



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)

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 5, 2023 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

When I discover who I am, I'll be free.

— Ralph Ellison, *"Invisible Man"*

MUSIC MINISTRY

"Adagio from Symphonie III, Op. 28"

Louis Vierne

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

"Adagio molto espressivo"
(from *Violin Sonata #5*)

Ludwig van Beethoven

Cody Conley, *violin*

Dr. Moore, *piano*

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

James and Heather Eng

Leader: We gather to worship our Living God – Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. As we come to know God, we come to a deeper understanding of ourselves – as a community and as individuals.

People: **We are God's people, formed by grace, sent in hope, united in love.**

Leader: We are image-bearers of the Divine. We are redeemed by Christ. We are empowered and led by God's Spirit.

People: We are salt and light, gifted not so that we might stand apart, alone – but blessed to be a blessing to others.

Leader: Family of faith, let us together worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #409

"God Is Here!"

ABBOT'S LEIGH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #629 (vs. 1, 3 and 5)

ST. AGNES

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Woodworth

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!

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

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SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 126:1-9
1 Corinthians 2:1-16

James and Heather Eng
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

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 #395

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

LIEBSTER JESU

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:13-20

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

“Who Do You Think You Are?”

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.

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In sovereign love God created the world good and **makes everyone equally in God's image of every (gender and) race and people, to live as one community.**

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *(A Brief Statement of Faith, excerpts)*

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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.



* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Light of the World”

Karen Marroli
based on John 8:12

* 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.

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. 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 #494

“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

QUEBEC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Woodworth

God of life, death, and resurrection, we are grateful for life and all its gifts. We give you thanks and praise for nourishing us in this communion meal. By this bread and this cup, strengthen us to serve you and others in your name. Increase within us faith, hope and love, that we may abide in your grace, through Jesus Christ, our lover and our Lord. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #377

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

HOUSTON

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

“Final from Symphonie III, Op. 28”

Louis Vierne

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. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. BJ Woodworth
James and Heather Eng
Sara Hackett
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Cody Conley, *Violin*
Beadle: Lenore Williams
Crucifer: Mario Seneca
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, contact Frances Wilson (wilson.franr@gmail.com). The cost is \$175.

◆ 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.

Feb 12 — The Rev. BJ Woodworth preaching.

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

Feb 12 — The Rev. BJ Woodworth 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

Meditation Hour (*through May 2023*)

Join John Benedict, retired psychologist and practitioner of insight meditation, in the Prayer Room for an hour devoted to meditation, which includes an opening reading, silent sitting, and walking. All are welcome!

Tuesdays, 6-7 pm

Cathedral Yoga

Yamuna will lead yoga in-person in the Sanctuary.

Wednesdays, 6 to 7 pm (*before Taizé*)

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 more info on future classes (MeganL@coh.net).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Toiletries Drive for Allegheny County Jail

The Justice Committee is collaborating with the Chaplain's Office of the Allegheny County Jail to meet some of the current needs of inmates by collecting the following items:

- Body Wash
- Deodorant (*men's and women's*)
- Shampoo/Conditioner (*including black hair care products*)
- Lotion
- Toothpaste

(Please note we can only collect full-size toiletry items in plastic bottles or tubes. Pump mechanisms are prohibited.)

Volunteers will be collecting items after Journey and Sanctuary worship today. There also will be a drive-up collection outside of the South Highland Ave entrance from 12–2:30 pm. Collection boxes will be available by the Highland entrance during the week. Monetary donations may be made to ELPC's "Hygiene collection."

Stained Glass Church Tour

A *Stained Glass Tour* will be offered after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service today. Please meet guide Penn Hackney at the Highland Lobby to participate. All are welcome!

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 Elaine Phillips.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Karen Walker.



PW Bible Study — Feb 6 and 7

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study *Sabbath and Hospitality* on Monday, Feb 6 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only), and on Tuesday, Feb 7 from 10 am-Noon (hybrid). For more info and the Zoom link, please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com. Those attending the Tuesday Bible Study are invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Beverages will be provided.

Environmental Book Study: Superman's Not Coming — Feb 9

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee is continuing their study surrounding water with their next book *Superman's Not Coming: Our National Water Crisis and What We the People Can Do About It* by Erin Brockovich.

Read the book and join them for a discussion on Thursday, Feb 9 at 7 pm, led by Sandy Brake on Zoom. Contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

See Derek Webb in Concert — Feb 10

All are invited to join the Young Adult Ministry on Friday, Feb 10 at 8 pm for Derek Webb in concert in the ELPC Bowling Alley. A member of contemporary Christian band **Caedmon's Call**, Derek's newest solo work, *The Jesus Hypothesis*, takes another look at doubt and faith in beautiful ways. Tickets can be purchased online at DerekWebb.com.

