



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)

OCTOBER 9, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TIME OF PREPARATION

Awesome God, who has given us life and kept our feet from slipping, we thank you now for bringing us to this place of worship and learning. Inspire us to speak truthfully and listen attentively. Keep us from wrangling over words in ways that divide. May we prove to be faithful workers, devoted to healing and reconciliation in Jesus’ name. Amen.

MUSIC MINISTRY

“For the Beauty of the Earth”
“Lasst uns Erfreuen”

arr. Lyon
arr. Pollock
Ethan LaPlaca, *organ*
Beth Minnigh, *piano*

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.
People: Y también contigo.

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 66*)

Frances Wilson

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing your praises to the glory of God’s name.
People: **Great and awesome are the works of God. The whole universe sings of God’s power.**
Leader: Gather to remember all that God has revealed. Come to discover what God is doing among us.
People: God is faithful and just in all things. The promises of God are trustworthy and true.
Leader: Present your best selves before God. Work and witness without shame or pretense.
People: Bless God, all people, and let our praise be heard! Let us worship God in spirit and truth!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #400

“I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say”

ENGLAND

CALL TO CONFESSION

Derail Holcomb

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Derail Holcomb

Forgiving God, once more we seek your forgiveness and protection. We find ourselves in exile from the best we know. We focus so much of our attention on our own concerns that we have neglected the welfare of our community. We see our own hardships more readily than we feel the vast suffering around us. We forget the mercy we have received. We are angry when we should be grateful. Restore us to covenant faithfulness, we pray. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

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ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Derail Holcomb

Leader: We are healed and forgiven by a trustworthy God whose righteousness endures forever. Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth. Remember the resurrection of Jesus and accept the opportunity to be raised to new life in Christ. Friends, believe in the good news of the Gospel.

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

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #695 (please sing 3 times)

“Change My Heart, O God”

CHANGE MY HEART

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 137:1-4

Frances Wilson

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

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 #39

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

“In the Meantime”

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. 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.

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Woodworth

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

“Praise to the Lord”

Hugo Distler

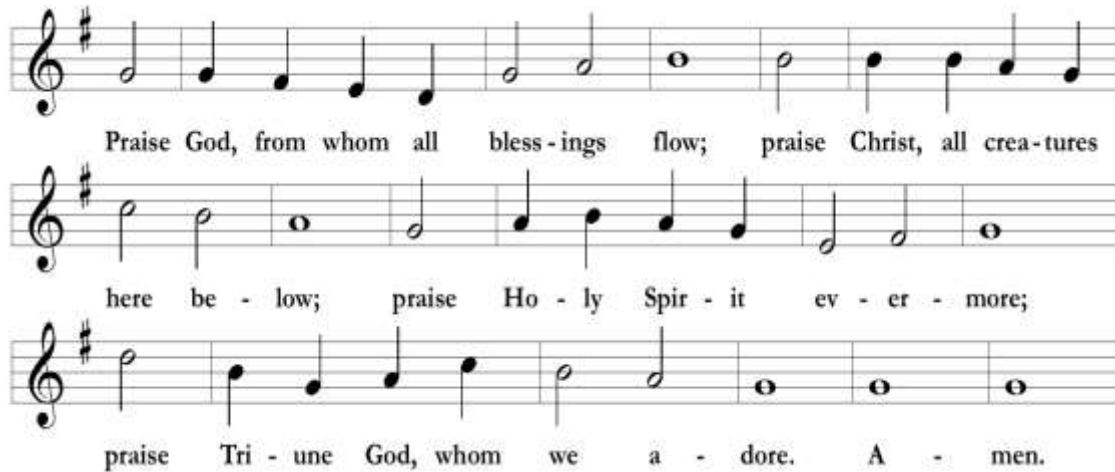
*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise God, for God is thy health and salvation.
All ye who hear; now to God's temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.*

*Praise to the Lord who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth.
Shielded thee under God's wings, yea so gently sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what God ordaineth.*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Woodworth
Derail Holcomb

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 of faith, we put our trust in you. Source of hope, we are confident you shall never forsake us. Giver of love in ways too countless to be numbered, we return but a portion of what we have received from you. Use our gifts so that others may be assured of new life and enriched by the gift of your Holy Spirit.	
People:	Amén.	Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #539

“We Will Go Out With Joy”

WE WILL GO OUT WITH JOY

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare”

John Cook
Ethan LaPlaca, *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. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Derail Holcomb
Frances Wilson
Musicians: Ethan LaPlaca, *Guest Organist*
ELPC Chancel Choir
Beth Minnigh, *Piano*
Beadle: Polly McQueen
Crucifer: Erich Stein
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.
Oct 16 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Oct 16 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching. Full Inclusion 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* to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please contact Megan Leisher for info or to register for future classes (MeganL@coh.net).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Are You Ready to Vote?

