



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)

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TIME OF PREPARATION

Lament is honesty before God and each other. Lament challenges the church to acknowledge real suffering and plead with God for intervention.

— Soong Chan Rah, Professor of Church Growth
and Evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary

MUSIC MINISTRY

“Fanfare & Processional”

Ryan Croyle

“Prelude on Rhosymedre”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Woodworth

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 (Psalm 113)

Ray Anthony

Leader: Alleluia! Come and praise, you servants of God! Praise the name of Yahweh!

People: **May God's name be blessed both now and forever.**

Leader: From east to west, from north to south, praise the name of Yahweh!

People: **May God's name be blessed both now and forever.**

Leader: Who can compare to our God? Seated high above the nations of the earth, God's glory fills the skies.

People: **May God's name be blessed both now and forever.**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #327 “From All That Dwell Below The Skies”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Everlasting God, we confess we have not lived as your people. We have other allegiances that capture our attention and love—work, wealth, power, to name a few—yet find no hope in them. We hear the cries of the poor and shut the doors of our hearts to them. We passively support systems that trample the earth out of convenience.

Forgive us, O God of Compassion, and heal us of our brokenness. Make us well, so that by our healing, we might be the hope and love others need in their lives, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, brought these gifts to us, calling us to be faithful with the grace, peace, and joy entrusted to us.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

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ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Friends, know that nothing can separate you from the love of God in Jesus Christ, and the Spirit is always with you!

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón.
¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #698 (please sing 3 times)

"Take, O Take Me As I Am"

TAKE ME AS I AM

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Ray Anthony

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 the Chapel during the Doxology, when children will return to the worship service.

The nursery is open to young children under the age of 3. Please note that attendance may be limited based on staff to child ratios, so we can only ensure participation on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents/caregivers must complete a registration form and sign children in and out of the nursery each day.

Parents/caregivers are welcome to accompany their children to the nursery, and the service will be livestreamed into that space.

* HYMN #697

"Take My Life"

HENDON

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Woodworth

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 16:1-13

The Rev. Woodworth

SERMON

"A Shrewd Tale: Money, Friends and Security"

The Rev. Woodworth

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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. 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 Sanctuary.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"There Is A Balm in Gilead"

arr. William Dawson

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

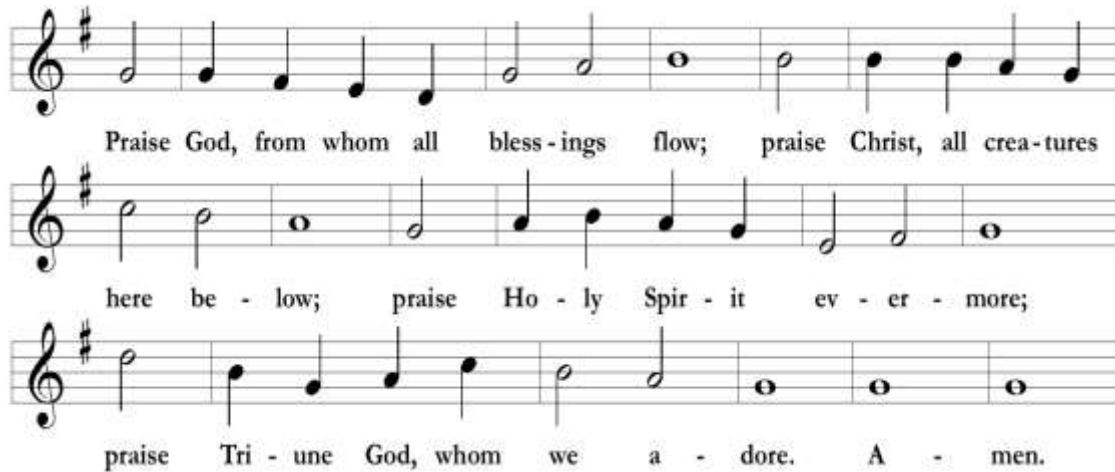
*Some times I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.*

*If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say "He died for all."*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf
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:	As trees planted by streams of water yield their fruit in season, we prosper in you. We are grateful for all that you have provided, and we dedicate our firstfruits to you and to the work of your church, now and forever.	
People:	Amén.	Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #65 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

RHONDDA

* CHARGE & BLESSING

The Rev. Woodworth

POSTLUDE

"Crown Imperial"

William Walton
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: The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Ray Anthony
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Jacob Berger, *Soloist*
Adrianna Cleveland, *Soloist*
Logan Williams, *Soloist*
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

♦ SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and water are available in the Balaka Room.

