



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)

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 8, 2023 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

Listen here, mortal: God has already made abundantly clear what “good” is, and what YHWH needs from you: simply do justice, love kindness, and humbly walk with your God.

— Micah 6:8, *The Inclusive Bible*

PRELUDE

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”
“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

arr. Lloyd Larson
arr. Lloyd Larson
ELPC Ringers

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 (Psalm 19:1-4)

Thomas Sturgill

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God!

People: **The skies proclaim God’s handiwork.**

Leader: The day pronounces God’s glory without a sound, the night expounds God’s knowledge without a word,

People: And yet their voice goes out through all the earth.

Leader: Let us join our voices with the voice of creation in declaring God’s glory!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #772

“Live into Hope”

TRURO

CALL TO CONFESSION

Thomas Sturgill

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Thomas Sturgill

Rescuing God, you guide us on the path of freedom, yet too often we stay bound to ideals and actions that hold us captive to sin, oppression and destruction. We ignore your vision of wholeness and cling to the idols of excess and consumption. We perpetuate practices that deny the full humanity of your people and destroy the beauty of your creation.

Forgive us, we pray. Attune our awareness to the leading of your Holy Spirit that we might follow you with wholeness of heart, mind, soul and strength. Amend our actions that by your grace we might enjoy the gift of your presence, creation, and community, through Jesus Christ we pray.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

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ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Thomas Sturgill

Leader: Righteousness does not come from our own action or inaction. Righteousness comes to us from God, through grace by faith. 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 #591

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

HALLE, HALLE

HANDBELL ANTHEM

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

arr. Lloyd Larson

GOSPEL LESSON (*The Inclusive Bible*)

Matthew 25:31-40

Adrianna Cleveland

VIDEO PRESENTATION

Being a Matthew 25 Church

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 nursery suite for a time of learning together (registration form required). Children younger than age 3 are welcome to attend, if accompanied by their parents. Children will return to the worship service during the Doxology. The nursery is open for play to young children who are accompanied by their parents/caregivers during worship; the service is livestreamed into that space.

* HYMN #291

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

SPIRIT

HEBEW LESSON

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

“Aha! Moments”

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

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.

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 Sanctuary.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Grant Us Thy Peace”

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
text: Martin Luther

*Grant us thy peace, Almighty Lord,
O Source of every blessing!
We cannot keep thy saving Word
Unless thy peace possessing.
Thy peace O give
By which we live.*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy
The Rev. Schoenewolf

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 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 freedom and life, receive these gifts as a sign of our gratitude and a mark of our commitment to worship you, serve you and love you each day. Bless the gifts we bring, that together we may proclaim the good news of your liberating love for all. In Christ's name we pray. | |
| People: | Amén. | Amen. |

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #765 (*sing 3 times*)

ARGENTINA

"May the God of Hope Go with Us"

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

"Allegro Moderato Maestoso"

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
Dr. Moore, *organ*

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. Heather Schoenewolf
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Adrianna Cleveland
Sara Hackett
Thomas Sturgill
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
ELPC Ringers
Beadle: Polly McQueen
Crucifer: Tim Engelhardt
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. *Our beautiful arrangements are provided by Bloom Brigade (www.bloombrigade.com).*

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
Oct 15 — The Rev. BJ Woodworth preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Oct 15 — The Rev. BJ Woodworth preaching. Full Inclusion 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 of 30 minutes of communal silence and guided meditation on scripture. We will meditate on the Psalms, using the translation *Psalms for Praying* by Nan C. Merrill.

Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am

Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992

Passcode: bestill

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*)

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 (MeganL@coh.net).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Matthew 25 Sunday

During our Journey and Sanctuary worship services today, the Mission Board will lift up the three foci of a Matthew 25 congregation: Building Congregational Vitality, Dismantling Structural Racism, and Eradicating Systemic Poverty with a slide show highlighting some of the ways ELPC lives into this designation.

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 (rabooherco@gmail.com). *Note: Café Justo will be sold on the second Sunday of the month.*

Tween Corn Maze

Following 11 am worship, youth in grades 4–6 are heading to Howling Hills Corn Maze in Allenport, PA. The cost is \$20 to cover the maze and lunch (scholarships available). We will return to ELPC at 5:30 pm. Contact Sara Hackett to participate (SaraH@con.net).

LGBTQIA+ Ministry

You are invited to the next spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQIA+ Ministry today at 12:30 pm to share conversation and lunch. Contact Wil Forrest, LGBTQIA+ Ministry Coordinator, for more info, or to attend (wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

Murals in our Sanctuary

The 2 murals hanging in the Chancel are by artist Steve Prince, the featured artist-in-residence at this year's Presbyterian Association of Musicians' (PAM) annual *Worship and Music Conference* in Montreat, NC. Additional info can be found at <http://tiny.cc/elpcmurals>, or by scanning this QR code.



Today's Deacons-On-Duty (DOD)

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 Molly Davidson-Welling. The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Peta Harrigan Cole.



Fellowship Time — Oct 15

The Stewardship and Finance Committee invite you to join them for fellowship and food on Sunday, Oct 15 after the 11 am service in the Fellowship Room. Sponsored by Membership & Outreach. Please join us!

All Connections Potluck Lunch — Oct 15

Join the *Connections Group* for a potluck lunch on Sunday, Oct 15 at 12:15 pm in the Music Room. Sign up online at tiny.cc/connections-potluck, or use this QR code to indicate what food you can bring. Contact connectelpc@gmail.com for more info.



Church Tour — Oct 15

Tim VanFleet will guide a *Hidden Places* tour on Oct 15 after the 11 am worship service. Gather in the Highland Lobby to participate.

