



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)

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 2, 2023 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

Remember finally, that the ashes that were on your forehead are created from the burnt palms of last Palm Sunday. New beginnings invariably come from old false things that are allowed to die.

— Richard Rohr

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, as you upend and upset all expectations, make us ready to follow you, whatever that path may bring, loving and serving one another in your name. Amen.

MUSIC MINISTRY

“Les Rameaux (The Palms)”

*Join all and sing his name declare, let every voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord! Bless him, who cometh to bring us salvation!*

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
Jean-Baptiste Faure

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

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

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!
People: Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!
Leader: Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!
People: Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!
Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
People: Come, let us worship God in spirit and in truth!

Hannah Moon and Kevin Lee

* PALM PROCESSIONAL HYMNS

#390 (*please sing 3 times*)
#200

“Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!”
“A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd”

LOUEZ LE SEIGNEUR
CHRISTIAN LOVE



April 2 • Palm Sunday

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, how well you know our hearts,
People: And you still love us – you have loved us to the end.
Leader: We have denied you,
People: And we have denied our calling to serve, to be gracious and to be kind to one another.
Leader: We have betrayed you,
People: And we have not kept your commandment to love one another.
Leader: Pour out your spirit of grace upon us.
People: Teach us to love and serve you faithfully and to love and serve one another by the example you have set for us. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: Now the Lord Jesus Christ has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. Now the promise is fulfilled, and love’s redeeming work is done. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #204 (please sing 3 times)

STAY WITH ME

“Stay With Me”

Stay with me, remain here with me.
Watch and pray. Watch and pray.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 21:1-11

Hannah Moon and Kevin Lee

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

Children in preschool through grade 3 are invited to the Chapel for a time of learning together. Children will return to worship during the Offering.

The nursery is open to young children under the age of 3. Parents/caregivers must complete a registration form and sign children in and out of the nursery each day. Please note that attendance may be limited based on staff to child ratios but parents/caregivers are always welcome to remain with their children in the nursery.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Lift Me Up”

Robyn Fenty, Ludwig Göransson
Temilade Openiyi, Ryan Coogler

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 26:14-25, 31-35

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

“What a Difference a Day Makes”

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

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.

April 2 • Palm Sunday

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

OFFERING INVITATION

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.

The Rev. Woodworth



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

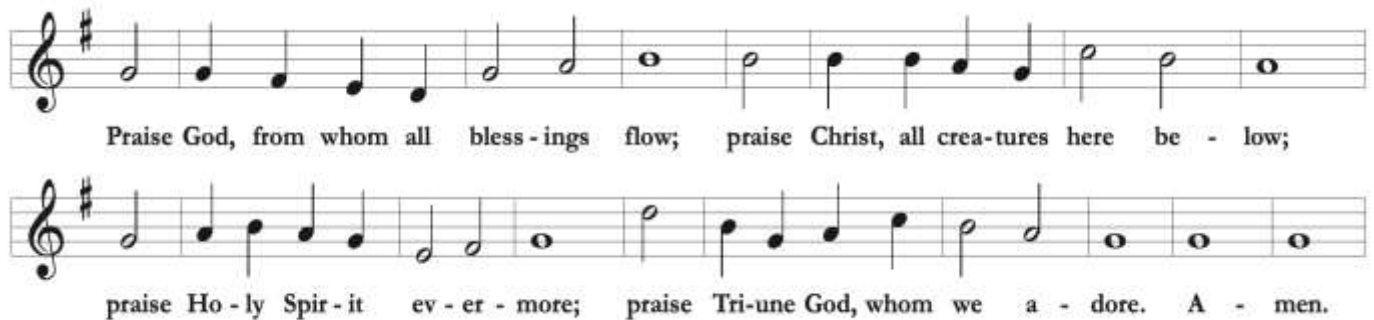
“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

text can be found in the Glory to God hymnal #223

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

The Rev. Woodworth

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes.

People: Y también contigo.

Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones.

People: Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.

People: Es justo dar gracias y alabanzas a Dios.

Leader: God of grace, you amaze us with your grace and the depths of your love. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love we use to humbly attempt to further Christ's ministry among your people.

People: Amén.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #221

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

PASSION CHORALE

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

“Herzlich tut mich verlangen, BWV 727”

Dr. Moore, organ

Johann Sebastian Bach

based on Glory to God hymnal 221

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. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Sara Hackett
Hannah Moon and Kevin Lee
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Adrianna Cleveland, *Soloist*
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *Soloist*
Robin Thompson, *Soloist*
Beadle: Jo Ellen Aleshire
Crucifer: Mark Statler
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 \$200.

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP — EASTER

Please see today's announcements for a listing of our Holy Week worship services.

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ. In Social Hall.
April 9 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
April 9 — 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

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

ELPC Matters: The More You Know

ELPC is offering a series of informational sessions to broaden congregational awareness of different aspects of our life together that may seem to be more behind-the-scenes. Our first session in this series will be held today from 9:45-10:45 am, and will shed light on *Understanding Pastors' Compensation*. The Rev. Brian Wallace, associate minister and acting head of staff at Pittsburgh Presbytery, will present this session, along with the leadership of our Human Resources chairs and director of Administration and Finance.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Today is Palm Sunday, and the *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering* will be collected at both services. Thank you for your generosity.