In partnership with the League of Women Voters, the Justice and Facing Systemic Racism Committees are sponsoring an opportunity for citizens to register as a new voter; assure your registration is still active; double check polling locations; make changes to current voting status (*name, address, affiliation*); obtain website info to apply for electronic voting, and develop a voting plan. Please join us today after Journey worship in the Whitfield Lobby; and after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Penn Ave.

Need a ride to your polling place? Visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/rides-to-vote>

Not sure where your polling place is or if it's changed? Visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/locate-poll>

Church Tour

There will be a tour of the *Sanctuary and Chapel*, led by Jo Ellen Aleshire, after today's 11 am worship service. Please gather in the Highland Lobby after the service to participate.

Purchase Café Justo Coffee

Stop by the Highland Lobby after the 11 am worship service to purchase a bag of Café Justo coffee. All varieties are available in ground and whole bean bags for \$10 (cash or check only). If you are unable to pick up your coffee in person, contact Ryan Booher (rabooherc@gmail.com).
Note: Café Justo will be sold on the second Sunday of the month.

Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DODs)

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 Tom Sturgill. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Linda Sanders.



Fall Forest Bathing — Oct 15

Join us at Frick Park Soccer Field for a time of Fall Solstice Forest Bathing on Saturday, Oct 15 from 9 am-Noon. Sandi Miller will lead us as we attend to the beauty of nature, the colors of leaves, slowing down, harvest, and preparing for wintering. Enjoy three hours of walking, sitting, and noticing. You will experience a series of guided invitations to slow down, open the senses, and cultivate an embodied relationship between yourself and the natural world. Throughout the walk, you will have an opportunity to share your experiences. We will be walking less than one mile, but there are some hills involved. RSVP to Norma (412.441.3800 x211) by Wednesday, Oct 12.

Full Inclusion Sunday — Oct 16

The Renaissance City Choir (RCC) will be with us to provide special music during Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Oct 16 at 11 am. There also will be a *Community Sing* event in the Social Hall at 1:30 pm.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — Oct 16

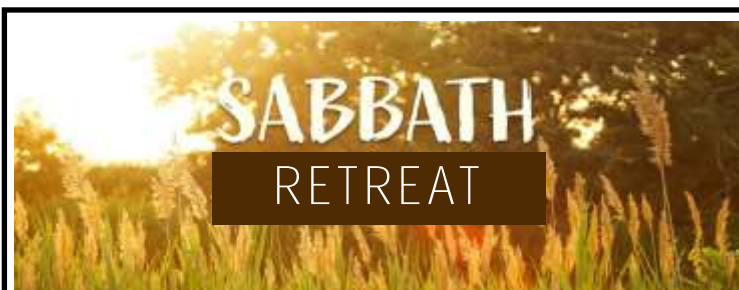
You are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, Oct 16 after the Sanctuary worship service. It is Full Inclusion Sunday! This month will be an interactive lunch with friends before attending the *Community Sing* event at 1:30 pm. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. Contact Wil Forrest for info or to attend (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

YAM Virtual Event — Oct 21

Each month, the Young Adult Ministry (YAM) will gather virtually for discussion. On Friday, Oct 21 from 6-8 pm, Isaac from the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee will speak on the importance of environmental justice and how we can be better stewards of God's creation. We invite others from our church and community to participate in our BYOB Friday virtual event, so invite a friend! Please contact Derail Holcomb for more info (DerailH@coh.net).

Not all Who Wander are Lost — Oct 16

Following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Oct 16, youth in grades 6–12 are heading to Howling Hills Corn Maze in Allenport, PA. The eight-acre maze also features a hayride. The cost is \$20 to cover the maze and lunch. We will return to ELPC at 5:30 pm. Contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) to attend.



