



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 13, 2023 — 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING MUSIC (*music printed in bulletin*)

#410

VIOLIN SOLO

“God Is Calling through the Whisper”

“Sonata I: Siciliana”

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

Johann Sebastian Bach

Cody Conley, *violin*

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 (*written by Sara Bessey*)

Russell C. Walker

Leader: God, outside of time, yet here: Come to us, relieve our ragged breaths, slow our steps, relax the red lines that spike in our brains. Tell us what is true.

People: **God, teach us to pause in this moment...to tuck ourselves into the curve of your** slow arm, that we may know the miracle of now, the gift of this moment: you beside and beyond us, welcoming us outside of all we measure, and standing with us in it.

Leader: May we see the goodness of our still hours and days, sunrises, sunsets, and the darkness where our rest is found.

People: Order us, that we may stand within time holding your hand. That we may know we are enough, not because of what we make of this time, but because within this time – with you – we are being made.

* OPENING HYMN #463 (*music printed in bulletin*)

FOUNDATION

“How Firm a Foundation”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Russell C. Walker

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Russell C. Walker

Lord Jesus, we call upon you. Save us! We are intimidated by our circumstances, distracted from your purposes, drowning in self-doubt and fear. We are presumptuous about your will, belittling others and magnifying ourselves. We are busy, hurried and rushed, thinking you are present in all our activity and unable to hear your voice in the stillness; leaving us with calloused hearts to the suffering of our siblings, in the face of injustice that holds them captive. Lord Jesus, who searches our hearts, free us from turning in on ourselves and help us to walk with you in faith, humility, and love.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Russell C. Walker

Leader: Our God sees all, knows all, forgives all, restores all, through our Lord Jesus Christ. No one who believes in the Christ will be put to shame, everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
¡Alaben a Dios! Praise God!

RESPONSIVE HYMN #184 (music printed below; sing 3 times)

CALM SEAS

"Calm to the Waves"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Calm to the Waves". It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Je - sus whis - pers, 'Peace, be still.' Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice." At the bottom left, the text reads: "TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2002 MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2002 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 2002 Selah Publishing Co., Inc." At the bottom right, it says "CALM SEAS 4.4.7.4.4.6" and "Text: OneLicense.net #A-700877 Music: CCLI #689547".

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

I Kings 19:9-16

Adrianna Cleveland

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 #353 (music printed in bulletin)

SOLID ROCK

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 14:22-33

The Rev. Woodworth

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

SERMON

“Setting It All Down”

The Rev. Woodworth

ELPC GOOD NEWS

Connections Ministry

Gretchen Chapman

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

*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

“Light of the World”

Karen Marroli
based on John 8:12

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
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: We give you thanks, O God, for your sustaining presence and abundant grace. Receive now
these gifts we bring out of your generous provision in our lives. May they be used to satisfy
the hungry, free the oppressed, and create space for all your children to rest, receive, reflect
and set it all down.

People: Amén.

Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN #8 (music printed in bulletin)

MELITA

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Woodworth



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
Gretchen Chapman
Adrianna Cleveland
Sara Hackett
Russell C. Walker
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Music Director / Organist
ELPC Summer Choir
Cody Conley, *Violin*
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 Courtyard.

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

Aug 20 — 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

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!

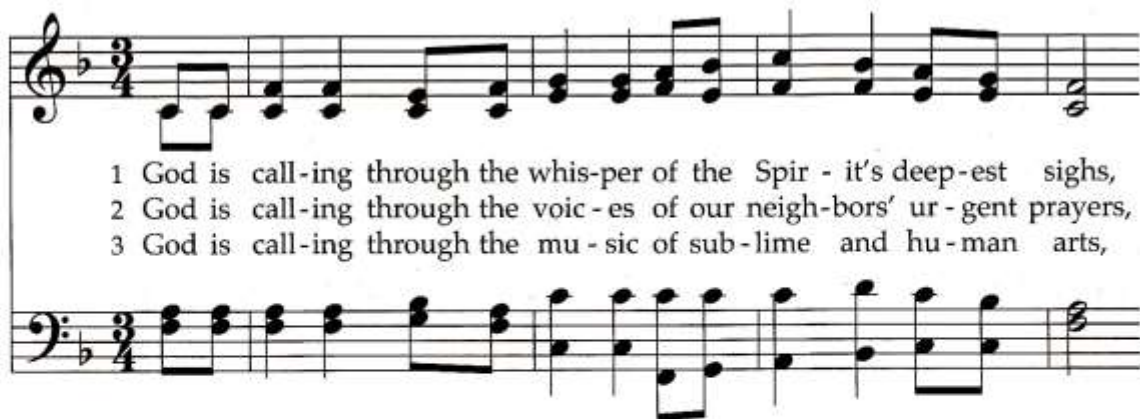
We are grateful to have you join us for worship this morning and ask you to register your name in our red Friendship Books.