Purchase Café Justo Coffee

Due to the second Sunday of April being Easter, Café Justo coffee will be sold today after the 11 am service in the Highland Ave hallway. If you are unable to pick up coffee in person, contact Ryan Booher (rabooherco@gmail.com).

Underground Church Tour

Tim VanFleet will guide an Underground tour today after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Please gather at the Highland Lobby 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 Tom Sturgill.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Drew Simpson.

Chapel Market: Expanded Hours and Donation Request

The Chapel Market has expanded its hours of operation! It is now open on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 5-7 pm, in addition being open every Thursday from 10 am—Noon.

The Chapel Market is also seeking donations of spring and summer clothing. Donations can be left at the Highland Lobby, or dropped off at the Chapel Market during hours of operation.

PW Bible Study — April 3 and 4

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study *Sabbath and Justice* on Monday, April 3 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only), and on Tuesday, April 4 from 10 am-Noon (hybrid). For more info and the Zoom link, please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com. Those attending the Tuesday Bible Study can bring a brown bag lunch (beverages provided).

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — April 16

ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry is changing its name to thoughtfully and prayerfully grow and change to meet the needs and interests of its participants. Now in its ninth year, ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry will now be known as the LGBTQIA+ Ministry, as to be more inclusive and reflective of our diversity! All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering at 12:30 pm on Sunday, April 16. For more info or to attend, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

Church Tours — April 16 and 30

All are welcome to join us for these church tours:

- April 16 — *Tower* with Steve Evrard
- April 30 — *Stained Glass* with Jo Ellen Aleshire

All tours will begin after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Please gather at the Highland Lobby to participate.



HOLY WEEK and EASTER *Worship Services*

Wednesday, April 5 — **TAIZÉ STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

7 pm (Led by Pastor BJ)

Thursday, April 6 — **MAUNDY THURSDAY** (Communion)

7 pm (Led by Pastor Heather)

Friday, April 7 — **GOOD FRIDAY**

12 pm (Led by Rev. Vincent Kolb)

7 pm (Led by Pastor Patrice)

Saturday, April 8 — **EASTER VIGIL** (Communion)

7 pm (Led by Pastor BJ)

Sunday, April 9 — **EASTER SUNDAY**

8:45 am and 11 am (Led by Pastor Heather)



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

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 Steve Evrard on his brother's passing.

Attaining Resurrection Contemplative Retreat — RSVP by April 21

Join us for a post-Easter retreat at the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Pulaski, Pennsylvania from Friday–Sunday, May 5 to 7, to explore ways we can find resurrection life amid the challenges and sufferings we face each day. Led by facilitator and host The Rev. Jeff Eddings, we will explore this through art, silence and solitude, reading, reflection, prayer, and conversation with one another.

Spots are limited. RSVP by Friday, April 21 at www.tiny.cc/attaining-resurrection, or scan this QR code. Contact The Rev. BJ Woodworth for info (BJW@coh.net).



Youth Mission Overnight — April 21 to 22

Youth in grades 8–12 are invited to participate in our *Mission Overnight* from Friday, April 21 to Saturday, April 22. Friday night we will explore the “why?” and “how?” of serving others as an expression of our values, beliefs, and faith. Then on Saturday, we will serve at World Vision and make plans for our summer mission trip. Register online at www.ELPC.church.

Earth Day Event for Families — April 23

Following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, April 23, families are invited to gather for an Earth Day event sponsored by the Children and Family Ministry Team. The event will be part *fellowship* over lunch, *service* of cleaning and caring for our rain garden and yard, *fun* as we play and appreciate God's creation, and *education* as we learn about how we can care for the Earth right here in East Liberty. RSVP to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Mission Opportunity — April 25

ELPC will be supplying food for OHM's TeamWorks dinners four times this year. TeamWorks is the family development program of Open Hand Ministries that is currently working with 23 families to achieve their housing and financial goals. The first dinner will be on Tuesday, April 25. If you are interested in donating a side dish or a dessert, contact Emily Rosenthal (EJR116@gmail.com) or Frank Bauerle (817.705.6856; frbauerle@yahoo.com).

Combined Sunday School Classes — April 30

Join the ELPC Justice and Facing Systemic Racism Committees for a combined Church School class on Sunday, April 30 that answers the question, “Why Should the Church Observe Juneteenth?”

In our

COMMUNITY



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).

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

*No Sunday school classes will
be held on Easter Sunday.*

April 16 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 23; Deuteronomy 5:1–10; Philippians 4:2–9, 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) — “Water Is Life, a Sacred Gift from God. America Has a Water Crisis that We Need to Fix,” led by ELPC Environmental Book Study group, facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A beginning discussion of *Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times* by Otis Moss III, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu, and other class members