



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)

RALLY DAY

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

Rabi Levi saw a man running in the street and asked him, “Why do you run?” He replied, “I am running after my good fortune!” Rabi Levi tells him, “Silly man, your good fortune has been trying to chase you, but you are running too fast.”

— *Traditional Tale told by Wayne Muller in his book “Sabbath”*

MUSIC MINISTRY

“Fantasia in G, BWV 572”

Johann Sebastian Bach
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*
Jean-Joseph Mouret
The Brass Roots
Ryan Croyle, *organ*

“Rondeau”

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

Jim and Heather Eng

Leader: One thing we ask of God, this is what we seek:

People: **To dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives; to behold God’s beauty and ponder God’s ways in the company of God’s people.**

Leader: Let us enter God’s presence together, offering our worship and praise, singing and shouting with joy.

People: Hear our cry, O God, and respond with your grace.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #35

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

LOBE DEN HERREN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jim and Heather Eng

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jim and Heather Eng

God of love, we confess that we have not been faithful to you in our thoughts and our actions. We have been self-centered in our desires and quarrelsome in our relationships. We have allowed fear to divide us from those who seem different and let distrust separate us from our siblings. Shine your light into our darkened hearts. Save us from our divisive ways. Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in perfect harmony.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

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

Sept 8 • 16th Sunday after Pentecost

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Jim and Heather Eng

Leader: God indeed offers forgiveness and restoration to those who turn to God. Therefore, trust in God, who breaks the bonds of our oppression and covers us in mercy. Friends, hear and 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 #90 (*sing 3x*)

“Wait for the Lord”

WAIT FOR THE LORD

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON

Proverbs 3:1-8

OT page 779
The Rev. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

Beginning this morning, there will be a new Sunday School schedule for the children and youth in our faith family.

Children of any age are welcome to come forward for Moments with our Children. Afterwards:

- *Children in PreK-6th grade will go to Sunday School: Sacred Stories. Parents will pick up their kids after worship (PreK-3rd grade in Room 206; grades 4-6 in Room 207).*
- *Youth in grades 7-12 will meet at 9:45 am for breakfast on the first Sunday of the month. Teens also will meet after church one Sunday a month for lunch and programming.*
- *The nursery is open and staffed from 8:30 am-12:30 pm.*

* HYMN #819

“Be Still, My Soul”

FINLANDIA

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Woodworth

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 27:1; 4-14

OT page 679
The Rev. Woodworth

SERMON

“A Prayer of Trust”

The Rev. Woodworth

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. 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

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. Dr. Fowler-Searcy



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“With a Voice of Singing”

Martin Shaw/
Richard Shepherd

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise Christ, all crea-tures
 here be - low. Praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.
 Praise Tri-une God, whom we a - dore. *(Interlude)* A - men.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Dr. Fowler-Searcy
 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:	God of our salvation, receive these gifts we offer and bless them for the work of your Kingdom, through Christ our Lord.	
People:	Amén!	Amen!

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #361

“O Christ, the Great Foundation”

AURELIA

* CHARGE & BLESSING

The Rev. Woodworth

POSTLUDE

“Final from Symphony I”

Louis Vierne
 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 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. BJ Woodworth
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Jim and Heather Eng
Sara Hackett
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist / Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Ryan Croyle, *Guest Organist*
Brass Roots: David Gardner, *Trumpet*
Ty Lewis, *Trumpet*
Miranda Johnson, *Horn*
Abby Lannan, *Euphonium*
John Caughman, *Tuba*
Abby Langhorst, *Timpani*
Beadle: Jo Ellen Aleshire
Crucifer: Mark Statler
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and water are available in the Balaka Room.

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

The flowers today are in loving memory of Mrs. Anna Barbara Negley Brick, Miss Georgina G. Negley, Miss Alice Negley, Miss Sarah J.M. Negley, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Z. Wainwright and Miss Hattie E. Wainwright.

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.
Sept 15 — The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf preaching.
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Sept 15 — 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. This fall we will be drawing our guided mediations from the book *Becoming Rooted: 100 Days of Reconnecting with Sacred Earth* by Randy Woodley, an activist, scholar, author, teacher, wisdom-keeper and Cherokee descendant, recognized by the Keetoowah Band.

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

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.

TODAY AT ELPC

New Sunday Schedule for Children

Beginning this morning, there will be a new Sunday School schedule for the children and youth in our faith family.

- Children in PreK-6th grade will go to *Sunday School: Sacred Stories* after *Moments with our Children* during the 11 am Sanctuary service. Parents will pick up their kids after worship (PreK-3rd grade in Room 206; grades 4-6 in Room 207).
- Youth in grades 7-12 will meet at 9:45 am for breakfast on the first Sunday of the month (begins today). Teens also will meet after church one Sunday a month for lunch and programming.
- The nursery is open and staffed from 8:30 am-12:30 pm.

