

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)

AUGUST 6, 2023 — 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING MUSIC (music printed in bulletin)

#234 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" #610 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

St. Kevin Azmon

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

* Sharing God's Peace

The Rev. Woodworth on ustedes.

The peace of Christ be with you.

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.

And also with you.

People: Y también contigo.

Call to Worship Beverly Harris-Schenz

Leader: Anyone who thirsts, come drink!

People: If you have no money but you're hungry, come and receive wine and milk without

price tag.

Leader: Why do you spend money on what does not nourish you?
People: Why do you work for what does not nurture you?
Leader: Listen, come and eat healthy food that will delight you.
People: Come and partake in the Spirit that will give you life.
Leader: Become a witness of God's free gift of grace to all people.

People: They will come running to you because our covenant with God will raise you up,

transform you and make you shine!

* Opening Hymn (music printed in bulletin)

BEECHER

"Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: Here is the good news for everyone: God is gracious, merciful, abounding in steadfast love,

and gives us forgiveness and grace. We do not have to earn it with sacrifice because it is a

free gift from a generous God! Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos gratuito y perdón.

In Jesus Christ, we are free and forgiven.

¡Alaben a Dios! Thanks be to God!

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

RESPONSIVE HYMN #460 (music printed in bulletin)

Bread of Life

"Break Thou the Bread of Life"

ELPC GOOD NEWS

Hope Academy of Music and the Arts

Michael Chapman

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 55:1-5

Beverly Harris-Schenz

Moments with our Children

Sara Hackett

Children of any age are welcome to come forward for Moments with our Children.

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.

* Hymn #803 (music printed in bulletin)

Resignation

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 14:13-21

The Rev. Dr. Lee

SERMON

"The Faith of Our Convictions, Part 2"

The Rev. Dr. Lee

The Rev. Woodworth

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 Narthex.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

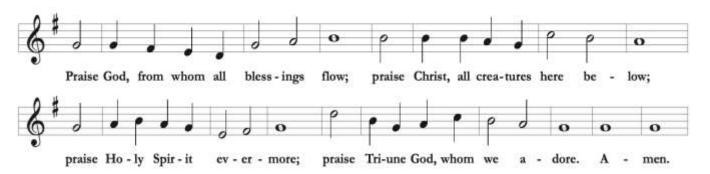
"This L'il Light of Mine"

arr. Anthony T. Leach

This l'il light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. In the neighborhood, I'm gonna let it shine.

* Doxology at the Presentation

OLD HUNDREDTH



^{*} Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

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— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Woodworth

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Woodworth

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Dr. Lee

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 #525 (music printed in bulletin)

LET US BREAK BREAD

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Prayer After Communion

The Rev. Woodworth

Gracious God, may we who received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Recessional Hymn (music printed in bulletin; please sing 2 times)

LONDONDERRY AIRE

"He Looked Beyond My Fault"

* Charge & Benediction

The Rev. Dr. Lee

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. Dr. Asa J. Lee

Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

Michael Chapman Sara Hackett

Beverly Harris-Schenz

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,

Music Director / Organist

ELPC Summer Choir

Sound: Tim Benedict

Wayne Gaines

♦ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME

Water is available in the Highland Lobby.

♦ 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 \$100 during the summer worship schedule.

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP

10 am......Summer Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from piano and choir and soloists. The service is also livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook. Weather permitting, this service will be held in the Courtvard.

Additional seating is available in the Garth Overlook Room if you prefer to sit inside.

Aug 13 — 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

Meditation Hour

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)

Journey Dance

Enjoy an evening of healthy, energizing, funky and divine dancing on the 3rd Friday of every month.

Aug 18 (at Allegheny River Trail Park to dance in community to live music outdoors by Buffalo Rose)

Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 17 from 7-8:30 pm

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 see one of the Pastors to attend, or 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.



One of the many ancient hymns translated into English in the 19th century, this 8th-century Eastertide hymn was originally part of a longer Greek liturgical text. This tune was created for this text by a church organist who later rose to fame as a composer of operettas.



