



# EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 [www.ELPC.church](http://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)*

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2022 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

God, Who is everywhere, never leaves us. Yet He seems sometimes to be present, sometimes to be absent. If we do not know Him well, we do not realize that He may be more present to us when He is absent than when He is present.

— *Thomas Merton, "No Man Is An Island"*

### MUSIC MINISTRY

"Sonata No. 1 in D minor - II. Pastorale"

Alexandre Guilmant  
Ethan LaPlaca, *organ*

### 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 (*Psalms 98*)

Hannah and Kevin Moon

Leader: We give thanks to you, God,

People: For you have done marvelous things.

Leader: Let the waters clap their hands.

People: Let the trees dance. Let the birds sing for joy.

Leader: May we remember together, today and every day,

People: That you have done marvelous things.

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #711

"Lord of All Good"

TOULON

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Hannah and Kevin Moon

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Hannah and Kevin Moon

Almighty God, we have fallen short. We have harbored hate. We have celebrated the pain of others. We have chosen what is easy instead of what we know is right. Empower us that we may not grow weary. Teach us that we may know what is right. We silently name our failures and lay them at your feet.

### TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Hannah and Kevin Moon

Leader: **Beloved, we do not have to be perfect. Christ's love and God's grace covers us. All God asks is that we love the Lord. This love changes us. It defines us. In Jesus Christ, know that you are forgiven, and your slate is wiped clean. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.**

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

¡Alaben a Dios!

Praise God!

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

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SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #698 (sing 3x) “Take, O Take Me as I Am”

TAKE ME AS I AM

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 28:16-20

David Carl

*In observance of Native American Heritage Month, we’re offering November’s scripture passages in the First Nations Version (FNV), by Terry M. Wildman and the First Nations Version Translation Council. The FNV “recounts the Creator’s Story—the Christian Scriptures—following the tradition of Native storytellers’ oral cultures” and is one recent example of Indigenous Americans’ leadership in the Christian faith. For more information, visit [firstnationsversion.com](http://firstnationsversion.com).*

*As ELPC begins grappling with our complicity with white supremacy, we seek to honor the past, present, and future of our Native members and siblings—not only in November, but year-round; and not only in words, but in action—by deeply reconsidering and repairing our relationships with Native American peoples and cultures. Reading the Bible through one Native lens is merely one beginning of what we hope to be a long, faithful conversation and commitment to substantive change.*

The remaining eleven of his followers journeyed to Circle of Nations (Galilee). There, at the mountain where Creator Sets Free (Jesus) had told them to go, they met with him. When they saw him, they gave to him the honor he deserved – but there were some who still doubted. “All the authority of the spirit world above and the earth below has been given to me,” he told them. “So now I am sending you into all nations to teach them how to walk the road with me. You will represent me as you perform the purification ceremony with them, initiating them into the life of beauty and harmony represented in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You will then teach them all the ways that I have instructed you to walk in.” Creator Sets Free (Jesus) then looked into their faces with love and great affection. He lifted his hands toward them and spoke these final blessing words over them. “Never forget,” he said as he began to rise up into the spirit world above. “I will always be with you, your invisible guide, walking beside you, until the new age has fully come.” (FNV)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (NRSV)

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Heather 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.*

CHORAL ANTHEM

“The Gift to Be Free”

arr. Rollo Dilworth  
Based on the Shaker Tune *Simple Gifts*

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Haggai 2:1-9

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

“Greater”

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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

Tiffany Sudar

*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.*



PRESENTATION OF STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES & FOOD DONATIONS

OFFERTORY HYMNS

#716

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

BEACH SPRING

#714

“God of the Fertile Fields”

ITALIAN HYMN

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf  
Kevin Moon

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: Holy God, far too often we take for granted all that you have provided and all that we have. Far too often we fail to recognize how blessed we are and we fail to realize that your grace and mercy are ever present. Take these gifts we give in response to your generosity and use them to further Christ’s mission and ministry in this hurting world. Amen.

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN #708

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

SCHUMANN

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

“March on a Theme of Handel, Op 15”

Alexandre Guilmant  
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](http://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.*

*Parts of the Liturgy were written and provided by Rose Schrott Taylor and the "Presbyterian Outlook."*

*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  
David Carl  
Hannah and Kevin Moon  
Tiffany Sudar  
Musicians: Ethan LaPlaca  
*Guest Organist/Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
Beadle: Jo Ellen Aleshire  
Crucifer: Mark Statler  
Sound: Tim Benedict and 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, contact Frances Wilson ([wilson.franr@gmail.com](mailto:wilson.franr@gmail.com)). The cost is \$175.

*Our beautiful arrangements are provided by Bloom Brigade ([www.bloombrigade.com](http://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.  
Nov 20 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.  
Nov 20 — 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 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* TODAY after the 11 am Sanctuary service in the Highland Rm 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](mailto:MeganL@coh.net)).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church).

## TODAY AT ELPC

Today is Stewardship Sunday

Hooray! It is a wonderful day! Today we celebrate God's loving presence in our lives by offering our pledges and our gifts of food. *God is with us always!* It is because we have been so blessed that we are able to share that generosity by supporting others. *God is with us always!* When we pledge, we give ELPC the resources to bring God's message to the world. *God is with us always!*

If you have not brought your pledge card with you today—no worries—you can find cards in the pews, you can use the QR code in the bulletin, you can mail your pledge card to the church, or you can bring your pledge card next week. Our God is all loving, all bountiful and omnipotent. *God is with us always!* Hallelujah.

