



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)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 19, 2023 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

What do we do once the curse is lifted but the damage is untouched? When justice is had and the swords are beaten into plowshares, but everyone's wounds are still bleeding in the open, what then? Justice doesn't survive without repair. We have to pause and bandage ourselves up habitually. Even when the oppressor has been defeated, we are worthy of tending to the pain of the past. Repair — truth telling, preparations, healing, reconciliation — these are what breathes new life into us. — *Cole Arthur Riley*

MUSIC MINISTRY

“Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639”
(I call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ)

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
Johann Sebastian Bach

“Ah, Holy Jesus”
“Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”

ELPC Ringers
arr. Lloyd Larson
arr. Lloyd Larson

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Woodworth

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

Frances Wilson

Leader: God of justice, peace and righteousness, awaken us to your presence this morning.
People: Breathe your breath upon us: your Spirit of insight, your energy, your enlivening, your imagination.
Leader: Wake us up. Open our eyes. Unplug our ears. Soften our hearts.
People: That we might hear. That we might see. That we might grieve. That we might dream.
All: That we might all follow the ways of your extraordinary kingdom, on earth as it is in heaven.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #827 “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET



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

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HANDBELL ANTHEM

“O Dearest Jesus”

arr. John A. Behnke

SCRIPTURE READING (from “Psalms for Praying” by Nan C. Merrill)

Billy Wayne Coakley, cantor

Psalms 51

Cantor sings verses. Congregation sings refrain as directed.

Refrain:

“Create a Clean Heart”

Cre - ate a clean heart in us, O God,
Cre - ate a clean heart in us.

Melody: Lorraine Brugh. © Augsburg Fortress. OneLicense.net #A-700877

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.

HYMN REFRAIN

“Drive Out the Darkness” Pamela M. Kimmel and Matt Stuftt, readers

Congregation sings refrain as directed.

Come, O come, be our light,
drive out the dark - ness; come, Je - sus, come.

Melody: The Porter's Gate. © Integrity Music. CCLI #689547

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Woodworth

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 5:8-14

The Rev. Woodworth

SERMON

“Illuminate the Shadows”

The Rev. Woodworth

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION & PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Hymn #418

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

While we sing, people are invited to write prayers of confession, regret and grief on the sheet inserted in today's bulletin, and then bring them forward and place them at the altar.

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

“The Lord Is My Shepherd”

Howard Goodall
text from Psalm 23

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf
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.

Leader: God of wilderness and Promised Land, in days of want and in days of plenty you have been with us. By these gifts we now share, may others know of your providence and care. Send us – not only our offerings, but our very selves – to console and comfort, to lift up and reach out, to listen and sit beside your children everywhere at the one table you have set; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #744

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

FESTAL SONG

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Woodworth

POSTLUDE

“Little Prelude and Fugue in F Major, BWV 556”

attr. Johann Sebastian Bach

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. BJ Woodworth
Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Pamela M. Kimmel
Matt Stufft
Frances Wilson
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
ELPC Ringers
Billy Wayne Coakley, *Cantor*
Beadle: Polly McQueen
Crucifer: Erich Stein
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

You are invited to a *Social Hour* following the 11 am worship service today in the McKelvy Room. It is sponsored by Session. Come, enjoy, and talk with the Elders.

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Charles W. Struthers, whose funeral service was held yesterday.

◆ 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.
March 26 — 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.
March 26 — 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

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).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Sunday Social Hour

You are invited to a Social Hour following the 11 am worship service today in the McKelvy Room. It is sponsored by Session. Come, enjoy, and talk with the Elders.

LGBTQ Spiritual Gathering

All are invited to the LGBTQ Ministry's monthly Spiritual Gathering at 12:30 pm today to share conversation and lunch. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike welcomed. Please contact Wil Forrest for more info or to RSVP (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

Church Tour

Steve Evrard will guide a *Tower* tour after the 11 am Sanctuary service. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to participate this morning.

Taking Action on Soot Pollution Standards

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to act to protect our climate and our health, and advance environmental justice. Join us in the Garth Overlook Room following today's 11 am service to learn more and sign a petition to tell the EPA to develop the strongest possible soot standards in proposed legislation. Assistance also will be available to help you submit a comment through the EPA website. Comments to the EPA are due by March 28. Interfaith Power and Light, a faith-based environmental group, has a letter on soot that you can send to the EPA at tiny.cc/epa-letter.

Acolyte Training

Youth acolytes in 4th through 12th grade are needed to help lead worship. There will be a training session in the Sanctuary after today's 11 am service. Please contact Sara Hackett for more info (SaraH@coh.net).

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 Dana Carl.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Jo Ellen Aleshire.

Request Lenten Devotionals

This Lent, ELPC's Faith Formation Board is excited to offer Salt Project's *Bless the Mess* devotional. Please request your devotional from Megan Leisher (MeganL@coh.net), or on our website (ELPC.church).

