



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)

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 14, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.
— Martin Luther King, Jr.

To become fully human means learning to turn my gratitude for being alive into some concrete common good.
— Barbara Brown Taylor in “An Altar in the World”

PRELUDE

“Two Preludes on SLANE - Be Thou My Vision”

Healey Willan
David Schelat
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

The Rev. Woodworth

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.

The peace of Christ be with you.

People: Y también contigo.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Barbara Griffin

Leader: The One who calls you together this day yearns for each of you and for all people to hear and be blessed.

People: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

Leader: Blessed is the One who comes bringing trustworthy words for the healing of the world.

People: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #339

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Children

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Children

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

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Children

Leader: God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness. God cleanses us from sin. God strengthens us with freedom through the power of the Holy Spirit. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón.
¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #741 (verses 1, 4, 1)

GUIDE MY FEET

"Guide My Feet"

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

The Rev. Woodworth

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:43-51

Barbara Griffin

* HYMN #450

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Samuel 3:1-20

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

SERMON

"Back to the Beginning: Succession Planning"

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

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

"Gloria" (from Gospel Mass)

Robert Ray

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

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: Bless in every way, O Lord, the gifts of the people here have given. Enrich the ministries of
your people and make us grateful to be able to let go of the things we do not, finally, own.

In Jesus' name we pray.

People: Amén.

Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #69

“Here I Am, Lord”

HERE I AM

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

“Improvisation on *We Shall Overcome*”

Carl Haywood

In memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (15 January 1929 – 4 April 1968)

Dr. Moore, *organ*



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. BJ Woodworth
Barbara Griffin
Sara Hackett
Children
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Denise Sheffey-Powell, *Soloist*
Robin Thompson, *Soloist*
Beadle: Tim Engelhardt
Crucifer: Mario Seneca
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and water are available in the Balaka 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.
Jan 21 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Jan 21 — 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 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* on Sunday, Feb 4 after the 11 am service in the Fellowship Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please contact Megan Leisher for info (MeganL@coh.net).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Gathering

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

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 Thomas Sturgill.

The *Sanctuary* service DOD is Linda Sanders.



Family Bowling — Jan 21

Families with children and teens are invited to stay after the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Jan 21 for pizza, bowling, and games in the gym. RSVP to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Social Hour — Jan 21

Please join us for a social hour, sponsored by Membership and Outreach, after the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Jan 21 in the Fellowship Room for light refreshments and conversation. All are welcome!

OHM's Family TeamWorks Dinner — Jan 23

ELPC supports Open Hand Ministries in many ways throughout the year. One way is by providing a delicious, hot meal for the OHM TeamWorks meetings several times during the year. These families are striving to achieve their financial goals including first time home ownership, and providing a nice meal during these evening meetings is one way we try to help.

Our first meal for 2024 will be Tuesday, Jan 23. If you are interested in donating a side dish or a dessert, please contact Gerald McClendon (GeraldM@coh.net) or Bob Forloines (bobforloines412@gmail.com). Also, look for the signup sheets at the entrances to our worship services or contact a member of the Neighbors Committee.

Adult Education Series — Begins Jan 28

All are welcome to the first-ever LGBTQIA+ Ministry-hosted Adult Education hour on three consecutive Sundays on Jan 28, Feb 4 and 11. The topic will be examining what the Bible does and does not have to say about homosexuality. This series will be led by our pastors and will be in the McKelvy Room.

"Living While Black" Book Launch — Jan 28

The Facing Systemic Racism (FSR) Committee and the Faith Formation Board are co-sponsoring a book launch of Beverly Harris-Schenz's new book *Living While Black: My Experience with Everyday Racism* on Sunday, Jan 28 in the Social Hall from 1:30–3:30 pm.

Beverly is a member of the congregation and active in the FSR Committee. She will present an "interactive reading" in which she will read personal stories from her book and engage the audience in a discussion of the issues presented. All congregational members, their children, friends, and the general public are warmly invited.



A Wintering Retreat — Feb 2 to 4

Join us for a time of rest and retreat, community and conversation and play and prayer from Feb 2-4 at Villa Maria Retreat Center. Lean into the simple, slow, and still rhythms of winter.

