



# 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)*

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

MAY 19, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

Holy Spirit, come again. As long ago you inspired, astonished and confused the people, come to us now to fill our ears with the sound of your breath, fill our eyes with the brilliance of your presence in each other, fill our hearts with your good Word. Amen.

### MUSIC MINISTRY

“Chorale Variations on *Veni Creator Spiritus*”

Maurice Duruflé  
based on Glory to God hymnal #278

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

“Cello Suite No. 2 - Prelude”

Johann Sebastian Bach

Brady Conley, *cello*

### WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

### \* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

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

Eddie Willson and Liam Cowan

Leader: God comes among all people as the One who fashioned all things; who, face-to-face, revealed goodness, justice and truth, and whose presence brings assurance and hope.

People: Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love so that in hearing and seeing the gifts of this life we may know the way to live in gratitude and love.

Leader: Let us worship the living God!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #291

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

SPIRIT

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION & INTERCESSION

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

### TIME OF REFLECTION

“Spirit of the Living God”

Mabel Buben and Eleanor Willson, *flute*

### ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

Leader: People of God, body of Christ, siblings of faith, the Spirit of God has come upon creation and upon you – anointing us with wisdom, courage, and peace. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the mercy of God and the name of Jesus Christ, we have been made a new **creation, reconciled to God and one another, and strengthened to do the work of God’s kingdom now.** Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

¡Alaben a Dios!

Praise God!

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

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May 19 • Pentecost Sunday

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

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN (please see music insert; sing 3x)

“Let It Breathe On Me”

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14

OT page 1064

Samantha Brake-Hoffman and Will Kuchera

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 #286

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

TRENTHAM

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 2:1-8, 14-21

NT page 158

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

“First Breath”

The Rev. Schoenewolf

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #281 (sing 3x)

VENI SANCTE SPIRITUS

“Holy Spirit, Come to Us”

RECEPTION OF THE CONFIRMATION CLASS

*Members:* Samantha Brake-Hoffman, Mabel Buben, Brady Conley, Liam Cowan  
Kevin Lee, Will Kuchera, Ellie Willson

*We rejoice that Pippa Barlow has journeyed with our Confirmation Class, as a member of Smithfield United Church of Christ. As her siblings in faith we give thanks for her gifts and pray for her continued growth in Christ's love.*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Presentation of Will Kuchera*

*Profession of Faith*

*Act of Baptizing*

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (written by confirmands)

I believe in God who is the parent of the Earth, the Son of Man, and the Spirit of Hope. God trusted us to care for the earth, and teaches us that every single person on this earth deserves love and a place to belong. God loves and because of this I love.

God watches over us, protects us, guides us through life. God constantly gives hope and brings people together. God removes barriers that block my vision, helping me to better **understand. God is with us always, filling every nook and cranny. God reveals God's self in many ways: through every tree I touch, every bite of food, and through the ones I love most. God's** truth is revealed in many ways; through the Bible, through our questions, through our hope, prayers and love. My faith in God gives me the courage to explore the unknown.

I think God gives everyone a fair chance. I believe that God will love us and forgive us even when we make mistakes or we make the wrong choice. I believe this to be especially true when we struggle to forgive ourselves or forgive others.

I believe that God sent Jesus to teach us how to live and how to treat one another with love and kindness. His message calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Jesus healed the blind, fed the hungry, drove away demons. Jesus teaches us how to live together in peace. I believe that Jesus is my Lord, my guide, and my savior.

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May 19 • Pentecost Sunday

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

The Holy Spirit resides in us, inspiring us and guiding us to do good unto others. The Holy Spirit invites our prayers and our questions. The Holy Spirit gives people a voice. The Holy Spirit guides the ministry of our church and brings people together. The Holy Spirit strengthens **us to enact Jesus' hope for peace.**

I believe that church is more than just a place of worship. The church is a community of hospitality, love, and connection. The Church is a community where we can meet people who are both similar and different from us. Together we focus on kindness, compassion, unity, and inclusivity. With love and acceptance as the basis of everything, God constantly gives us hope and brings us together as one.