Study the Enneagram Concludes — March 20

Join us on Monday, March 20 from 12:15–1:30 pm on Zoom (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 this series will conclude on March 20.*

Open Hand Ministries (OHM) and the Pittsburgh Marathon are Back — Register by March 31

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. 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. Registration closes on March 31. For more info, please contact Laura Ristau (marathon@openhandpittsburgh.org; 412.780.5588).

Yoga Retreat — April 1

Don't miss a wonderful way to spend April Fool's Day on Saturday, April 1. Attend a yoga retreat from 9 am–2 pm with Yamuna Morgenstern, which promises to nourish your body, mind, and spirit! The retreat will provide opportunities for yoga; pranayama (breath work for meditation); time for reflection where participants might walk the labyrinth, journal, or draw; a catered lunch together; and experiencing kirtan. Kirtan is an ancient practice of call and response chanting in Sanskrit. It is both a meditative and uplifting, lively practice that connects you with your true self and the divine. A special guest and artist of kirtan, Devananda Moreau, will lead us. People who only wish to experience kirtan are welcome to attend from 1–2 pm, free of charge. Bring your own mat (or two), a yoga block if you have one, your own blanket for savasana and meditation and a water bottle. Limited to 15 participants.

Register online at tiny.cc/yoga-retreat. The suggested donation is \$35–\$70, which includes lunch. Scholarships are available. For details, contact Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net).

Sponsor an Easter Plant

Order forms are available on the info tables, and on our website.





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

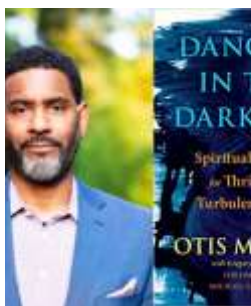
Jo Ellen Aleshire's sister Betty,
The Rev. Dr. Bob Chesnut,
Kimberly O'Donnell's grandson William,
Joe Kennedy, Barbara Krimmel,
Margaret McCaulley,

Vivienne Selia's friends Linda and Paul, and Grace Taylor.

Condolences to the family of Suzanne Hewitt on her passing.
(She is the wife of former pastor Rev. Bob Hewitt.)

We also hold in our prayers the people of Malawi, especially our partner church Balaka CCAP, and our Pittsburgh Presbytery Mission delegation (including Eddie Willson) who are presently in Malawi. Malawi is currently dealing with its worst cholera outbreak ever, as well as the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Freddy. More than 200 deaths have been confirmed in Malawi. ELPC has been in partnership with the Synod of Blantyre and our sister church, Balaka CCAP for approximately 30 years.

Order a Copy of New Soul Food Book
Dancing in the Darkness — Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times is a new book by Otis Moss III that the Soul Food class will be using soon. It is a powerful book by a renowned Chicago pastor. Cynthia Jackson will be obtaining copies of the book from The Tiny Bookstore, an independent Black-owned bookstore in the North Hills, and is willing to order the book for anyone from our church who would like to read it. Participation in the Soul Food class is not required. The book cost is \$20. Please contact Cynthia to order (cirenej16@gmail.com).



ELPC's Cathedral Concerts present

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE

Saturday, April 1 at 4 pm

George Vosburgh and Stephen Story, *Conductors*
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *Organist*

Please join us for this concert in the Sanctuary on Saturday, April 1 at 4 pm. This performance is free and open to the public. Please contact Dr. Ed Moore for more info (EdM@coh.net).



In our

COMMUNITY



PSO Performs Mozart's "Requiem" — March 19

Hear how hope shines through this once-in-a-lifetime portrayal of Mozart's final musical gift, uniquely interpreted by Music Director Manfred Honeck and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra today at 2:30 pm at Heinz Hall (downtown). Get tickets at www.pittsburghsymphony.org, and use code REQUIEM20 at checkout for 20% off!

RCC Cabaret Show — March 24, 25 and 26

The Renaissance City Choir (RCC) will hold its annual Cabaret at ELPC on Friday, March 24, Saturday, March 25 (both days at 7:30 pm), and Sunday, March 26 at 2 pm. **This year's show is *Flying Free with RCC***, a fun combination of solos, ensembles, and full chorus with bird-themed music! Visit www.RCCpittsburgh.com for tickets and info.

Obama Academy Fundraiser — March 26

There will be a fundraiser in support of Obama Academy's PTSA Student and Teacher Initiatives on Sunday, March 26 at 7 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary. Musicians from the Pittsburgh Symphony and Pittsburgh Opera Orchestras will perform works composed by Mendelssohn, Montgomery and Piazzolla. The suggested donation is \$15.

Program Assistant for Diversities at Association of Theological Schools

The Association of Theological Studies has an immediate opening for a full-time program assistant to support its multiple diversity projects—including initiatives for racial/ethnic and women leaders. Submit resume and cover letter to Frank Yamada (yamada@ats.edu).

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

March 26 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 22:1–15; Genesis 3:8–21; Philippians 2:19–3:1a, 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 Way of Suffering (Isaiah 52:13–53:12),” led by the Rev. Dr. Steven S. Tuell, facilitated by Gwen Puza

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