Friday, Oct 21 at 5 pm to Sunday, Oct 23 at Noon

Join us for a *Sabbath Retreat* at St. Emma's Retreat House in Greensburg. The retreat will be spacious and include times of prayer, rest, solitude, silence, table fellowship, teaching, and reflection. The cost is \$150 (scholarships are available). Spots are limited.

RSVP to Pastor BJ Woodworth
(BJW@coh.net) by Sunday, Oct 16



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

Dana Carl,
Carol Chonoska's sister Janet,
Stephanie Creasy, Joe Kennedy, Gail Mallory,
Jon Nelson's cousin Beth, Alison Schleifer,
and Vivienne Selia's friend Hetz,

*Condolences to Nicole Molinaro-Karaczun
on the passing of her husband, Alex Karaczun.*

Condolences to Bob Washburn on his wife's passing.

Bring a Coat to Worship Sunday — Oct 23

Clean, gently used and new coats for all ages and genders will be collected at ELPC on Sunday, Oct 23, and distributed through the Chapel Market and East End Cooperative Ministry. This event is sponsored by the Neighbors Committee.

Church Tower Tour — Oct 23

A *Tower Tour* will be offered on Sunday, Oct 23, led by Steve Evrard. Please wear closed-toe shoes and gather in the Highland Lobby after the 11 am Sanctuary service to participate.

Connections Group — Oct 23

Please join the Connections Group on Sunday, Oct 23 at 6:30 pm to walk through the Pittsburgh Zoo's Asian Lantern Festival together. Please buy your own ticket online ahead of time (cost is \$20/person or \$17 if you are a Zoo member). Meet inside the Zoo gate at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome. This event involves a moderate amount of walking. RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com.

A Talk About Mental Health — Oct 30

Youth, parents, and caregivers are invited to join us after Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Oct 30 at 12:15 pm for lunch and a program on talking together about mental health. The presentation will be led Carol Dundes, a counselor at Samaritan Counseling. Contact Sara Hackett for more info (SaraH@coh.net).

Welcoming the Rev. Gavin Walton — Oct 30

We are pleased to welcome the Rev. Gavin Walton as our guest preacher at Journey and Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Oct 30. A native of Pittsburgh, the Rev. Walton currently serves as pastor at Grace Memorial Presbyterian Church. He is a graduate of Duquesne University and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

Special Acknowledgements During Worship — Nov 6
As part of our All Saints' Day service at 11 am on Sunday, Nov 6, we will remember those in our congregation and larger church family who have passed away since November 2021. Send your images and names to Norma in the church office by Nov 3.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Community Sing for Social Justice — Oct 16

Experience the joy of choral singing as we join our voices together for social justice! The Renaissance City Choir together with ELPC's Justice Committee invite singers of all ages and skill levels to attend this *Community Sing* event on Sunday, Oct 16 from 1:30-2:30 pm in the ELPC Social Hall. Guided by RCC Artistic Director Kym Scott, attendees will learn and sing simple yet powerful choral pieces with a focus on social justice, along with some familiar justice songs. Masks are required of all participants regardless of vaccination status. The Renaissance City Choir affirms and celebrates LGBTQIA+ identity through the unifying power of music, and rehearses and performs at ELPC as Artists-in-Residence. Please contact RCC with questions (president@rccpittsburgh.com), or for access concerns, please email accessibility@rccpittsburgh.com.



Evangelism Conference:

Addressing Harm, Embracing Hope — Oct 30 to Nov 1

In order to move into the future with a fresh understanding of the wholistic meaning of evangelism, we must repent of the wrong we have done in the name of evangelism and recognize the harm we have caused people and communities. Join this event online and in-person at Montreat Conference Center (North Carolina) from Oct 30 to Nov 1. Everyone will join together for plenary and worship. The Rev. Shanea Leonard is the keynote speaker! A discounted conference fee of \$70 is available, and scholarships are available for LGBTQIA+ and POC folks. Visit <https://montreat.org/events/evangelism> to register.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Oct 16 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 6; 2 Samuel 21:1–14; Mark 3:19b–35, 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) — “Religion, Violence, and Terrorism,” led by Dr. Ron Stone, facilitated by Gwen Puza

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