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.*



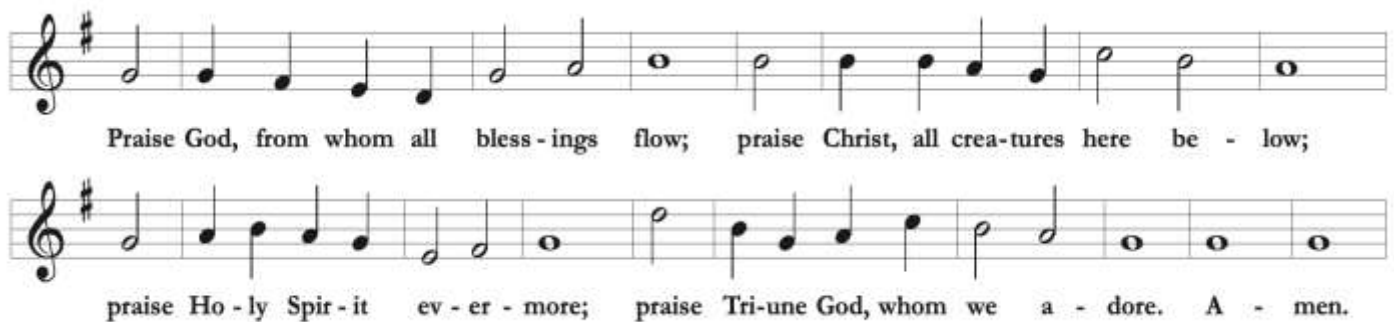
OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

arr. William L. Dawson  
based on Glory to God hymnal #66

\* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Pippa Barlow  
Kevin Lee

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 mercy, we give you thanks for all that your beauty creates. The gifts we bring today acknowledge our debt to you and our intent to relieve others of their burdens. Bless what we offer and bless those who will be shown deeds of justice and love through them. In Jesus' name.	
People:	¡Amén!	Amen!

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN #366

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

HYFRYDOL

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Schoenewolf

POSTLUDE

“Toccata on *Veni Creator Spiritus*”

Maurice Duruflé  
based on Glory to God hymnal #278

*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](http://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. Heather Schoenewolf  
Liturgists: The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy  
Pippa Barlow  
Samantha Brake-Hoffman  
Mabel Buben  
Liam Cowan  
Sara Hackett  
Will Kuchera  
Kevin Lee  
Tiffany Sudar  
Eddie Willson  
Eleanor Willson  
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,  
*Organist / Music Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
Todd Farwell, *Soloist*  
Judd Poeske, *Soloist*  
Brady Conley, *Cello*  
Eleanor Willson, *Flute*  
Beadle: Liz Hopkins  
Crucifer: Jan Herzer  
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, please contact Norma (412.441.3800 x211). The cost is \$250 a Sunday.

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.  
*May 26* — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy preaching.  
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.  
*May 26* — 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

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 Gloria Knopp for more info on future classes (GloriaK@coh.net).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church).

## TODAY AT ELPC

### Pentecost Offering

The *Pentecost Offering*, one of our denomination's four churchwide special offerings, supports ministries with children, youth, and young adults, and will be received at both worship services today. This year, our 40% will help support the ELPC junior and senior high mission trip/pilgrimage to Washington, D.C.

### Confirmation Class Welcomed

This morning we will welcome our Confirmation Class into full membership of our church and give thanks for the many and varied gifts of all within our congregation. We give thanks that the Holy Spirit calls us too, giving us gifts for service and inviting us to new expressions of our faith.

### Deadline to RSVP for Wilderness Retreat

Today is the deadline to RSVP for the one-day Wilderness Retreat on Saturday, June 1 from 9 am–4 pm at Jennings Environmental Center (2951 Prospect Rd, Slippery Rock, 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). The cost is \$40. Beverages, snacks, and lunch are provided. RSVP to Norma (412.441.3800 x211) today to participate.

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



### Celebrating

## The Rev. Dr. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

We are pleased to announce that our pastor, The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy, will receive the Doctor of Ministry degree from PTS at the end of this month. We at ELPC are appreciative of her ministry and her dedication and commitment to this significant achievement. To that end, the Mission Board of ELPC, along with the congregation, will recognize and celebrate *Dr. Patrice* on Sunday, June 9 in our 10 am worship service in the Courtyard, and afterwards with lunch in our Social Hall.



We hope you'll be able to join us in the celebration. We ask that you RSVP to Gloria Knopp (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222) so we can plan for food accordingly.

We will be including a cookie table with homemade cookies. If you would like to make 2-4 doz. cookies (plated and labeled), please contact Shirley Fair (faird11@yahoo.com; 412.613.7729).

If you would like to volunteer to help set-up or clean-up, contact Carol Chonoska (carolchonoska@gmail.com; 724.272.9722) or Michele Bossers (412.303.9243; michele2285@gmail.com).