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). Contact Ryan Booher (rabooherco@gmail.com) for info. *Note: Café Justo will be sold on the second Sunday of the month.*

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering

All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to today's monthly spiritual gathering at 12:30 pm. For more info, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

### Inquirers' Class

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* after the 11 am worship service today in the Fellowship Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. See Pastor Patrice or Pastor Heather after the service to attend.

Elder and Deacon Nominations

The Officer Nominating Committee is seeking congregational nominations for the offices of ruling elder and deacon. All ELPC members are encouraged to prayerfully consider who among us might fill those roles. Please get consent of those you are putting into nomination before submitting their names to Nominating Committee Co-chairs Andrea DeVries (andrea.devries74@gmail.com) and Jill Millard (millardjill@yahoo.com).



*Declared in 1990, November is National American Indian Heritage Month, during which we celebrate the rich histories and invaluable contributions of American Indians. This month, let us reflect on and honor the incredible resilience of our country's first people.*

YAM Virtual Happy Hour — Nov 18

Join the Young Adult Ministry on Friday, Nov 18 at 7 pm for their monthly Virtual Happy Hour! Contact Derail for more info (DerailH@coh.net).

Connections Movie Night — Nov 19

The ELPC *Connections Group* will see the movie "Till" on Saturday, Nov 19 at the Waterfront Theater. After the movie, we'll get coffee and dessert and discuss the film. RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com and let us know if you would like a ride. The exact showtime is unknown until a few days before the event, but plan on approximately 7 pm. We'll contact those who have RSVP'd with details. A limited number of free tickets are available for those who need them.

PW Thank Offering — Nov 20

All members and friends of ELPC are invited to support the PW *Thank Offering* during 11 am worship on Sunday, Nov 20. Make checks payable to *Presbyterian Women in ELPC* and write "PW Thank Offering" in the memo line. For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.



## Fall Pie Festival

Sunday, Nov 20

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to the first ever *ELPC Fall Pie Festival* in the Social Hall on Sunday, Nov 20 after the 11 am Sanctuary service. You are invited to bring your favorite fall pie (or cake or cookies) to share with the congregation. The Spiritual Life Committee will provide the whipped cream, ice cream, and warm drinks while we sample your favorite pies or other sweet treats. Please join us for a time of celebrating the fall harvest and anticipation of the arrival of the holiday season.

You can sign-up today after both worship services

to let us know if you're bringing a pie (or other treat), or contact Norma (412.441.3800 x211) by Friday, Nov 18.





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

Mike and Sherry Anderson's  
granddaughter Amber,  
Carol Chontos' friend Carolyn,  
Alex Haas-Conrad's dad Karl, Morris Jordan,  
Joe Kennedy, Gail Mallory, Judy Menk,  
Jon Nelson's cousin Beth,  
and Vivienne Selia's friend Linda.

*Condolences to Cathleen Malmstrom on her brother's passing.*

#### Church Tour — Nov 20

There will be a *Sanctuary and Chapel* tour after the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Nov 20. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to participate.

#### Cathedral Concert: Choral Festival — Nov 20

ELPC's *Cathedral Concerts* series will kick off its 2022–2023 season on Sunday, Nov 20 at 3 pm with an exciting free concert featuring guest conductor Dr. Anthony Leach, the ELPC Chancel Choir, and special guests, with music of living African American composers.



#### Hanging of the Greens — Nov 27

Get into the Christmas spirit by decorating the Sanctuary for the Advent season! Join us on Nov 27 in the Sanctuary immediately following the 11 am service.

#### Interested in Being an Usher or Greeter?

If you are interested in being an usher or greeter on Sundays for our worship service, visit <http://tiny.cc/elpcusher> to sign up, or scan this QR code.



### SAVE THE DATES FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Please save these dates and plan to participate. These ministry opportunities enable us to serve our neighbors and members who are struggling emotionally or financially during the holidays.

- ♦ Holiday Giving Tree Tag Distribution  
*Sundays, Nov 20, 27, Dec 4 and Wednesday, Nov 30*
- ♦ Blue Christmas Service  
*Friday, Dec 9 at 7 pm*
- ♦ Ten Thousand Villages Shopping  
*Saturday, Dec 18, and Sunday, Dec 19 (at ELPC and online)*

For more information, contact Dave Cowan, Board of Deacons moderator ([DavidACowan@gmail.com](mailto:DavidACowan@gmail.com)) or Pastor Patrice ([PatriceFS@coh.net](mailto:PatriceFS@coh.net); 412.441.3800 x230).



In our

## COMMUNITY



#### Clergy Holiday Jam Session — Dec 3

On Saturday, Dec 3 from 3-5 pm, a *Clergy Holiday Jam Session* will be held at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (616 N Highland Ave, 15206) to benefit the National Black Presbyterian Caucus. The event will feature the talented clergy of the Rev. Dr. Harry Cooper, the Rev. Dr. Asa Lee, and the Rev. Dr. Sheldon Sorge. There will also be special sweets for sale! Support the Caucus by making a year-end, tax deductible contribution!

#### Belle Voci Concerts — Dec 9 and 11

Belle Voci will present two performances of *Forward Into Light: Music Illuminates Our Path*. The first will be held at Glenshaw Presbyterian Church (300 Glenn Ave, 15116) on Friday, Dec 9 at 8 pm. The second performance will be sensory-friendly, shorter in length, geared toward the unique needs of patrons, on Sunday, Dec 11 at 2 pm at ELPC. General admission tickets are \$20, and can be purchased at [www.bellevocipgh.com](http://www.bellevocipgh.com).

Visit us online at

[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

**Nov 20 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am**

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 10; 2 Kings 24:8,11–17; Mark 5:1–20, 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) — “The Truth About the Book of Revelation,” led by Dr. Elaine Pagels, 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

♦ 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