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — Feb 12

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

Webinar by Author Dr. William Yoo — Feb 13

Presbyterian Women and the Facing Systemic Racism Committee encourage your participation in a webinar with Dr. William Yoo of Columbia Theological Seminary, the author of the book *What Kind of Christianity: A History of Slavery and Anti-Black Racism in the Presbyterian Church*. The live webinar will be on Monday, Feb 13 from 6:30-8:30 pm. It is free, but requires pre-registration at:

signupgenius.com/go/9040b4ba5a82ba0fa7-justice1#/

Books can be purchased at a bookstore or through the PC (USA) store. Additionally, please email Michele Bossers if you might be interested in discussing this book sometime later in the spring (michele2285@gmail.com).

Escape Room at Zone 28 — Feb 18

Youth in grades 6–12 are invited to dinner and a team **building challenge at Zone 28's Escape Room on Saturday**, Feb 18 from 5-9 pm. Bring \$15 towards the cost of the Escape Room. Friends are welcome! A registration form and permission slip can be found at ELPC.church.

Connections Group — Feb 18

The Connections Group will go together to see the play *American Menu* at New Horizons Theater on Saturday, Feb 18 at 3 pm (matinee). Please buy your own ticket (\$25) **ahead of time on the theater's website**. We will meet at the performance space, which is at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-Homewood (7101 Hamilton Ave, 15208). After the performance, we'll go to a nearby restaurant to eat and talk. Please RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com.

Church Tour — Feb 19

A *Hidden Places Tour* will be held on Sunday, Feb 19 after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Please gather at the Highland Lobby to participate. All are welcome!





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

Tim Engelhardt's dad Steve
and mom Cecelia,
Joe Kennedy, and
Rhonda Perroz's brother Gary.

Condolences to Becky Gloninger on her mother's passing.

Condolences to Martha Mannix on her mother's passing.

*Condolences to the family of Morris Jordan on his passing.
(Sharon Hardnet)*

A Lenten Journey of Embracing the Wisdom of
Our Ancestors, Bodies, and the Earth — Feb 23 to March 30

Decolonizing is a popular buzzword in conversations about spirituality, but what is it? What does it look like? Join other congregants on a Lenten journey focused on understanding the impact of colonization on our spiritual practice.



Together, let's consider ways to deepen our connection to God by learning to embrace the wisdom of our ancestors, our bodies, and the Earth itself.

Each Thursday during Lent (Feb 23– March 30) from 5:30–7 pm, the Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger will lead us as we explore a particular theme and discuss ways to implement new ideas or strengthen our spiritual practice throughout the week.

We cannot change the past, but we can rediscover what we lost and build a fuller, richer sense of the Divine in our midst.

A light dinner will be served. The suggested donation is \$25 for all 6 weeks. Please RSVP to Norma (412.441.3800 x211) by Sunday, Feb 19.

Study the Enneagram — Feb 20 (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 Feb 20 and March 20.

The Arsenal Duo in Concert — Feb 10

Dr. Ed Moore and pianist Nathan Carterette (aka The Arsenal Duo) will be performing their first post-pandemic concert on Friday, Feb 10 at 7:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville, VA. If you know anyone in the area, please share the concert info with them, available at www.firstprescharlottesville.org/content.cfm?page_content=announcement_include.cfm&announcement_id=531.

Registration is Now Open for VCS

ELPC's 2023 Vacation Church School program will take place June 26–30 from 9 am–3 pm for children in pre-K (age 4 and potty-trained) through grade 5 (completed). Our theme this summer is *Changemakers Lab*, a place children will learn that everyone can make a difference in the world! Through five Bible stories, we'll explore examples of people who experienced and brought about change in the world around them. You can register your child, or sign up to volunteer, using this QR code, or visit <http://tiny.cc/elpc-vcs>.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Feb 12 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 18:1–19; Song of Songs 5:10–6:3; Mark 8:1–21, 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) — “Black History in Pittsburgh” video from the Heinz History Center, facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A discussion of chapter five of *Made for Goodness* by Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho Tutu, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu, and other class members

Ash Wednesday is Feb 22



The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb 22, and ELPC will offer two services, both of which will include the imposition of ashes. At noon, the Rev. Heather Schoenewolf will lead a reflective time of word and prayer. Then at 7 pm, the Rev. BJ Woodworth will commemorate the start of Lent through the music and prayers of Taizé. Please join us for this sacred time of ritual and reflection.