♦ 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 x211). The cost is \$175. *Our beautiful arrangements are provided by Bloom Brigade (www.bloombrigade.com).*

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.

Sept 25 — The Rev. Shanea Leonard preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.

Sept 25 — The Rev. Shanea Leonard preaching. Mike Tomaro and combo will be our musical guests next Sunday.

♦ 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 Prayer
Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead a time on Zoom (Meeting ID 959 8065 3992) to practice a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art and our bodies.

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

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 11 am worship 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.

TODAY AT ELPC

Church Life Extravaganza

After today's 11 am worship service, our Membership & Outreach Committee is partnering with our Faith Formation Board to host a church-wide celebration combining elements of our annual Sampler and Picnic. Different ministries of our church will have information about how you can get involved in the life of our church; food trucks will provide lunch; music will play; church tours will be offered; there will be balloon art, face painting, and games for kids; and a dunk tank to raise money for our Church School offering. Come and learn more about ELPC on South Whitfield St!

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

Every Sunday, a DOD (*Deacon-on-Duty*) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our services.

The *Journey* service DOD is Elaine Phillips.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Elaine Phillips.



Contemplative Prayer — Mondays

You're invited to a weekly time of quiet contemplation and reflection. The Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead us through a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art, and our bodies to help us start our day and week in communion with God and one another. Join us online at www.tiny.cc/contemplative-prayer. Enter Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992; and Passcode: bestill. Contact Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net) for more info.

Study the Enneagram — Begins Sept 19

Whether you are new to the Enneagram or have been dabbling in it for years, you are invited to participate in our *Enneagram Study Group*, where you will glean a deeper appreciation of how we are "fearfully and wonderfully made," and how that plays out in loving our neighbors. The Enneagram doesn't put you in a box; it reveals the box that you are already in—and offers a path out!

Join us on the third Monday of each month (beginning tomorrow, Sept 19) from 12:15–1:30 pm (Sept–Dec), at www.tiny.cc/enneagram. Enter Meeting ID: 966 6904 5127; and Passcode: 9types. Participants will need a copy of *The Sacred Enneagram: Finding Your Path to Spiritual Growth* by Christopher L. Heuertz. Our group will be led by Lynn Holden, a licensed professional counselor, trained spiritual director, and certified Enneagram practitioner.

Keeping Our Trees Healthy — Sept 24

Join the Environmental Team (of the Justice Committee), Neighbors Committee, and Tree Pittsburgh on Saturday, Sept 24 from 9–11:30 am as we weed and mulch around the street trees in our East Liberty community. It also will be a chance to learn more about the many benefits these trees bring—cooling, absorbing CO2 and storm water, filtering air pollution, and much more!

We will meet at ELPC. Water and snacks will be available, and Tree Pittsburgh will provide tools and mulch. Volunteers should dress for the elements and wear sun screen. And bring your love for God's creation! Contact Mary Barr to sign up (empirephobic@gmail.com).

Pizza and Kickball @ PTS for Youth — Sept 25

Youth are invited to an afternoon of pizza and kickball at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary from 12:30–2:30 pm on Sunday, Sept 25. We will be walking down Highland Ave from ELPC to PTS following worship. Contact Sara Hackett for more details or if you'd like to walk with us (SaraH@coh.net).