### Calling All Grads!

We want to celebrate the graduates in our faith family! If someone in your family is graduating this year and if they have post graduate plans they want to share with our congregation, send the details to Gloria Knopp (GloriaK@coh.net).

## A Brass and Organ Spectacular

Friday, May 24 at 7:30 pm

The 13th season of ELPC's *Cathedral Concerts* series wraps up with a special concert featuring The Brass Roots, organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore, and conductor Daniel Nesta Curtis.



The concert will feature the premiere of a new piece for brass ensemble and organ by Pittsburgh composer Nancy Galbraith in honor of the 10-year anniversary of Dr. Ed Moore and The Brass Roots at ELPC called *East Liberty Overture*.

The concert is free, but a free will offering will be received. Contact Dr. Moore for more info (EdM@coh.net).





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

Sam Ditka's friend, David Jennings Smith, Pen Lytle, Gloria Ritchey's granddaughter Rhya, and Vivienne Selia's friend Martha.

Condolences to Howard Degenholtz on his mother's passing.

Condolences to Gloria Ritchey on her friend's passing.

A memorial service for Sonya-Marie Morley will be held in the ELPC Sanctuary today at 1:30 pm.

Sonya's Sigma Gamma Rho sorority sisters will perform an Omega Rho ceremony prior to the service at 1:15 pm.

### Committee Meetings This Week

Justice..... Wednesday, May 22 @ 5:30 pm

Neighbors ..... Wednesday, May 22 @ 6:00 pm

For more info about how to join a meeting, please contact Gloria Knopp (GloriaK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

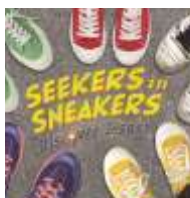
### ELPC Participates in Pittsburgh Pride – June 1

ELPC is a co-founding and participating member of LAMP (the LGBTQIA+ Affirming Ministries of Pittsburgh), and the next opportunity to celebrate Pride side-by-side with our fellow affirming congregations is at the Pittsburgh Pride March & Festival on Saturday, June 1. The March will proceed through Downtown to Allegheny Commons Park West where we will have a booth at the Festival. Sign up to volunteer at our booth at [www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ADAB2DA4FAC25-49237185-pride](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ADAB2DA4FAC25-49237185-pride). Those who volunteer can share fellowship and rest at the nearby LAMPost area. You do not need to RSVP to march in the parade with ELPC and the other LAMP congregations, but if you want to know more about this event, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

### Youth Sunday – June 30

On Sunday, June 30, we will celebrate the gifts of our church's youth and recognize the accomplishments of our graduating seniors. Youth will create and lead our 10 am service. Youth who would like to help plan or lead worship should reach out to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net). Graduating seniors are invited to give a senior message, and all youth are encouraged to participate.

## VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL



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!* 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](http://ELPC.church)

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

Trinity Youth Conference – July 14 to 20

Trinity Youth Conference (TYC) is happening Sunday–Saturday, July 14–20! TYC is a regional Presbyterian leadership conference for youth who have completed grade 9 through college-age students in Shellsburg, PA. Details can be found at [TrinityYouthConference.org](http://TrinityYouthConference.org). Talk to Sara Hackett for more info or scholarship opportunities.

Our summer worship schedule begins on

**Sunday, June 2**

with one Sunday service at 10 am in the Courtyard (weather permitting).

Our regular worship schedule will resume on Rally Day, Sept 8.

Middle School Service Week at Crestfield – July 22 to 26

Youth in grades 6–8 are invited to Crestfield Camp for *Service Adventure Camp*, combining adventure with local missions and service opportunities from Monday, July 22 through Friday, July 26. During the day, campers will be sent out to local non-profits to learn about and assist those agencies. Back at camp in the late afternoon, campers can chill at the pool or take a much needed FOB (flat on bunk). After dinner, there will be canoeing, ninja walling, archery, Big Friz, and more! Youth from multiple churches around Pittsburgh will be working and playing together this week. The cost is \$400; scholarships available. Please contact Sara Hackett for info (SaraH@coh.net).

Donations for

## Chapel Market

The Chapel Market is in need of full-sized toiletry items (men's and women's deodorant, toothpaste, body wash, shampoo, razors, toilet paper, lotion, etc.) in addition to summer clothing for men, woman and children. Donations can be left at the Highland Lobby.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

May 26 ♦ 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

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm) – "Discussion of Election Issues," facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm) – A review and preview session to conclude the church school year, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members