) "My Faith Looks Up To Thee"

OLIVET

Prayer of Illumination The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON "It's a Matter of Faith" The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* Affirmation of Faith (excepts from The Westminister Confession of Faith, Modern English Version)

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Saving Faith

The gift of faith makes it possible for the souls of the elect to be saved by believing in Jesus Christ. This gift is the work of the Spirit of Christ in the hearts of the elect and is ordinarily accomplished by the ministry of the word. It is also increased and strengthened by the word, by prayer, and by the administration of the sacraments.

By this faith a Christian believes whatever is revealed in the word to be the true, authentic, authoritative statement of God himself. By this faith the believer also acts according to what particular passages in the word say. By faith the believer humbly submits to and obeys God's various commands. Believers tremble at God's awesome threats, and eagerly embrace God's promises about this life and the life to come. But the chief actions of saving faith are accepting, receiving, and resting on Christ alone for justification, sanctification, and eternal life, in the power of the covenant of grace.

This faith has different degrees of strength and weakness. It may be attacked and weakened often, and in many ways, but it gets the victory. In many believers it matures and becomes completely assured through Christ, who both creates and perfects our faith. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

"I Will Arise"

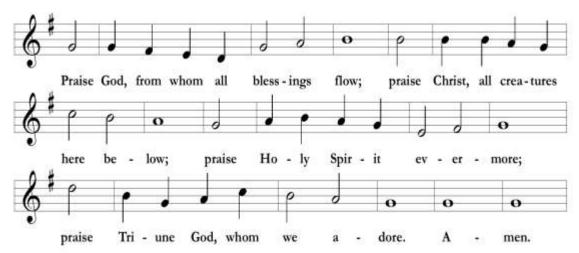
arr. Alice Parker/Robert Shaw

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

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Doxology at the Presentation

OLD HUNDREDTH



— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes. People: Y también contigo.

Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones.
People: Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor

nuestro Dios.

People: Es justo dar gracias y

alabanzas a Dios.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord

our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING BREAD & CUP

The communion elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice. The congregation is invited to come forward by using the center aisle to the communion servers where each may receive the bread and the cup, then returning to their seats via the side aisles to partake of the elements. Those not able to come forward will be served in their seats.

Communion Hymn #507 (music printed in bulletin)

TABLE OF GRACE

"Come to the Table of Grace"

Prayer after Communion

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Merciful God, we give you thanks that you have invited us to this table. We give thanks that you have received us as members of the body of Christ and have affirmed us as a community of faith. Lead us to live as faithful and dedicated disciples in service to all the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

* Closing Hymn #656 (music printed in bulletin)

THIS FAR BY FAITH

"We've Come This Far by Faith"

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

William Buchanan

Ethan LaPlaca. Pianist Musicians:

ELPC Summer Choir

Beadle: Mario Seneca Sound: Tim Benedict

Wayne Gaines

♦ SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

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

♦ 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 (\$75 when we worship in Courtyard).

Our beautiful arrangements are provided by Bloom Brigade (www.bloombrigade.com).

♦ 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 if you prefer to sit inside.

> August 14 — 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 guiet 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* 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.



St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as "the repeatable part of baptism," and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord's Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.



This text from the Taizé Community is based on John 6:35, which is paraphrased here in two styles. The more immediate first version maintains the second-person invitation spoken by Jesus, while the alternative version provides a more general statement in the third person.



The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.



First published among songs celebrating the end of Spanish control of the Netherlands, this text's blend of patriotism and piety has made it popular at (often ecumenical) Thanksgiving Day services. The tune is named for the Viennese arranger whose male chorus popularized it.

#831 — I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness



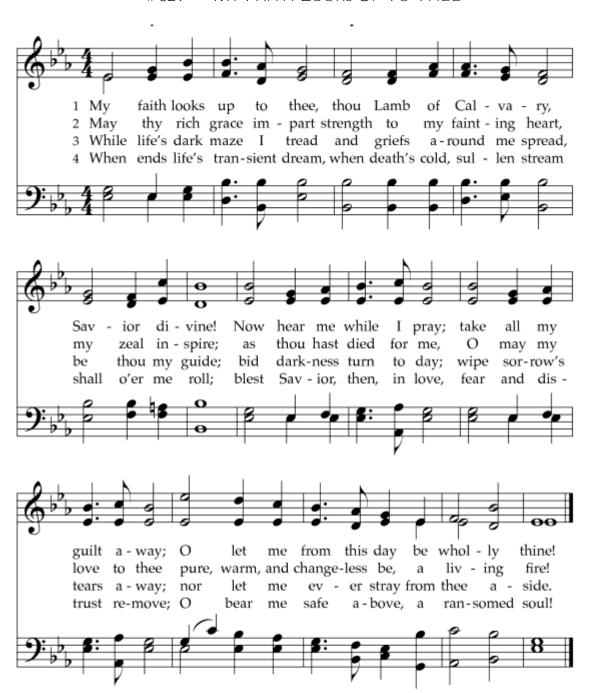
This short song's derivation from Lamentations 3:23 is somewhat more obvious in the original Spanish text than in the English version, so it is desirable to sing both languages whenever feasible. Like chants from Taizé, this piece benefits from being sung more than once.