Worshipping with the Rev. Shanea Leonard — Sept 25

On Sunday, Sept 25, we're excited to welcome the Rev. Shanea Leonard (they/them) as our special guest preacher at our Journey and Sanctuary worship services. The Rev. Leonard is a pastor, teacher, consultant, community activist, and modern-day abolitionist. They currently carry out their justice mandate as the national Coordinator for Gender & Racial Justice for the PC(USA) in the Presbyterian Mission Agency.



A native of Philadelphia, the Rev. Leonard received their B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and M.Div. from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary with a focus on urban ministry. They have been serving communities and congregations in various capacities for nearly 20 years, and have done extensive work locally and internationally to eradicate systemic oppression in the intersections of race, gender, sexual orientation, and socio-economic despair.

INQUIRERS' CLASS ON SEPT 25

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on Sunday, Sept 25 after the 11 am worship service in the Fellowship Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. This will be a hybrid event (www.Zoom.us; Meeting ID: 882 2467 1264; Passcode: 474931). Contact Megan Leisher for more info (MeganL@coh.net).





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

Stephanie Creasy, Willa Dixon,
Joel Minnigh, Jon Nelson's cousin Rayna,
Libby Parker's husband Dwayne and Ashley, and
Alison Schleifer.

*Condolences to Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
on her brother's passing.*

Condolences to Bob Washburn on his wife's passing.

Musical Guests: Mike Tomaro and Combo — Sept 25
Mike Tomaro and combo will be our musical guests next Sunday, Sept 25 at the 11 am Sanctuary worship service.

Church Tower Tour — Sept 25

There will be a *Tower Tour* offered on Sunday, Sept 25 after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Please wear closed-toe shoes and gather in the Highland Lobby to participate.

Call for Volunteers at Worship — Sept 25

Would you like to participate more fully in worship? The Worship, Music & Arts Committee is looking for people to serve in the following roles: Usher/Greeter, Communion Server, Beadle (carry the bible), Crucifer (carry the cross), Liturgist, Flower Arrangement Coordinator, and A/V Assistant. An information/training session will be held after the 11 am service in the Sanctuary on Sunday, Sept 25.

YAMs Visit Emory Community Senior Housing — Sept 29

The Young Adult Ministry will provide ice cream and play bingo with the seniors at Emory Community Senior Housing on Thursday, Sept 29 from 5-7 pm. For more info and to RSVP, please contact Derail Holcomb, Coordinator of Young Adult Ministries (DerailH@coh.net).

International Sweets & Treats — Oct 2

After a two year hiatus due to Covid-19 the Deacons will be offering an in-person *International Sweets and Treats* on World Communion Sunday, Oct 2. Please join us following worship in the Mckelvy Room to sample global goodies.

Are You Ready to Vote? — Oct 5 and 9

In partnership with the League of Women Voters, the Justice and Facing Systemic Racism Committees are sponsoring three opportunities for citizens to:

- Register as new voter
- Assure registration is still active
- Double check polling location
- Make changes to current voting status (*name, address, affiliation*)
- Obtain website info to apply for electronic voting, etc.
- Develop voting plan

These opportunities are open to the public and will be held on Wednesday, Oct 5 (after Taizé worship), and on Sunday, Oct 9 (after Journey worship in the Whitfield Lobby; and after Sanctuary worship on Penn Ave).

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).

Visit us online at

www.ELPC.church

to learn more about our ministries and opportunities
at East Liberty Presbyterian Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Sept 25 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 3; Reading from the Old Testament (TBD); Mark 2:1–17, facilitated by Lora Bethea and Jan Irvin

Parenting Circle (Rm 213) — Reading of *Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connection and the Language of Human Experience* by Brené Brown, facilitated by Trish Buben

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) — “Resistance to Militarism,” led by Dr. Ron Stone, facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A continued discussion of our new book *Fierce Love* by the Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, led by the Rev. Joe Hajdu, and other class members

♦ CHILDREN & YOUTH ♦

Nursery (under 3) — Nursery Suite, Room 110a

Preschool — Nursery Suite, Room 110b

K-3rd grade — Room 206

4th-6th grade — Room 211

7th-12th grade — Second Floor Parlor