



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 S. 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)

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

MARCH 31, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

Holy One, you come to us with power beyond all knowing. You lift all things out of the dust, you breathe love into every cell, you call us into communion with you, and you claim victory over death. Blessed be your holy name now and forever more. Amen.

MUSIC MINISTRY

“Allegro, Chorale, and Fugue”

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organist*
Jean-Joseph Mouret
The Brass Roots
Ryan Croyle, *guest organist*

“Rondeau”

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: ¡Cristo ha resucitado!

Christ is risen!

People: ¡En verdad, esta resucitado!

He is risen indeed!

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Carl

Leader: Look! A sliver of light across the horizon – the miracle of a new day! Christ has risen.

People: He has risen indeed! See! The stone is rolled away, and the angel calls from within.

Leader: Feel! The freedom of our souls and the wonder of the Messiah’s gift of new life. Christ has risen!

People: **He has risen indeed! Hear the hallelujahs as we declare to the world, “Christ has risen.”**

Leader: He has risen indeed! So, let us worship in the spirit of holiness, redemption and resurrection!

People: Amen!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #232

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

March 31 • Easter Sunday

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: **By the grace of God and the witness of the women at the tomb, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation. You shall not die but live. The rejected cornerstone has become your strength and song. I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of God, creator, redeemer, and sustainer, who lives and reigns as Mother of us all, now and forever. 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 #243 (*sing 3x*) "Be Not Afraid" BE NOT AFRAID

EPISTLE SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 David Carl

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

Children in preschool through grade 3 are invited to the Chapel for a time of learning together. Children will return to worship during the Offering.

The nursery is open to young children under the age of 3. Parents/caregivers must complete a registration form and sign children in and out of the nursery each day. Please note that attendance may be limited based on staff to child ratios but parents/caregivers are always welcome to remain with their children in the nursery.

* HYMN #245 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" LLANFAIR

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

GOSPEL LESSON John 20:1-18 The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON " (Un)Finished Business" The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

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 "Crown Him!" arr. Dan Forrest

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all creatures
here below. Praise Holy Spirit ever more.
Praise Tri-une God, whom we adore. *(Interlude)* A - men.

March 31 • Easter Sunday

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.



— SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy and The Rev. Schoenewolf

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 seated in the transepts are asked to join the procession to the front to receive communion by entering one of the pews from the outside and proceed to the center aisle after those seated in the row. Those not able to come forward will be served in their seats.

COMMUNION HYMNS

#507

“Come to the Table of Grace”

TABLE OF GRACE

#241

“Woman, Weeping in the Garden”

KINGDOM

#233

“The Day of Resurrection!”

LANCASHIRE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Rev. Woodworth

At this table, we celebrate resurrection as you feed us with bread and wine. And as much as we might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you send us back to our work – only our work is no longer the same because we know you are with us and in us, shaping and transforming us to be your witnesses in the world. Nourished in body, mind, and spirit, may all that we say and all that we do give you glory. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #239

“Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!”

GELOBT SEI GOTT

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

“Toccata from Symphony V”

Charles-Marie Widor

March 31 • Easter Sunday

As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube, 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. Please silence all electronic devices before the service begins.

◆ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
The Rev. BJ Woodworth
David Carl
Sara Hackett
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Ryan Croyle, *Guest Organist*
The Brass Roots:
Ty Lewis, *Trumpet*
Gabriel Pacella, *Trumpet*
Joshua Gandy, *Horn*
Taylor Jones, *Trombone*
John Caughman, *Tuba*
Abby Langhorst, *Timpani*
Beadles: Heather Eng
Tim Engelhardt
Crucifer: Mario Seneca
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and water are available in the Balaka Room.

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers in the urns today are in loving memory of Mrs. Anna Barbara Negley Brick, Miss Georgina G. Negley, Miss Alice Negley and Miss Sarah J.M. Negley. Please see the bulletin insert for a list of sponsored Easter plants.

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
April 7 — The Rev. BJ Woodworth preaching.
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
April 7 — 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* to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please 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.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are delighted that you have chosen to celebrate Easter with us at ELPC. We invite you to pick up a copy of our newsletter, the *Reaching Out*, or visit us online at www.ELPC.church for information about ELPC's many programs and ministries.



TODAY AT ELPC

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 *Sanctuary* service DOD is Jo Ellen Aleshire. She is seated in the East Transept (Highland Ave entrance).



Church Directory Update — Due Today

If you would like to have your photo and/or contact information updated in our new church directory, please email Megan Leisher (MeganL@coh.net) with your updated information, or complete a member update form found in the Highland Lobby. Please submit photos as jpeg or png files in portrait orientation with up-close focus on faces and minimal background distractions. Complete your submissions today.

Run in the Pittsburgh Marathon for OHM
If you would like to participate in the Pittsburgh Marathon as a runner or volunteer in support of Open Hand Ministries, contact Laura Ristau (lauraristau@gmail.com).



PW Bible Study: Sacred Encounters — April 1 and 2

Please join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study on Monday, April 1 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only), or on Tuesday, April 2 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.

Clean Energy Letter Writing Event — April 14

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to send a thank you letter to Governor Shapiro for his slate of major energy policies. Join us for a letter writing event in the Fellowship Room on Sunday, April 14 after our Journey and Sanctuary services. A sample letter and a fact sheet will be available.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry — April 14

You are invited to attend our LGBTQIA+ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering on Sunday, April 14 after 11 am 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).