TEXT: Miguel Cassina, 1994; English trans. Andrew Donaldson, 2001

MUSIC: Miguel Cassina, 1994; arr. Andrew Donaldson, 2008

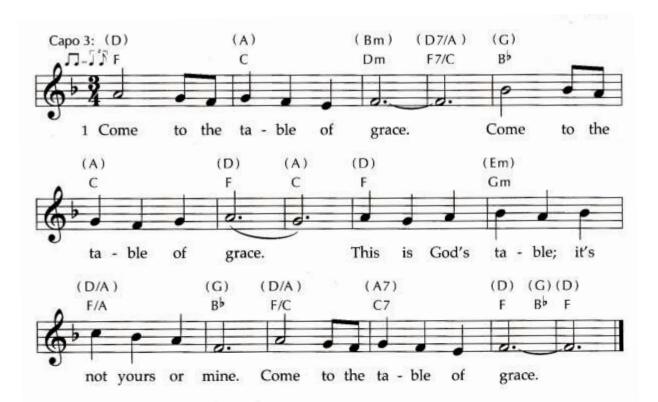
Text, English Trans., and Music © 1994 Balsamo Producciones (admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)

TU FIDELIDAD Irregular



Originally a poem of private reflection, this text was offered to the composer when he asked the author if he had written anything that could be set to music for a new hymn and tune collection. This was the first tune written for these words and has proved the most enduring.

#507 — COME TO THE TABLE OF GRACE



- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

TEXT and MUSIC: Barbara Hamm, 2008 Text and Music © 2008 Hope Publishing Company TABLE OF GRACE 7.7.10.7

CCLI #689547



This refrain from a longer hymn could well be understood as a black gospel reflection on several biblical passages: 2 Corinthians 5:7, 1 Samuel 7:12, and 1 Chronicles 17:16. All these texts bear witness to God's faithfulness toward all who are engaged in the pilgrimage of faith.



East Liberty Presbyterián Church

Church Events and Announcements

August 7, 2022 • Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

www.ELPC.church

TODAY AT ELPC

Join Our Connections Groups - Today 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:

- Today 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) to participate.

ELPC's Elevator

Through the week of Aug 29, the main ELPC elevator will be shut down as it gets modernized and replaced. Please plan your visits to the church accordingly.





Volunteers Needed for Club 116

ELPC's afterschool Youth Group for kids in 1st-12th grade

Starting in Sept, Club 116 meets on Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30 pm. Volunteers have a range of responsibilities depending on their interests, from planning Bible lessons, leading games, serving food, showing up, hanging out, and listening to kids.

We are looking for adults who enjoy working with kids and/or teens either on a regular basis or as a "substitute" when we have another volunteer out sick or away.

If Club 116 sounds like a ministry you might want to be a part of, please contact Sara Hackett for more info (SaraH@coh.net). ELPC requires those who volunteer with youth be vaccinated for Covid-19 and have clearances and trainings as outlined in ELPC's child safety policy.

LGBTQ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering — Aug 14

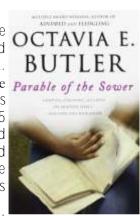
All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to the LGBTQ Ministry's next Spiritual Gathering following worship on Sunday, Aug 14. To ask questions or RSVP, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

Church Tours — Aug 14 and 28

Bob Starzynski will lead an Underground Tour of ELPC on Sunday, Aug 14. Then on Aug 28, a Tower Tour will be offered. Tours will be held after the 10 am summer worship service. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to participate. All are welcome!

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 and 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 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 Parable of the Sower 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. Her books blended elements of science fiction and African American spiritualism.



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

Community member Kim B, Willa Dixon.

Rev. Dr. Brent Johnston from Kansas, Gerald McClendon, Eric McCarty's sister Christine, Joel Minnigh, Jon Nelson's cousin Rayna, Libby Parker's husband Dwayne and Ashley, and Vivienne Selia's friends Linda and Peg.

Condolences to the family of Margot Feldstein on her passing. Her memorial service will be today at 12:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

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



Celebration of the Life of Dr. Charles Huddleston Heaton 1928-2021

There will be a memorial service for Dr. Charles Huddleston Heaton at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (5801 Hampton St) on Saturday, Sept 10 at 2pm. Prelude music will begin at 1:30pm. A reception will follow the service.

Sat, Sept 10 at 2 pm

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Virtual Happy Hour - Aug 26

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 as 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!

In our

COMMUNITY

Active Living with Chronic Conditions — Begins Sept 26 Do you have an ongoing health condition, such as arthritis, diabetes, high blood pressure, stroke, asthma, heart disease, chronic pain, cancer, depression, or another condition that affects your daily life? The ELPC Health Ministry, in collaboration with Vintage Senior Center, is offering a *Self-Study* program to help you solve problems, manage your symptoms, and set and achieve goals. The program is free, but limited to people age 60 and older. The program—presented in the memory of Carla Coles, who first launched this program at ELPC—begins the week of Sept 26. For more info and to register, contact Tom Sturgill (tsturgill@familylinks.org; 412.361.5003 x104).

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.

IPNC Update

The Interim Pastor Nominating Committee (IPNC) has completed our *Ministry Information Form* (MIF) process. The MIF is our church's job description for potential interim pastoral candidates to review. The Pittsburgh Presbytery and our Session have approved our MIF and, shortly, it will be posted online at Church Leadership Connections for potential interim pastors to access. We are prayful that the IPNC will start receiving applications soon after our MIF is posted. 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.

Tuesday Morning Online Prayer Service

ELPC offers an online prayer group each Tuesday morning, hosted by ELPC member Steve Evrard. These 20 -minute sessions feature scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue. All are welcome at this opportunity for fellowship and prayer. Join on Zoom (Meeting ID: 293 707 645), or call in (929.205.6099).