



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 S. 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)

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 14, 2023 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

God is our Mother as truly as he is our Father; and he showed this in everything, and especially, in the sweet words where he says, 'It is I,' that is to say, 'It is I: the power and goodness of fatherhood. It is I: the wisdom of motherhood. It is I: the light and grace which is all blessed love. It is I: the unity. I am the sovereign goodness of all manner of things. It is I that make you love. It is I that make you long. It is I: the eternal fulfilment of all true desires.

— 650 years ago this week, on May 8, 1373, Julian of Norwich, at the age of 30, while suffering what was believed to be a terminal illness, experienced sixteen visions or "showings" which revealed deep aspects of the love of God to her. After a miraculous recovery, she set about recording her visions as the "Revelations of Divine Love."

MUSIC MINISTRY

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
arr. Chester L. Alwes

"Solemn Entry (Feierlicher Einzug)"

The Brass Roots and Dr. Moore, *organ*
Richard Strauss

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

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

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gretchen and Boaz Chapman

Leader: Mothering God, you gave us birth in the bright morning of this world.
People: Creator, source of every breath, you are our rain, our wind, our sun.
Leader: Mothering Christ, you took our form,
People: Offering us your food of light, grain of life and grape of love, your very body for our peace.
Leader: Mothering Spirit, nurturing one, in arms of patience, hold us close,
People: So that in faith we root and grow, until we flower, until we know you face to face.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #366

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

HYFRYDOL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

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

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ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón.

¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Praise God!

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 66:8-20

Gretchen and Boaz Chapman

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/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.

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Deacons:

Annie Cowan, Hannah Moon, Janet Pollard, Nathaniel Stephens

Elders:

Tim Engelhardt, Mario Seneca

Previously ordained as Deacons:

Todd Hoffman, Linda Sanders, Tom Sturgill

Previously ordained as Elders:

Bill Buchanan, Sonia Degenholtz, Charma Dudley, Jan Irvin, Nancy Wright

* HYMN #7

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

NORWICH

GOSPEL LESSON (*Inclusive Bible Translation*) John 14:1; 15-21

The Rev. Woodworth

SERMON

“With and Within You Always”

The Rev. Woodworth

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PASTORAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Rebecca McGregor

OFFERING INVITATION

Rebecca McGregor

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

“If Ye Love Me”

Thomas Tallis
Text: John 14:15-17

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Christ, all creatures here below.

Praise Holy Spirit evermore.

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.



— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Woodworth

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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. Fowler-Searcy

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 #282

“Come Down, O Love Divine”

DOWN AMPNEY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Woodworth

Loving God, you have not left us alone and orphaned, you have sent us the Holy Spirit, our comforter, teacher, and constant companion. You have nourished us body, soul, and mind through this holy meal. We give you thanks and praise for your kindness and nearness to us. Send us out now to be the living, breathing presence of God to all we meet.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN (please see music insert)

ENGELBERG

“When All Is Ended”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Woodworth

POSTLUDE

“Praise the Lord”

Sigfrid Karg-Elert
arr. Donald Rotermond

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. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Gretchen and Boaz Chapman
Rebecca McGregor
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
The Brass Roots:
David Gardner, *Trumpet*
Matthew McCormack, *Trumpet*
Carrie McCormack, *Horn*
Taylor Jones, *Trombone*
John Caughman, *Tuba*
Abby Langhorst, *Timpani*
Beadles: Laura Ristau
Mario Seneca
Crucifer: Mark Statler
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and water are available in the Fellowship Room.

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers today are given in honor of all mothers.
Happy Mother's Day from Presbyterian Women.

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
May 21 — Youth Sunday
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
May 21 — Youth Sunday

◆ 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 Chapel 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

A Warm Welcome to our Musical Guests, The Brass Roots

A special thanks to our musical guests this morning, The Brass Roots. They have been our brass ensemble in residence at ELPC since 2014, playing during worship 6 times each season plus Christmas in East Liberty in December and a final concert in May. This morning is the final worship service of the season with them. On this coming Friday, May 19, they will join Dr. Ed for the final concert of our 11th season of *Cathedral Concerts*!

Congregational Meeting Information is Available

In preparation for next Sunday's *Special Congregational Meeting*, an information sheet is available in the Narthex and Highland Lobby outlining the Property Committee's rationale for selling the Manse.

Purchase Café Justo Coffee

Stop by the Highland Ave hallway after the 11 am worship service to purchase a bag of Café Justo coffee. All varieties are available in ground and whole bean bags for \$10 (cash or check only). If you are unable to pick up your coffee in person, contact Ryan Booher (rabooharco@gmail.com).

Note: Café Justo will be sold on the second Sunday of the month.

Church Tower Tour

Please join guide Tim VanFleet for a tower tour after the 11 am worship service today. Please gather 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 Tom Sturgill.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is David Cowan.



Be a Part of the Future of ELPC — We Want to Hear from You!
The *Congregational Assessment Tool* (CAT), an on-line survey, is open to the congregation between now and May 31. Your responses will help the Pastor Nominating Committee in the search for new church leadership and will provide information as we work together in setting a course for the future of our congregation.