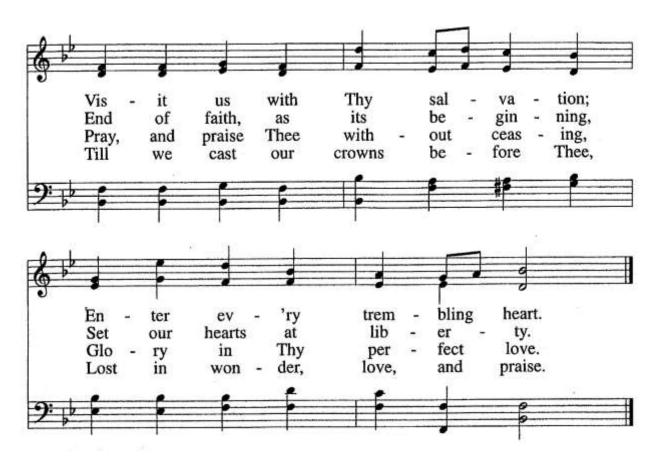
a mi Libertador, las glorias de su majestad, los triunfos de su amor. 1 만 입이 내게 있으면 그 입 다 가지고 내 구주 주신 은총을

This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his lifechanging conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.



The phrase "bread of life" as a metaphor for scripture has misled many people into thinking of this hymn as being connected with the Lord's Supper, when its true subject is Bible study. Both the author and the composer were active in the work of the Chautauqua Assembly.





Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 Tune: BEECHER, 8 7 8 7 D; John Zundel, 1815-1882



The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.



This African American spiritual quite possibly reflects the circumstances of slaves attending early morning communion services in colonial Anglican churches, but its combination of hope ("rising sun") and supplication ("Lord, have mercy") speaks to many worshipers' experience.



Text: Dottie Rambo, b. 1934 © 1968 John T. Benson Pub Co (ASCAP) Tune: LONDONDERRY AIRE, 11 10 11 10 D; traditional. CCLI #689547



Church Events and Announcements

August 6, 2023 • Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

www.ELPC.church

TODAY AT ELPC

Welcome to The Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee

We are excited to welcome back The Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee as our guest preacher this morning. He currently serves as the president of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He comes to the presidency after seven years of service at Wesley Theological Seminary as vice president for Campus Administration and associate dean for Community Life.

Mission Board Film Series

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee will host a screening of and discussion on the film *The Human Element* today in the Social Hall after worship. In the film, National Geographic photographer James Balog takes us through a journey of the "four elements"—water, air, fire, and earth—to see how we've modified the natural world around us, and in turn, how we're making life for ourselves harder in the process. A light lunch will be provided.

Church Tour

Jo Ellen Aleshire will lead a tour of the Sanctuary and Chapel after today's worship service. Gather in the Highland Lobby to participate!

Today's Deacon-On-Duty (DOD)

Every Sunday, a DOD (*Deacon-on-Duty*) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our services. The *Summer* service DOD is Dana Carl.

OB

Participate in a Listening Session — Aug 9, 13, 17, 20, 23 As part of a final formal phase of information gathering, the Pastoral Nominating Committee is hosting a series of *Listening Sessions* on Sundays and weekdays in August.

The purpose of the sessions is to get qualitative feedback on what we most need in terms of leadership for our congregation. These sessions are serving as a complement to the information gathered from the survey. We will use the information to guide our process to identify best fit pastoral leadership.

Please contact Megan Leisher (MeganL@coh.net) if you are able to attend one of the following sessions in the Fellowship Room:

- Wednesday, Aug 9 at 5:30 pm
- Sunday, Aug 13 at 11:30 am
- Thursday, Aug 17 at 6:00 pm
- Sunday, Aug 20 at 11:30 am
- Wednesday, Aug 23 at 5:30 pm

Purchase Café Justo Coffee - Aug 13

Stop by the back of the Chapel next Sunday after the 10 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, please contact Ryan Booher (rabooherco@gmail.com). Note: Café Justo will be sold on the second Sunday of the month.

Mission Board Film Series - Continues Aug 13 Join us following worship on Sunday, Aug 13 in the Social Hall when the Justice Committee will host a screening of the documentary *My Name is Pauli Murray*. Pauli Murray was a writer, activist, legal theorist, and episcopal priest, and was involved in articulating key legal arguments of the Civil Rights Movement. Born Anne Pauline Murray in 1910, they changed their birth



name to "Pauli" in the 1930s, a groundbreaking challenge at that time. In 1977, Murray became the first African American woman in the U.S. to become an Episcopal priest. A light lunch will be provided. Email Carol for details (carolchonoska@gmail.com).

JourneyDance - Aug 18

Instead of Journey Dance gathering in the ELPC Sanctuary on Friday, Aug 18 from 7-8:30 pm, please join Yamuna that evening at the Allegheny River Trail Park to dance in community to live music outdoors by Buffalo Rose. Contact Yamuna Morgenstern for more info (domorgens@gmail.com). Journey Dance will return to the Sanctuary from 7-8:30 pm on Friday, Sept 15.



to all members and friends who contributed over 4,000 diapers to our *PW Diaper Drive* last Sunday!

