



# 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)*

## TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD FEBRUARY 19, 2023 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

Spiritual identity means we are not what we do or what people say about us. And we are not what we have. We are the beloved daughters and sons of God. — *Henri Nouwen*

### MUSIC MINISTRY

“Trumpet Tune in A”

David Johnson

“Rigaudon”

Ethan LaPlaca, *organ*

André Campra

The Brass Roots

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

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

Leader: The day has dawned, the morning star rises in our hearts.

People: We witness the glory of Christ!

Leader: God speaks to us in cloud and flame, in mysterious words and dazzling visions.

People: The Lord loves justice and equity, and is exalted over all the people.

Leader: As we witness the glory of Christ, let us worship and praise God!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #192 “Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining”

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

With the dawn comes awareness that we are to serve you, Lord God, in all that we do. Yet we turn our backs on you when called to act. Our eyes deceive us when we see or deem others as expendable, unequal, or without value. While we may not take the literal lives of others, we do not hesitate to harm with our words or inaction. We fail to love neighbors as Christ taught us to do. We hear how a new day awaits us, to put on the armor of light. We confess that we are **unworthy to wear Christ's mantle of love. Forgive us, O God, and restore us to right relationship** with you and with others.

### TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

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ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

Leader: Paul reminds us how "now is the moment...to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we become believers; the night is far gone, the day is near." We may then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Friends, believe 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 #288

"Spirit of the Living God"

LIVING GOD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Doug Booth and Susan Wadsworth-Booth

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 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 #193

"Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain"

UNSER HERRSCHER

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 17:1-9

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

"Bewildered by Brilliance"

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Heather 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

Laura Ristau

*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

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

Healey Willan  
Charles Wesley  
*see Glory to God hymnal #662*

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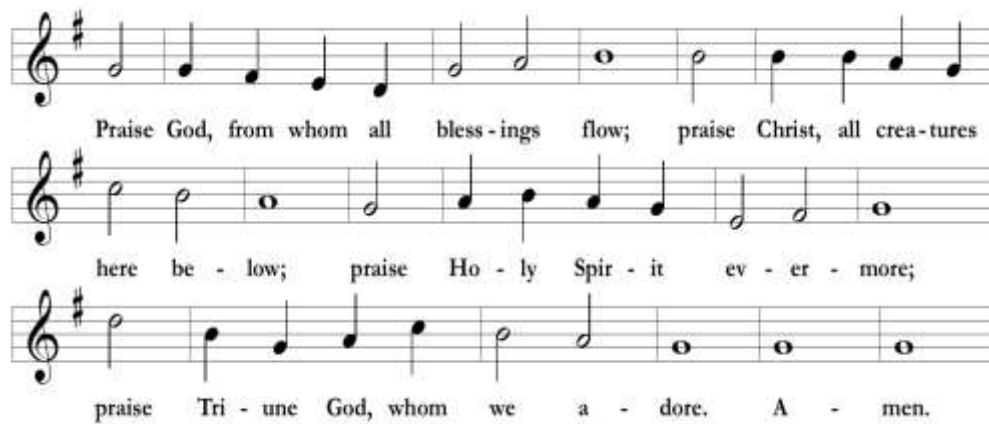
## Feb 19 • Transfiguration of the Lord

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

### \* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



### \* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy  
Carla Depperman

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:	We know that whatever we bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever we loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. We seek to bind ourselves to you, O God, and bring your heavenly kingdom here among us. May what we offer be a sign of our commitment to offer our finest for the sake of your mission. Use our gifts as firstfruits of our entrance into your heavenly realm.	
People:	Amén.	Amen.

### \* RECESSIONAL HYMN #189

“O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair”

DEO GRACIAS

### \* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

### POSTLUDE

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Paul Manz  
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. 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  
Doug Booth, Susan Wadsworth-Booth  
Carla Depperman  
Sara Hackett, Laura Ristau  
Musicians: Ethan LaPlaca  
*Guest Organist/Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
*The Brass Roots:*  
Samuel Eisenhandler, *trumpet*  
Matthew McCormack, *trumpet*  
Brooke Boehmer, *horn*  
Taylor Jones, *trombone*  
John Caughman, *tuba*  
Beadle: Jo Ellen Aleshire  
Crucifer: Mark Statler  
Sound: Tim Benedict  
Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Please join us in the McKelvy Room for a *Social Hour*, sponsored by the Membership and Outreach Committee. All are welcome!

◆ 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.

◆ 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 26* — The Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger preaching.  
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.  
*Feb 26* — The Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger 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*)

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](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

### Social Hour

Please join us in the McKelvy Room for a *Social Hour* after today's 11 am Sanctuary worship service, sponsored by the Membership and Outreach Committee. All are welcome!

### Church Tour

A *Hidden Places Tour* will be held today after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Please gather at the Highland Lobby to participate.

### Bake Dog Treats for Ellie's Pet Pantry

Join us in the Good Samaritan Room after today's Sanctuary service to help bake and decorate dog treats for Ellie's Pet Pantry, a program at Humane Animal Rescue. We will be using peanut butter in the cookies. Lunch will be provided. See Sara Hackett to participate!

### 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 Molly Davidson-Welling. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Peta Harrigan Cole.