To learn more about our programs, church activities and volunteer services, we invite you to also:

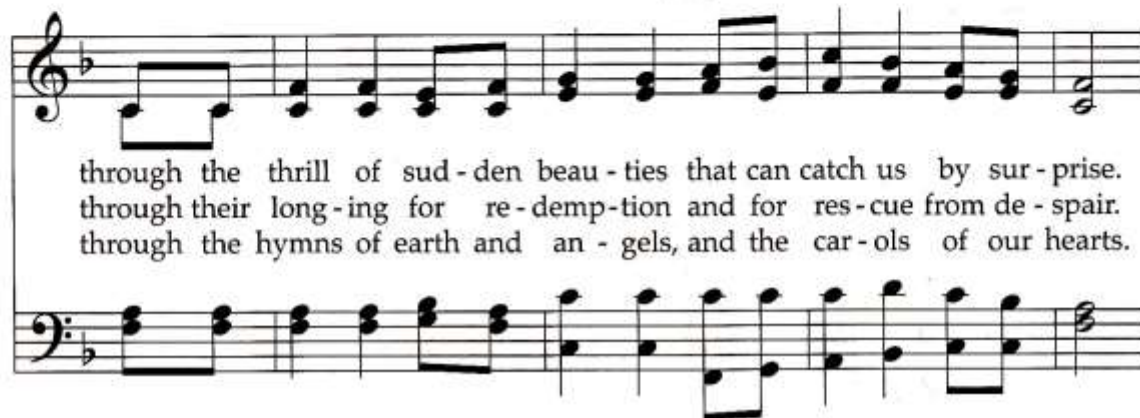
Pick up a copy of our newsletter, the *Reaching Out*, either in the Narthex or at the Hospitality Desk near the Highland Avenue doors.

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).

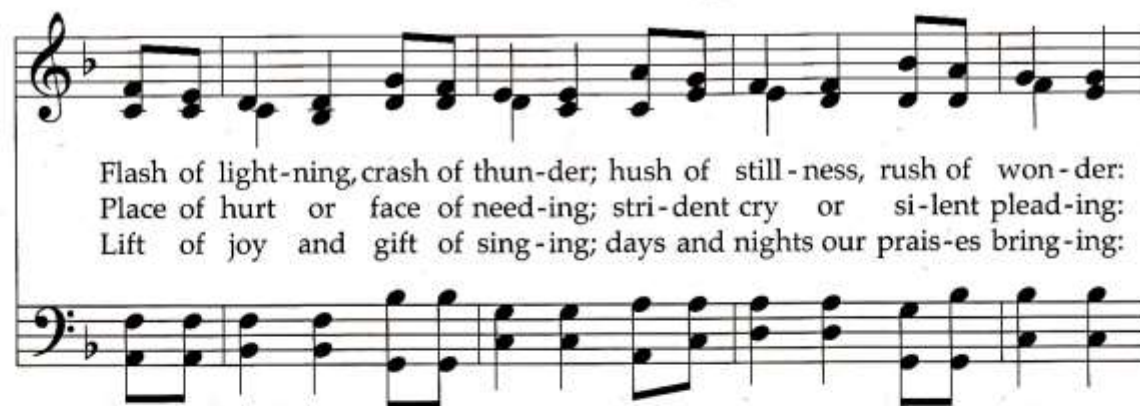
Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,
 2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,
 3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.
 through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.
 through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.



Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:
 Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:
 Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:



God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?
 God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?
 God is call-ing—and we hear! God is call-ing—and we hear!

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

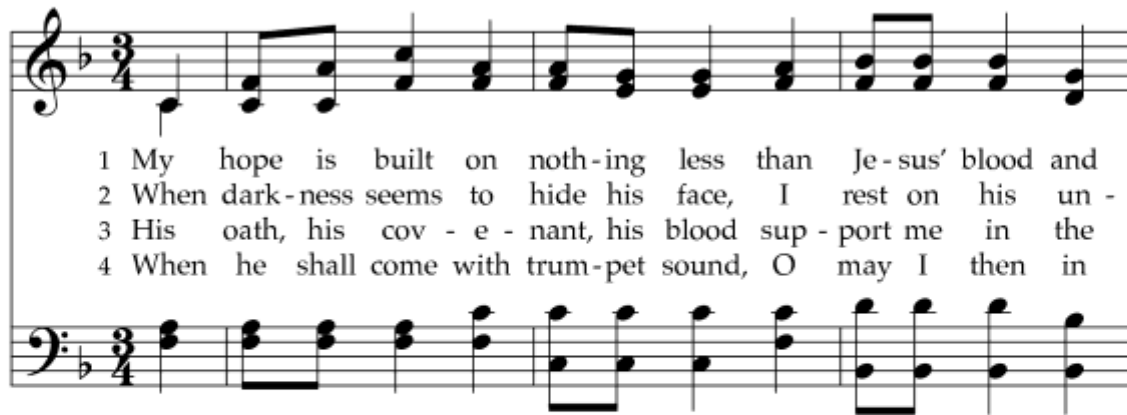
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