The retreat schedule will flow naturally with morning, midday and evening prayers that gather us together and scatter us in time alone, inviting us into community and sending us into solitude, stillness, and silence. RSVP to Norma by Jan 21 (412.441.3800 x211). Cost options:

1. One Night (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun) Shared Bath | \$70
2. One Night (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun) Private Bath | \$110
3. Two Nights (Fri-Sun) Shared Bath | \$85
4. Two Nights (Fri-Sun) Private Bath | \$135

PW Bible Study: Sacred Encounters — Feb 5 and 6

Please join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study on Monday, Feb 5 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only), or on Tuesday, Feb 6 from 10 am-Noon (hybrid). Those attending Tuesday morning are invited to bring a bagged lunch and stay for fellowship after the lesson. For more info and the Zoom link, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

INQUIRERS' CLASS — FEB 4

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on Sunday, Feb 4 after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service in the Fellowship Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. This can be a hybrid class if requested. Please contact Megan Leisher for more info, or to attend (MeganL@coh.net).





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

Mary Barr's friend Janice,
Martha DeMarzi's friend Diane,
Andrea DeVries and her father and mother-in-law,
Doris Dick's sister-in-law Kerry,
Dr. Charma Dudley's friends Nancy, Virginia and John,
Pam Kimmel, Dr. Linda Lane's sister Gail,
and Sondra MacArtney.

Condolences to Megan Leisher on her aunt's passing.

Committee Meeting This Week

The church building and office will be closed tomorrow,
Monday, Jan 15 for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Membership & Outreach Thursday, Jan 18 @ 6 pm

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

Environmental Book Study – Feb 8

For their next book study, the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee has selected two books written by two important women scientists: *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times* by Jane Goodall; and *The Sea Around Us* (1951) by Rachel Carson. Read one or both and join the discussion on Zoom on Thursday, Feb 8 at 7 pm. For more info and the zoom link, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Connections Group Event – Feb 10

Join ELPC's Connections Group on Saturday, Feb 10 at 7:30 pm for *Blues Is The Roots*, presented by New Horizon's Theater. The performance will be in the Helen Wayne Rauh Rehearsal Hall at the O'Reilly Theater (621 Penn Ave) downtown in the Cultural District.

Tickets are available online at newhorizontheater.org. Please buy your own ticket in advance (\$35 general admission; \$30 seniors/students). Please RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com so we'll know to look out for you. We also can organize dinner before the show.

Lenten Soup & Sustenance Series – Begins Feb 15

The Spiritual Life Committee is presenting a *Lenten Soup and Sustenance* series on the Thursdays in Lent from 5:30-6:45 pm in the McKelvy Room, beginning Feb 15. More info will be made available soon.

Donations for Chapel Market

The *Chapel Market* is in need of full-sized toiletry items (soap, toothpaste, etc) and cold weather clothes. Donations can be dropped off in the boxes at the South Highland Ave entrance. *Thank you!*

In our

COMMUNITY



Position Opening

Sixth Presbyterian Church is seeking an Office Administrator to work part-time (20 hours per week). If interested, and for more information, please email sixthsearchcommittee@gmail.com.

Cathedral Concert: Singing Our History – Feb 25

ELPC's *Cathedral Concerts* series will continue on Sunday, Feb 25 at 3 pm with *Singing Our History*—a special performance commemorating Black History Month with Robert Ray's timeless *Gospel Mass* and Women's History Month with choral and solo works by women composers and arrangers. The concert is free and open to the public.

All Church Retreat

Friday to Sunday, May 3 to 5

ELPC's *All Church Retreat* will be at Lutherlyn Camp (Prospect, PA). Whether you join us for the whole weekend or for Saturday only, we will have delicious meals, time to rest in creation, and intentional community building activities.

Workshops and worship will be intergenerational.

Registration and details will be available in February.

Contact Sara Hackett
(SaraH@coh.net)

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

January 21 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

♦ ADULTS ♦

Journey with Scripture (Fellowship Rm) – Exploring the scripture passages represented in our Sanctuary's stained glass windows, facilitated by The Rev. Henk Bossers

Parenting Circle (Rm 213) – “Weekly Gatherings,” exploring how our faith builds and nourishes our family lives, and parent/child relationships, facilitated by Trish Buben and other class members

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) – “The Trinity as the Divine Dance,” led by The Rev. Dr. Bob Chesnut (ELPC Pastor, 1988–2002) via Zoom, facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) – A discussion of chapters 3 and 4 of the book *Between the Dark and the Daylight* by Joan Chittester, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members