Full Inclusion Sunday & Community Sing-A-Long — Oct 15

On Sunday, Oct 15, the Renaissance City Choir (RCC) will join the ELPC Chancel Choir during Sanctuary worship—and possibly make a surprise appearance to join the Journey Praise Team—as we celebrate our LGBTQIA+ community. The second annual Community Sing-A-Long, cohosted by the Justice Committee, LGBTQIA+ Ministry, and RCC will be held in the Social Hall at 1:30 pm. We will be invited to sing songs composed by people in the LGBTQIA+ community.

Confirmation Class Meeting — Oct 15

On Sunday, Oct 15 from 12:15–3 pm in the 2nd Floor Parlor, the Confirmation Class will discuss *Who Is God?*—an introduction to the three persons of the trinity and our ability to relate to God as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Please contact Pastor Heather (HeatherS@coh.net) or Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) for more info.

Updates on Our Community Partners — Oct 22

Join the ELPC Neighbors Committee in the Social Hall on Sunday, Oct 22 after 11 am worship as we welcome representatives from our community mission partners East Liberty Development, Inc., and Open Hand Ministries, as they give updates on their important work and ministries in the East End. A light lunch will be served.

Thomas Ospital to Perform at ELPC — Oct 27

ELPC's *Cathedral Concerts* series will kick off its 13th season on Friday, Oct 27 at 7:30 pm with a performance by organist Thomas Ospital from the Church of Saint-Eustache in Paris. The concert will be co-presented with the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh. Tickets are free for ELPC. Contact Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net). Download the brochure for the 13th season of *Cathedral Concerts* at <http://tiny.cc/elpcconcerts>.





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

Harvey Adams, Keith Beach,
Charlotte Calderone, Doris Dick's sister-in-law Kerry,
Tim Engelhardt's grandfather LJ,
Hannah Moon's sister Inkyung and son Kevin,
Henry Petrilli's father Lawrence,
Cheryl Rhodes' mother Marian,
Pastor Heather Schoenewolf's cousin Kristie, Beth Urbaitis.

Condolences to the family of The Rev. Hydrie Houston on her passing. She was a former Associate Pastor at ELPC.

Condolences to the family of Ida Joiner on her passing.

Condolences to Gloria, Reva, Gianni and Rhya Ritchey on their friend Pete's passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Tuesday, Oct 10 @ 5:30 pm..... Finance (zoom)
Tuesday, Oct 10 @ 7:00 pm..... Deacons (hybrid)
Tuesday, Oct 10 @ 7:30 pm.... Worship, Music, Arts (zoom)
Thursday, Oct 12 @ 5:30 pm..... Mission (zoom)

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

Dinner and a Film — Oct 27

On Friday, Oct 27 from 5:30-8 pm, the Spiritual Life and Justice Committees invite you to an evening of fellowship, food, and formation around the ancient practice of *Sabbath*. We will gather for a simple meal together and then view the 2-hour documentary, *SABBATH: An Ancient Practice Meets the Modern World*. RSVP to Norma by Oct 22 (412.441.3800 x211).

Volunteer Opportunity: Amen to Action — Oct 28

On Saturday, Oct 28, ELPC will be participating in packing food boxes for distribution throughout Allegheny County by the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. The event will be held at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (616 N Highland Ave, 15206) from 8 am to Noon. Please register with the ELPC volunteer group by using this link: www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CADAA2EAAFCCF8-amen. If you have any questions, please contact the Neighbors Committee.

Worshipping with Rev. Ross-Allam — Oct 29

We are pleased to welcome The Rev. Jermaine Ross-Allam as our guest preacher on Sunday, Oct 29. He is director of the Center for the Repair of Historic Harms at the Presbyterian Mission Agency PC (USA), and was ordained as minister of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of the Twin Cities in 2013, where he began ordained ministry as executive director of 21st Century Academy at Kwanzaa Community Church PC(USA).



In our

COMMUNITY



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). You can also drop off used winter coats at StrongII Dry Cleaners (7620 Frankstown Ave, 15208).

East Liberty Family Health Care Center Job Fair — Oct 14

On Saturday, Oct 14 from 10 am—1 pm, East Liberty Family Health Care Center is hosting a *job fair* at their new Lincoln-Lemington site (7157 Mary Peck Bond Place, 15206). Please bring your resume. Apply and register prior to the job fair at www.elfhcc.com/job-fair. For more info, please call 412.665.1010.

Active Living With Chronic Conditions — Oct 19 to Nov 30

Do you have an ongoing health condition, such as arthritis, diabetes, high blood pressure, stroke, asthma, heart disease, chronic pain, cancer, depression or any other condition that affects your daily life? Attend the in-person workshop *Active Living with Chronic Conditions* from 1-3:30 pm on Thursdays from Oct 19 to Nov 30 at Vintage, Inc. (421 N Highland Ave, 15206). This program will help you learn new ways to solve problems; how to manage your symptoms and achieve goals; and how to work with your doctor. For more info or to register, contact Tom Sturgill (412.361.5003; tsturgill@familylinks.org).

The Chapel Market requests donations of:

- **men's pants; and**
- socks and underclothes (for men and women).

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Oct 15 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) — Examining Psalms and Stained Glass, facilitated by The Rev. Henk Bossers

Parenting Circle (Rm 213) — Starting Our New Year, facilitated by Trish Buben and other class members

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) — “Meeting Jesus the Christ Again: A Conservative Progressive Faith” with The Rev. Dr. Bob Chesnut (via Zoom), facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) — A discussion of chapter 4 of the book *Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship* by Fr. Gregory Boyle, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members