### Annual Reports Available

Copies of the 2022 *Annual Report* are available in the Narthex and Highland Lobby. Please take one copy per family. The annual *Congregational Meeting* will be held next Sunday, Feb 26 in the Social Hall.



### A Lenten Journey of Embracing the Wisdom of

Our Ancestors, Bodies, and the Earth — Feb 23 to March 30

Each Thursday during Lent (beginning 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. A light dinner will be served. The suggested donation is \$25 for all 6 weeks. Please RSVP to Norma (412.441.3800 x211) by TODAY!

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger — Feb 26

On Sunday, Feb 26, we're pleased to welcome The Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger as our guest preacher for our Journey and Sanctuary services. Rev. Younger is the lead pastor of Cityview Church in Pittsburgh's East Deutschtown/Spring Garden neighborhood. She co-founded



the Evangelical Covenant Church congregation in 2010 with her husband, Wayne. Leeann has a breadth of vocational experiences in her background as a nonprofit executive leader, faith leader, and community leader for justice for marginalized neighbors.

### Congregational Meeting — Feb 26

The past year has been one in which we have experienced many transitions, and we are still rebounding from the global pandemic, as are many worshipping communities. And, by God's grace, we are fortunate to have navigated the pandemic, an economic downturn, and transitions in pastoral leadership with strength, patience, and fortitude.

On Sunday, Feb 26 at 12:45 pm, we will convene for our annual Congregational Meeting. This is a time to reflect on the past year, receive reports and budget information, and elect officers to serve on our governing councils. It also is a time to consider the ways in which God is at work in our congregation's programmatic, educational, mission-oriented, and worship lives.

Arrangements are being made for a hybrid event. You are invited to attend the meeting in the Social Hall or on Zoom. If you choose the Zoom option, you must be on camera to vote.

### YAM Event: Create and Sip — Feb 26

Join the Young Adult Ministry on Sunday, Feb 26 at 3 pm at the August Wilson Cultural Center for *Create & Sip*, the third event of Beyond the Red Door: a theatrical event series. Grab refreshments and dive into an evening of arts workshops rooted in August Wilson's creative process. Snacks and drinks will be available at 2:30 pm. The cost is \$20 and tickets are required. Contact Derail Holcomb for more info (DerailH@coh.net).

## 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.



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

Kimberly O'Donnell's grandson William,  
Joe Kennedy, Rhonda Perroz's brother Gary  
and Grace Taylor.

Condolences to Elmer Harkema on his mother's passing.  
Condolences to Peta Harrigan Cole on her uncle's passing.  
Condolences to Megan Leisher on her nephew's passing.

#### Anthony Brown in Concert — March 5

ELPC's Cathedral Concerts series will present *I Go On Singing: Paul Robeson's Life in Word and Song* by baritone Anthony Brown on Sunday, March 5 at 3 pm. *I Go On Singing* tells Paul Robeson's story in his own words, using many first-hand accounts from his autobiography, *Here I Stand*. The multi-media musical documentary traces his humble beginnings as a preacher's son in Princeton, New Jersey, to his international celebrity as an advocate for peace and justice. The performance will bring music and history alive with equal parts documentary and live concert experience. Musical numbers range from spirituals to Broadway, and include Robeson's original arrangements of favorites like "Wade in the Water," "Ol' Man River," "It Ain't Necessarily So," "Water Boy," and many others. The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be received. Contact Dr. Ed for details (EdM@coh.net).



#### Church Tours — March 5 and 19

Tom Morton will lead a *Sanctuary and Chapel* tour on Sunday, March 5. Steve Evrard will guide a *Tower* tour on Sunday, March 19. Both tours will be after the 11 am Sanctuary service. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to participate.

Open Hand Ministries (OHM) and the Pittsburgh Marathon are Back

The Neighbors Committee invites runners and fast walkers to support Open Hand Ministries' 2023 Pittsburgh Marathon fundraiser on Sunday, May 7. OHM is one of our mission partners and a Silver Charity in the *Run For A Reason* program. We are looking for 10+ runners/walkers from ELPC. There will be workouts, practice walks, and an encouraging presence as all of us walk, talk, and run ourselves into fitness and "doing something good" for our community.

Register for the Marathon, Half-Marathon, or Relay Team (5 people), and choose Open Hand Ministries as your *Run for a Reason* Charity. Watch for more details to come. Registration closes March 31. Contact Laura Ristau (marathon@openhandpittsburgh.org; 412.780.5588) for more info and to connect with our ELPC group. We are on the MOVE!

In our

# COMMUNITY



#### Community Peace Summit — Feb 23

The Greater Pittsburgh Coalition Against Violence will present a *Community Peace Summit* from 4-8 pm on Thursday, Feb 23 at the UPMC Neighborhood Center (6401 Penn Ave, 15206). Light refreshments will be served. For more info, please call 412.212.8775 or visit [www.coalitionagainstviolence.net](http://www.coalitionagainstviolence.net).

#### 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 26 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am**

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 18:31–50; Song of Songs 7:1–9; Philippians 1:1–11, 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 Faith of George Washington" video by historian Rev. Dr. Peter Lillback, facilitated by Gwen Puza

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

Visit us online at  
[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)