



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Avenue, 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)

BAPTISM OF THE LORD JANUARY 8, 2023 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

God, outside of time, yet here: Come to us, relieve our ragged breaths, slow our steps, relax the red lines that spike in our brains. Tell us what is true. Show us how time rolls like calm water, let us cup it quiet in our hands...teach us to pause in this moment, to tuck ourselves into the curve of your slow arm, that we may know the miracle of now, the gift of this moment: you beside and beyond us, welcoming us outside of all we measure, and standing with us in it.

— Micha Boyett (from “A Prayer Against Efficiency” found in “A Rhythm of Prayer”)

MUSIC MINISTRY

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”
“Prelude for the Introit of Epiphany”

arr. Wayne L. Wold
Maurice Duruflé
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.
People: Y también contigo.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Barbara Griffin and Kira Mukogosi

Leader: In the beginning, at creation, the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.
People: In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth and humankind.
Leader: God caused the waters to part so that Israel could cross from slavery to liberation.
People: **God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary’s womb.**
Leader: Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples’ feet in water.
People: Drinking water from a well, Jesus met a Samaritan woman, the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.
Leader: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.
People: God meant for Jesus to be the firstborn in a large family. Praise be!
Leader: Siblings, let us worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN (please see music insert)

NETTLETON

“Out of Deep, Unordered Water”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM VOWS

The Rev. Schoenewolf and The Rev. BJ Woodworth

Leader: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?
People: I do.
Leader: Who is your Lord and Savior?
People: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Continued on next page...

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

January 8 • Baptism of the Lord

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

Leader: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Leader: Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #492 (sing 3x) "You Belong to Christ"

YOU BELONG TO CHRIST

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Isaiah 42:1-9

Barbara Griffin

Acts 10:34-43

Kira Mukogosi

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

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/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 #480

"Take Me to the Water"

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 3:13-17

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

"All Washed Up"

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Rev. Schoenewolf

The creeds of the church reflect a particular stance within the living history of God's people. They are not to be barriers that separate us, but words that strengthen the life and witness of the whole community of believers.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen. (*Nicene Creed*)

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

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

Kathleen Thomerson

Text can be found in the Glory to God hymnal #377

January 8 • Baptism of the Lord

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Woodworth

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 #530

“One Bread, One Body”

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Saving God, you have gathered us into one baptism, regardless of our backgrounds and conditions. You have given us life, and the new life born of repentance, forgiveness and resurrection. You have nourished us with this sacramental meal and send us out as your body. Strengthen us, guide us, and sustain us that we too might bring your peace and healing to the world.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #490 “Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters”

BEACH SPRING

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

“In Dir ist Freude, BWV 615”
(In You is Gladness)

Johann Sebastian Bach
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. Heather Schoenewolf
Liturgists: The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Barbara Griffin
Sara Hackett
Kira Mukogosi
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Beadles: Mario Seneca
Polly McQueen
Crucifer: Erich Stein
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and water are available in the Fellowship 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.
Jan 15 — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Jan 15 — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy 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).

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

The Chapel Market Needs Your Help

The Chapel Market is sponsoring a *Clothing Drive*. Requested donations include winter-weight outer and inner wear, sweat pants, gloves, coats, socks for all ages and genders, especially for men. Items can be dropped off in the Highland Ave Lobby. *Thanks for your generosity!*

Today's Deacon-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 Dana Carl.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Jo Ellen Aleshire.



Volunteers Needed to be Beadles and Crucifers

There are many ways to participate in our worship services! We are currently seeking volunteers to be a Beadle or Crucifer at our 11 am Sanctuary worship service. The duties of the Beadle include processing at the beginning of the service with the Bible, and the Crucifer also processes while carrying the cross. If you would like to help, or have questions about these roles, please speak to one of today's Beadles, or email Mario Seneca (seneca459@hotmail.com).



PW Bible Study — Jan 9

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study on Monday, Jan 9 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only). For more info and the Zoom link, please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Club One Sixteen — Resumes Jan 11

Kids in grade 1–12 are invited to club one sixteen, ELPC's mid-week program for youth. We gather each Wednesday, 4:30–6:30 pm, for Bible Study, recreation, relaxation, and dinner together. We will resume on Wednesday, Jan 11. To register a child or update a registration, please visit ELPC.church.