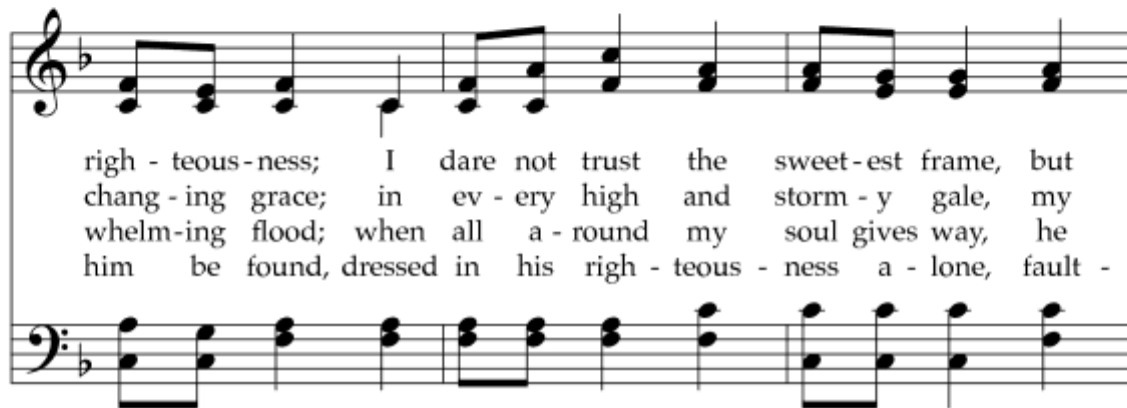
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

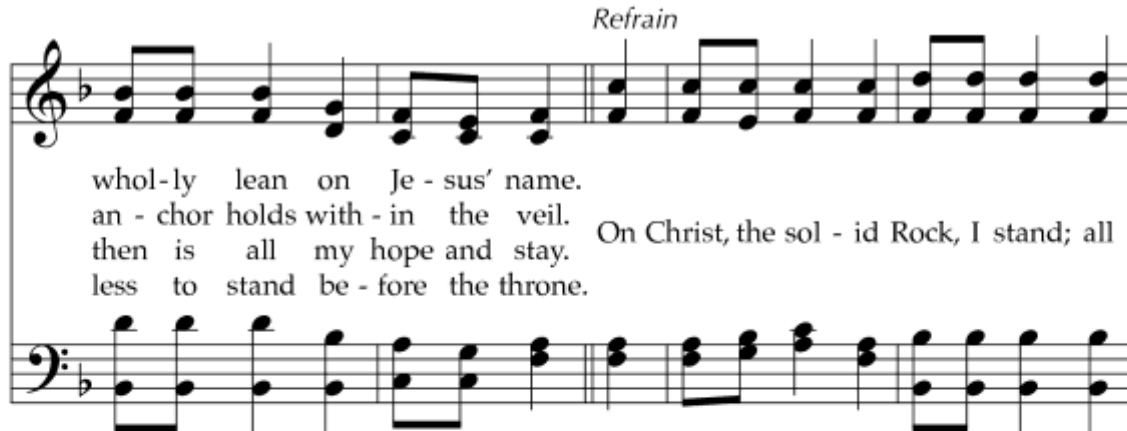


1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and
 2 When dark-ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un -
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in



right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 whelm-ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he
 him be found, dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

Refrain



whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.



oth - er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24–27 / Luke 6:47–49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

#8 — ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who did brood up - on the cha - os
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, all trav - elers guard in

rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
 wild and rude, and bade its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
 calm a - mid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we
 gave, for fierce con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

The year after this text was written for a student sailing to America, it was included in the most influential British hymnal of the 19th century. The tune especially composed for it preserves the ancient Roman name of the island where Paul was shipwrecked, now called Malta.