All members, friends, and active participants in the life of our congregation are asked to take the survey. Your responses are anonymous to allow for candid feedback.

During Sundays in May, laptops and technical support will be available at the church for individuals who do not have ready access to a computer, have questions, or need assistance in the process. The survey can be accessed using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/CATsurveyELPC>

Sanctuary Worship in May

- On May 21, we will celebrate Youth Sunday—a service that will be planned and led by the youth of ELPC, and in which we will hear messages from our graduating Seniors.
- On May 28, we will celebrate Pentecost—when Christ sent the Holy Spirit to guide and equip the Church **universal for our ministry in Christ's name. Wear red!**

Annual Flower Planting Day — May 20

Please join the Garden Crew on Saturday, May 20 for the annual flower planting day at ELPC. Each spring, a group of dedicated members and friends refresh the Highland Ave entrance with beautiful flowering plants, and the Courtyard. Green thumbs are not required—just bring your energy, curiosity, and a pair of work gloves to the Highland driveway around 9 am. Donuts and Garden Crew T-shirts **will be provided**. If you're able to help, or want more info, please email Don Breitbarth (donbreitbarth@gmail.com).

Call for Congregational Meeting — May 21

The Session of ELPC is calling a *Special Congregational Meeting* on Sunday, May 21 immediately after our 11 am worship service. The sole item of business will be to vote **upon the Session's recent action that ELPC sell its Manse**. This meeting will be held in-person in the Sanctuary.

Across the Channel:

Music for Brass and Organ

from England, France, and Spain

The Brass Roots, organist Edward Alan Moore, and conductor Daniel Nesta Curtis join forces for a brass and organ sonic spectacular concert on Friday, May 19 at 7:30 pm. This concert in the sanctuary will also be LIVE streamed on YouTube and Facebook. A freewill offering will be received.





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

Kate Carlson's sister Sue,
Carol Chontos' family member Jonathan,
Carla Depperman's friend Misael,

Dan Eash, Peta Harrigan Cole's friends Robert and Tracey,
Joe Kennedy, Jon Nelson's cousin's grandson Wilder, and
Vivienne Selia's friends Richard and Linda.

Condolences to Jason Wilburn and family on his aunt's passing.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — May 21

All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering on Sunday, May 21 at 12:30 pm. For more info or to attend, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

Passive House Tours — May 21 and June 4

Join the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee on a tour of one of the most energy efficient homes in the region — Passive House-certified Squirrel Hill Duplex, located at 2883 Fernwald Rd. Finished in 2017 by ELPC congregants Lucy de Barbaro and Ayres Freitas, this home reduces heating and cooling by 80% compared to traditional construction, manages all rainwater on site, has a small green roof and is fully powered by solar energy. The home holds a gold label from the National Green Building Standard.

There will be something of interest for those well versed in these various environmental initiatives and those new to these topics, and takeaways for your own environmental action at home. The tours will be offered on May 21 at 2 pm and on June 4 at 4 pm. Please text Lucy to indicate your interest and reserve a spot (412.320.0567). Families with children are welcomed.

Sanctuary and Chapel Tour — May 28

Please join guide Jo Ellen Aleshire for a tour of the Sanctuary and Chapel after the 11 am worship service on Sunday, May 28. Please gather at the Highland Lobby to participate. All are welcome!

Family Church School on Pentecost — May 28

Our third and final Sunday Church School class of the year for the WHOLE family will be on Sunday, May 28 from 9:45-10:45 am. Together, we will learn about the church calendar and the colors of the church year with an emphasis on why we wear red on Pentecost. Come explore together how the Holy Spirit is on the move at Pentecost and throughout the year!

Tending Our Neighborhood Trees — June 3

ELPC's Environmental Team of the Justice Committee and Tree Pittsburgh invite you to help us weed and mulch street trees along Penn Ave in East Liberty on Saturday, June 3 from 9 am–12 pm.

This year, in coordination with Sara Hackett, we plan to include young people. The minimum age is 10; anyone under 18 needs to have a parent or chaperone. We'll learn about trees and tree care from our Tree Pittsburgh expert, Jake Milofsky.

We will meet at the Whitfield side of ELPC. Dress for the weather in clothes you don't mind getting dirty, and don't forget sunscreen. Equipment, mulch, and work gloves will be provided, as well as drinking water and snacks.

Please RSVP for planning purposes by Monday, May 29 to Mary Barr (empirephobic@gmail.com).

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, especially children's clothes. Donations can be left at the Highland Lobby, or dropped off at the Chapel Market during hours of operation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

May 21 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Psalm 26; Deuteronomy 29:10–15; Mark 9:14–29, facilitated by Jan Irvin and class members

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) — “A Reintroduction to Women of the Torah and of the Throne” video by The Rev. Wilda Gafney, Ph.D., facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A 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



Congratulations to Journey Music Director

Gerald Savage

on receiving a proclamation from Mayor Ed Gainey earlier this week, recognizing his over 30 years of service to CAPA, the Pittsburgh schools, and the community. Tuesday, May 9 was *Gerald Savage Day* in the city of Pittsburgh!