Sabbath Day Workshop — Jan 14

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to a day of rest, reflection, and conversation about how to faithfully practice *Sabbath* in our fast-paced, production oriented, consumer culture. Our day together will embody a *Sabbath* day of rest. We will collaboratively experiment with a variety of *Sabbath* practices and reflect upon them.



There will be time for solitude, being in your body, instruction from Pastor BJ, and personal reflection with the aim of developing a plan for practicing *Sabbath* in your own life. So whether you are retired, parenting young kids, a single young adult or at the height of your career, our time together will aim to help you design a *Sabbath* practice for your season of life.

Join us on Saturday, Jan 14 from 9 am-3 pm at ELPC. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch. Please RSVP to Norma by tomorrow (412.441.3800 x211).

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — Jan 15

All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering on Sunday, Jan 15 at 12:30 pm. For more info or to attend, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).



Tween Bowling — Jan 15

Following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Jan 15, youth in grades 4–6 will gather for lunch and bowling in the Bowling Alley. Friends are always welcome! Contact Sara Hackett for info (SaraH@coh.net).

Study the Enneagram — Jan 16 (3rd Monday of the Month)

Join us on the third Monday of each month from 12:15–1:30 pm, 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. Please note the group will meet on Jan 16, Feb 20 and March 20.



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

Linda Benedict,

Tim Engelhardt's dad Steve and mom Cecelia,
Joe Kennedy, and Herma Stewart's sister Edris.

*Condolences to the family of Willa Dixon on her passing.
The memorial service will be Friday, Jan 13 at Noon in the Chapel.*

*Condolences to the family of Michael Hoehn on his passing.
(Carol, Michael and Benjamin Hoehn and Laura Trabold
and grandchildren Caleb and Caiden Trabold and Reagan Hoehn)*

*Condolences to Travis Simpson-Hunt
on his great aunt's passing.*

Meditation Hour — Begins Jan 17

Meditation is the practice of “looking deeply.” In silence and withdrawal from the world of everyday concerns, we turn our attention inward and calm our bodies and minds. In this emptiness we may see the world as if for the first time. We may see others as they are and we may find that the Kingdom of Heaven is truly within us; that we are living in God and God in us.



The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join John Benedict in the Prayer Room each Tuesday, starting Jan 17, from 6-7 pm for an hour devoted to meditation. The session will include an opening reading, silent sitting, and walking. John is a retired psychologist and a long time student and practitioner of insight meditation. No experience is necessary, and all are welcome!

How to Reduce Energy Bills and

Take Advantage of New Incentives — Jan 22

Energy prices have gone up sharply within the last half year, and are impacting many households this winter. At the same time, legislators and the Biden Administration are to release \$369 billion for “Energy Security and Climate Change,” part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), offering rebates, tax incentives, and other programs to help households conserve energy and to electrify. What is in the programs and how can you take advantage of them?

Join the Environmental Team of Justice Committee following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Jan 22 in the Social Hall or on Zoom to learn about the actions households can take right away or plan to take in the later part of 2023, when the remaining regulations are finalized.

A light lunch will be offered. Contact Nancy Heastings with any questions (n.heastings@comcast.net).

CHURCH BUILDING CLOSURE

The church building will be closed on Monday, Jan 16
in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The History and Persistence of Racism Within the Christian Church — Jan 29

The Facing Systemic Racism Committee invites the congregation to join us on Sunday, Jan 29 (via zoom or in person) for the second part of our series, *The History and Persistence of Racism within the Christian Church*, led by University of Pittsburgh professor and lecturer, Dr. Brock Bahler. Comments following the first presentation included:

- I've been Christian all my life. Why didn't I know this history?
- What else don't I know about my faith in general as well as the Presbyterian denomination?
- How is ELPC implicated in that history? What now?

Dr. Bahler will speak to the intentional codification of racism within the church and how the church continues to perpetuate — and benefits from — white supremacy. His lecture will be followed by a small group discussion of the content, as well as consideration of next steps for ELPC.

The presentation will be held during the Church School hour, immediately following Journey worship in the Social Hall.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Jan 15 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

There will be no Sunday School classes next Sunday, Jan 1.

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 15; Song of Songs 4:1–8; Mark 6:45–56, 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) — “Experiencing Christian Unity with the World Council of Churches,” led by The Rev. Liddy Barlow, executive minister of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania (in-person), facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A discussion of chapter two of *Made for Goodness* by Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho Tutu, 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