Diapers will be distributed by the Western PA Diaper Bank through their partners in Allegheny and surrounding counties.

There's still time to support the Diaper Bank. Drop off donations at the Highland Ave entrance. Financial gifts can be made payable to PW in ELPC and write Diaper Drive in the memo. PW.ELPC@gmail.com for info.

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

Alysha Carroll, Rev. Howard Cherry,

Peta Harrigan Cole's friends Dorothy and Robert, Todd Hoffman, Diane Jackson's brother-in-law Dan, Paul Miller, and Jon Nelson's friend Megan.

Condolences to Kathy Benninger on her mother's passing. Condolences to the family of Denise Bupp on her passing. Condolences to Sara Hackett on her aunt's passing. Condolences to the family of Larry Sweeney on his passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Tuesday, Aug 8 @ 5 pm.... Youth & Young Adult (zoom) Tuesday, Aug 8 @ 7 pm..... Deacons (hybrid) Thursday, Aug 10 @ 5:30 pm Mission Board (zoom)

For more info about how to join a meeting, please contact Megan Leisher (Megan L@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

Church Tour — Aug 20

On Sunday, Aug 20, Steve Evrard will guide a tour of the church tower. Please wear closed-toe shoes to participate. Gather in the Highland Lobby after the 10 am worship service to join the tour.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry - Aug 20

You are invited to attend our LGBTQIA+ Ministry's next Spiritual Gathering on Sunday, Aug 20 after worship. Join us and share conversation and lunch.



Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike welcome! Contact Wil Forrest to attend or for more info (Wil@coh.net).

Letters to Legislators Event — Aug 27

Our Mission Board Committees are hosting a Letters to Legislators event in the Social Hall after worship on Sunday, Aug 27. Participants will have an opportunity to write to legislators advocating for action on a variety of social justice issues — including driving privileges for immigrants; fair housing and nondiscrimination policies; environmental protections; prisoners' rights; gun violence; and more. Sample letters and emails will be provided and a light lunch will be served. For those unable to attend in person, templates and instructions will be posted to the ELPC website after the event for your use. Contact Carol Chonoska for info (carolchonoska@gmail.com).

> **ELPC Gratitude Retreat** at Villa Maria Retreat Center

Mark your calendars now for Nov 17-19 and plan on joining us for a time of rest, reflection, prayer, conversation, and giving thanks at

the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Pulaski, Pennsylvania. Contact Pastor BJ Woodworth for details (BJW@coh.net).

In our

COMMUNITY

Community Meeting with Walnut Capital - Aug 7 Attend a community meeting to hear about the proposed expansion of Bakery Square and the benefits to the East Liberty community tomorrow from 6-8 pm at the Kingsley Association (6435 Frankstown Ave, 15206). Light refreshments will be provided. Contact Valerie Parm, president of The Village Collaborative of East Liberty, for more info (villagecollaborative@eastliberty.org).

Palestinian Storytelling and Music - Aug 14

Experience contemporary Palestinian storytelling and music on Monday, Aug 14 from 3-5 pm at Mifflin Ave United Methodist Church (905 Mifflin Ave, 15221, Regent Square). Ethnomusicologist Hanna Salmon will be the guide. RSVP to Tina (tinawhitehead2@hotmail.com) or Eileen (eileeno31@gmail.com). This event is hosted by Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA) Pittsburgh.

EECM Coat Drive - through Oct 13

You can help those in need by donating new or gently used winter coats to the EECM Coat Drive. Drop off new coats (with tags), and gently used coats, by Oct 13 at East End Cooperative Ministry (6140 Station Street, 15206, Entrance A) or at Highmark Whole Care (6033 Broad St, 15206).



The Spiritual Life and Justice Committees invite you to an evening of fellowship, food, and formation around the ancient practice of Sabbath.

Join us for a meal, film viewing and conversation.

We will gather for a simple

Friday, Oct 27 • 5:30-8:30 pm meal together and then view the 2-hour documentary,

SABBATH: An Ancient Practice Meets the Modern World. The film is told as a collection of short stories, exploring the history of one of the world's most important spiritual practices and its timeless relevance for a stressed-out, modern world. From the Biblical accounts of Creation, to the 10 Commandments, to the Puritans landing in the New World, to the contemporary practice of a "techsabbath" — SABBATH ties together our collective history, our health practices, our response to God's invitation and the search for a more sustainable way of life.

RSVP to Norma by Oct 22 (412.441.3800 x211).