



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)

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 21, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

To understand the gospel in its radical, transformative power, we have to stop counting, measuring, and weighing. We have to stop saying “I deserve” and deciding who does not deserve. This daily conversion is hard to do unless we’ve experienced infinite mercy and realize that it’s all a gift—all the time.

— Richard Rohr

PRELUDE

Two Settings of “Amazing Grace”

George Shearing

Diane Bish

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.

People: Y también contigo.

The Rev. Schoenewolf

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From God comes our salvation.

People: God is our rock and our salvation.

Leader: Let us worship God together, trusting in the strength of God’s love.

People: Let us find hope in the God who saves us.

Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #307

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Trusting in the promise of grace, let us pour out our hearts before God. Let us confess our sins together, first in unison and then in silence. Let us pray:

Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Forgiving God, we repent of all the ways we turn from you. You call, but we do not listen; you show us your path, but we prefer our own way. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you, that **we might show mercy to others. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

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ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz

Leader: Time and time again God surprises us with grace. In love, God forgives us of our sin and offers us new life. 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 #814 (*sing 3 times*)

MON ÂME SE REPOSE

“In God Alone”

EPISTLE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 3:1-12

Tim Engelhardt

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:14-20

Dr. 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 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 #721

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

“Back to the Beginning: A Foundation of Grace”

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.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Tiffany Sudar

OFFERING INVITATION

Tiffany Sudar

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

“Almighty and Everlasting God”

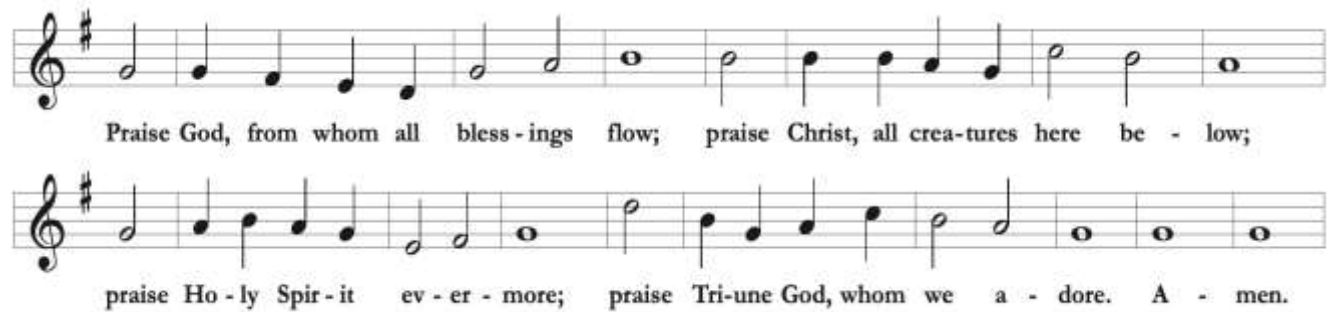
Orlando Gibbons

*Almighty and everlasting God,
mercifully look upon our infirmities,
and in all our dangers and necessities
stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Fiedler Family

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: Merciful God, you have saved us for a purpose. We dedicate these gifts as we dedicate our
lives to you, that you will send us too to do your work in the world.

People: Amén.

Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #649

“Amazing Grace”

AMAZING GRACE

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Paul Manz
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: Tim Engelhardt
Lin, Goeran, Ferdi, and Lina Fiedler
Sara Hackett
Dr. Beverly Harris-Schenz
Tiffany Sudar
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Beadle: Laura Ristau
Crucifer: Ian Kuchera
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for a social hour, sponsored by Membership and Outreach, after the service, in the Fellowship Room for light refreshments and conversation. All are welcome!

◆ 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 28 — The Rev. BJ Woodworth preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Jan 28 — 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

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

Family Bowling

Families with children and teens are invited to stay after today's 11 am worship service for pizza, bowling, and games in the gym.

Social Hour

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

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 Nate Stephens.



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, with families striving to achieve their financial goals, including first time home ownership.

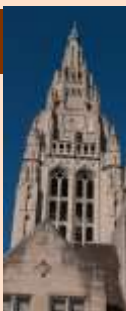
If you are interested in donating a side dish or a dessert for the meal scheduled on Tuesday, Jan 23, please contact Gerald McClendon (GeraldM@coh.net) or Bob Forloines (bobforloines412@gmail.com). Also, look for the signup sheets at the entrances to our worship services or contact a member of the Neighbors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

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).



"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.

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).



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 Virginia and John,
Pam Kimmel, Dr. Linda Lane's sister Gail,
Sondra MacArtney, and Rebecca Serey.
Condolences to Megan Leisher on her aunt's passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Session Tuesday, Jan 23 @ 6:30 pm
Justice Wednesday, Jan 24 @ 5:30 pm
Neighbors Wednesday, Jan 24 @ 6:00 pm

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

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.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Gathering – Feb 18

You are invited to the monthly spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQIA+ Ministry at 12:30 pm on Sunday, Feb 18 to share conversation and lunch. Contact Wil Forrest, LGBTQIA+ Ministry Coordinator, to attend or for more info (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

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.



In our

COMMUNITY



Volunteer ESL Teachers Needed

Get to know your new neighbors AND really help someone become more self-sufficient and integrated into the Pittsburgh community! Casa San Jose needs volunteer ESL teachers at ELPC. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm in Feb, March and April. Volunteers can do one evening per week (we can find substitutes when needed). Training is provided. Speaking Spanish is not necessary. If interested, please contact Ruth Farrell (502.682.4540; ruth@casasanjose.org).

“Souls Shot” Exhibit – Through Feb 14

Shadyside Presbyterian Church (5121 Westminister Place, 15232) presents portraits of victims of gun violence in *Souls Shot*, a moving tribute to the victims portrayed. This exhibit is open through Feb 14. Additional info is available at www.soulshotportraitproject.org.

Lunchtime Book Discussion – March 16

Hiland Presbyterian Church (845 Perry Hwy, 15229) is hosting a free book discussion and light lunch on Saturday, March 16 from 11:30 am—1:30 pm. The book to be discussed is *The Color of Life: A Journey toward Love and Racial Justice* by Cara Meredith. Please RSVP by March 8 to Carolyn (gibbses5@verizon.net) or Barb (412.364.9000).

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

January 28 ♦ 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 5 and 6 of the book *Between the Dark and the Daylight* by Joan Chittester, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members

LGBTQIA+ Ministry (McKelvy Rm) – Examining what the Bible does and does not have to say about homosexuality, led by our pastors