Young Adult Ministry Walks Highland Park — April 20

Come along on Saturday, April 20 as we walk and talk at Highland Park. We will be at Tazza D'oro in the Highland Park neighborhood from 9:30–10 am, and then walk through Highland Park starting at 10 am. Contact Sara Hackett for more info (SaraH@coh.net).

Connections Ministry Potluck — April 28

The Connections Ministry invites everyone to a potluck lunch on Sunday, April 28 at 12:15 pm in the Good Samaritan Room. RSVP to connectelc@gmail.com, and let us know what you're bringing to share at tiny.cc/connections-potluck.

Find Out How the Wildflowers Grow — May 4

Each spring a group of dedicated members and friends refresh the Highland Ave entrance, the courtyard and the rain garden. Join us on Saturday, May 4 from 9 am-1 pm to tidy up the church landscaping. Green thumbs are not required. Just bring your energy, curiosity, and a pair of work gloves to the Highland driveway around 9 am. Email Don Breitbarth (donbreitbarth@gmail.com) to help.

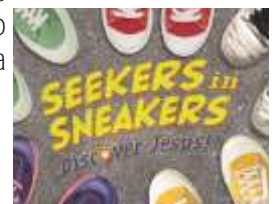
VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

June 24 to 28

Vacation Church School at ELPC will be held June 24–28 from 9 am–3 pm for children in pre-K (age 4 and potty-trained) through grade 5 (completed). Our theme this summer is *Seekers in Sneakers: Discover Jesus!* and children will use their investigative skills to discover Jesus and explore the stories of those who experienced and brought about change in the world around them after an encounter with Jesus. Spots are **filling up fast, so don't delay, register today!**

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to serve as volunteers, and adult volunteers of all ages will be needed to help ensure our program is a success!

Campers and volunteers can register at ELPC.church.





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

Rev. Dr. Robert A. Chesnut,
David Jennings Smith,
Gloria Ritchey's granddaughter Rhya,
Pastor Heather's cousin Kristie,
and Vivien Selia's friends Martha and Bob.

Condolences to Dr. Edward Alan Moore on his father's passing.

Committee Meeting This Week

The church office will be closed tomorrow.

Property Tuesday, April 2 @ 7:00 pm

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

Environmental Book Study – May 9

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to read *The Intersectional Environmentalist: How to Dismantle Systems of Oppression to Protect People + Planet* by Leah Thomas, and then join a book discussion on Thursday, May 9 at 7 pm on Zoom. Contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net) for info and link.

Host Delegation from Malawi and South Sudan – May 11

For the first time since COVID, the Pittsburgh Presbytery International Partnership will welcome 23 siblings from Malawi and South Sudan. ELPC is blessed to have Moses Masiye, from Balaka CCAP, our sister congregation, as part of the delegation. Two host families are needed. If you are interested in hosting Moses for a week (May 11-15 or May 16-20), or for more info, please contact Kay Shissler (kshissler@juno.com; 412.681.2047).

Attending to Wilderness: A Day Retreat – June 1

Join us for a contemplative retreat on Saturday, June 1 from 9 am–4 pm at Jennings Environmental Center (2951 Prospect Rd, Slippery Rock, PA 16057).

There will be time in groups and in solitude, time for creative expression, prayer, and integrating what we discover within ourselves and our natural environment. Hiking options will be available for all skill levels. We will be led by Megan Shelly, a spiritual director and the founder of bewilderpgh (bewilderpgh.com), where she designs and leads retreats and contemplative backpacking trips. The cost is \$40. Beverages, snacks, and lunch will be provided. RSVP to Norma by Sunday, May 19 (412.441.3800 x211).

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Voting Is Power Events – April 2, 9 and 16

Join *Voting Is Power* (VIP) Pittsburgh Regional Coalition for three “eat, meet and greet” events to hear from candidates who want your vote in 2024. The first gathering will be held on Tuesday, April 2 at Letter Carriers Hall (841 California Ave, 15212). Additional events will be Tuesday, April 9 at St. James A.M.E. Church (444 Lincoln Ave, 15206) and Tuesday, April 16 at Beulah Baptist Church (201 Chalfont Ave, 15210). All events will be held from 6-8 pm. Call 412.212.8775 for more info.

RCC Cabaret – April 6 and 7

Renaissance City Choir continues its homage to the natural elements this season with its Cabaret 2024: *Earth, Wind, & Choir* on Saturday, April 6 at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, April 7 at 2 pm, at ELPC. Buy tickets at RCCpittsburgh.com.

Healing with Nature Mosaic Project – Begins April 6

People of all ages are invited to participate in the *Healing with Nature Mosaic Project*, a program designed to respond to the human experience of grief and loss through the healing power of nature and creative expression. This free six-week, ten session program at the Frick Environment Center is held on Saturdays from 1-3 pm, and Thursdays from 4-6 pm, beginning Saturday, April 6 and ending Thursday, May 9. To register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/HealingWithNatureMosaicProject>.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

April 7 ♦ 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) – “**Parenting Experiences**,” facilitated by Pastor Heather

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) – “**Finding the Mother Tree: A Conversation with Suzanne Simard**,” facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) – A discussion of chapters 21 and 22 of the book *Between the Dark and the Daylight* by Joan Chittester, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members

Join us at our

All-Church Retreat

Friday–Sunday, May 3–5

at Lutherlyn Camp in Prospect, Pennsylvania

Together, we will explore the theme *Block Party*: a neighborhood of kindness and love.



Brochures are available around the church and online at:

cathedralofhope.org/event/all-church-retreat-2024/