TODAY AT ELPC

Participate in a Listening Session: Today, Aug 17, 20, 23, 28
As part of a final formal phase of information gathering, the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) 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, held in the Fellowship Room (except Aug 28 which will be Zoom):

- Thursday, Aug 17 at 6:00 pm
- Sunday, Aug 20 at 11:30 am
- Wednesday, Aug 23 at 5:30 pm
- Monday, Aug 28 at 6:30 pm (Zoom)

If you signed up to attend today's session at 11:30 am, please go to the Fellowship Room.

Mission Board Film Series

Join us following worship today 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.



Purchase Café Justo Coffee

Stop by the back of the Chapel today 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.*

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 Tom Sturgill.

JourneyDance — Aug 18

Instead of JourneyDance 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). JourneyDance will return to the Sanctuary from 7-8:30 pm on Friday, Sept 15.

Ice Cream Social Hour — Aug 20

Next Sunday, Aug 20 after the 10 am worship service, please join us in the Narthex for ice cream sundaes and to say *hello to some of our congregation's new members*. *Sponsored by the Membership & Outreach Committee*. All are welcome!

Mission Board Film Series — Aug 20

Join us following worship on Sunday, Aug 20 in the Social Hall when the Peace Committee will host a screening of *42: The Jackie Robinson Story*. With Chadwick Boseman starring as Jackie Robinson and Harrison Ford as Branch Rickey, *42* tells the dramatic story of their breaking the color barrier in major league baseball. Facing unabashed racism from every side, Robinson was forced to demonstrate tremendous courage and let his talent on the field win over fans and his teammates. Robinson overcame the controversy of his introduction to the league to win rookie of the year. And for nostalgic Pittsburghers, a quick visit to Forbes Field is included. A light lunch will be provided. Email Russ Walker for details (rw1k@andrew.cmu.edu).

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).

Prepare for PW Bible Study — Aug 20 and 27

Presbyterian Women (PW) will be available after worship on Sundays, Aug 20 and 27, to answer your questions about their upcoming 2023-2024 Bible Study, *Sacred Encounters*, and distribute study books.

PW Bible Study begins on Tuesday, Sept 5 from 10 am–Noon (hybrid), and Monday, Sept 11 from 7–8:30 pm (Zoom). For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.



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

Edith Battle, Rev. Howard Cherry,
JoAnn and Carol Chonoska,

Peta Harrigan Cole's friends Dorothy and Robert,

Todd Hoffman, Debbie Hurrell's sister Beth,

Diane Jackson's brother-in-law Dan, Paul Miller,

Jon Nelson's friend Megan and cousin Rayna, Fran Wilson.

Condolences to Kathy Benninger on her mother's passing.

Condolences to Sara Hackett on her aunt's passing.

Committee Meeting This Week

Tuesday, Aug 15 @ 7 pm.....Session (hybrid)

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

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).

The Chapel Market Requests Toiletry Items

The Chapel Market is in need of toiletry items, including bar soap, tooth brushes and paste, lotion, shampoo, toilet paper, etc. Donations can be left in the baskets in the Highland Lobby.

Fridays in The Rain Garden

Please join the Environmental Team and Gardening Crew for a morning of weeding and mulching the rain garden from 9 am to Noon on every second Friday through Sept. Contact Don Breitbarth (don.breitbarth@gmail.com).

ELPC's Choirs Resume Rehearsals — Sept 7 and 12

On Thursday, Sept 7, the *Journey Praise Team* resumes rehearsals from 5:30-6:30 pm in the Social Hall, and the *Chancel Choir* resumes rehearsals from 7-8:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

On Tuesday, Sept 12, the *ELPC Ringers/Handbell Choir* will rehearse from 6-7 pm in Dr. Ed Moore's office on the 3rd floor.

If you are interested in joining the *Journey Praise Team*, contact director Gerald Savage (soundpill@soundpill.net). If you would like to join the *Chancel Choir* or *Handbell Choir*, contact director Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net).

In our

COMMUNITY



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.

Patient Service Representative Program — Sept 1 Deadline

The *Innovation District Skills Alliance* (IDSA) is a program that connects area residents to living wages and career advancement opportunities. Their 3-week training course starts on Sept 18, held Monday through Friday, with hybrid, virtual, in-person and self-guided sessions.

The program includes a stipend and gift cards during participation; a laptop; targeted job-readiness training; and an opportunity to interview for a patient service representative position with UPMC.

Eligibility requirements include having a high school diploma or GED; are unemployed or underemployed; and ability to commit to a 3-week training period.

The application deadline is Noon on Sept 1. Apply now by visiting www.pittsburgh-id.com/IDSA.

Contact Oliver Cunningham at JFCS Career Services/IDSA for more info (OCunningham@jfcspgh.org).



DINNER and
SABBATH Documentary

Friday, Oct 27 • 5:30-8:30 pm

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 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 "tech-sabbath" — *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).