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 Gretchen Chapman.

The *Sanctuary service* DOD is Drew Simpson. He is seated in the East Transept (Highland Ave entrance).



Contemplative Prayer – Resumes Sept 9

Monday morning *Contemplative Prayer* will restart tomorrow, Sept 9 from 7:30-8 am. Please join Pastor BJ Woodworth on Zoom (Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992; Passcode: bestill) for 30 minutes of communal silence and guided meditation on scripture. This fall we will be drawing our guided meditations from the book *Becoming Rooted: 100 Days of Reconnecting with Sacred Earth* by Randy Woodley, an activist, scholar, author, teacher, wisdom-keeper and Cherokee descendant, recognized by the Keetoowah Band.

PW Bible Study – Sept 9 and 10

Presbyterian Women's 2024-2025 Bible Study *Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation* begins next week: Tuesday, Sept 10 (*postponed from Sept 3*) from 10 am-Noon (hybrid), and Monday, Sept 9 from 7-8:30 pm (on Zoom). There will be a potluck lunch after Tuesday's Bible Study in honor of Pastor Heather. For more info, please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Gatherings for Kids – Begins Sept 11 and 12

- Club 116: Kids in grades 1-6 are invited to our midweek ministry on Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30 pm for Bible study, crafts, games, & dinner. Club 116 begins Sept 11.
- Youth Group: Kids in grades 7-12 meet Thursdays from 4:30-7 pm. Together with Sixth Presbyterian Church, we share dinner, pray, play, and explore faith. Youth Group begins Sept 12.



Please Save the Dates!

We are grateful for all the support you have given the PNC over the course of our journey to discern a new Senior Pastor for ELPC. We would like to invite you to attend any of the events we are planning for the first weekend in October so you can meet and welcome our candidate for ELPC.

- There will be an *All-congregation Open House* at the church on Saturday, Oct 5 from 2-4 pm to meet the person we have selected.
- On Sunday, Oct 6 there will be a *Meet & Greet* following the 8:45 am Journey service.
- Our final event of the weekend will be a *Reception*, also on Sunday, Oct 6 after the *Congregational Meeting*, which follows the 11 am sanctuary service.



Church Tour – Sept 15

All are welcome to join guide Steve Evrard for a tour of the church tower on Sunday, Sept 15. Please gather at the Highland Lobby after the 11 am worship service to participate in the tour.

Special Congregational Meeting – Sept 15

After worship on Sunday, Sept 15, there will be a special *Congregational Meeting* to act on Pastor Heather's request to dissolve her call as ELPC's Acting Co-Pastor and Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries, effective Sept 30. All members are encouraged to attend.



Let's Get Free

Art Show:

Abolitionist Expressions

Sept 22 to Oct 20

Sundays from Noon – 2 pm

Wednesdays from 5:30 – 7 pm

ELPC's Justice and Worship, Music & Arts Committees invite you to attend an art show from Sept 22 - Oct 20 featuring selected works from the permanent collection of *Let's Get Free: The Women and Trans Prisoner Defense Committee*. The show, *Abolitionist Expressions*, includes paintings, collages, and other artwork created by people who are or have been incarcerated.

Please see the flyers around the church for more info.



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

Linda Addlespurger's husband Mitchell, Bethany Bray, Peta Harrigan Cole's sister-in-law Birney, Mary Anne Kirby, and Larry White.

Committee Meetings This Week

Finance..... Tuesday, Sept 10 @ 5:30 pm
YAYA Tuesday, Sept 10 @ 6:00 pm
Deacons Tuesday, Sept 10 @ 7:00 pm
Worship, Music & Arts..... Tuesday, Sept 10 @ 7:30 pm
Mission Board..... Thursday, Sept 12 @ 5:30 pm

For more info about how to join a meeting, please contact Jen King (JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

Young Adult Ministry: Jam with the YAMs! — Begins Sept 15
If you are 18–40, please join the young adult ministry Jam with the YAMs! We will gather on the third Sunday of each month starting Sunday, Sept 15 in the Harambe Room. Contact Sara Hackett for more info (SaraH@coh.net).



Celebration Honoring Pastor Heather — Sept 22
Join us on Sunday, Sept 22 after the 11 am worship service to celebrate Pastor Heather's service to our worship community. Pastor Heather will begin serving as the solo pastor of the Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon on Oct 1.

Cathedral Concert: Back to Broadway — Sept 29

Our new season of Cathedral Concerts kicks off on Sunday, Sept 29 at 3 pm with Back to Broadway. Join us in the Sanctuary for an afternoon of show tunes from past and present, featuring ELPC's own section leaders. The concert is free, and a freewill offering will be received. Contact Dr. Ed Moore for more info (EdM@coh.net).



IN OUR COMMUNITY

Walk-N-Roll for Life — Sept 14

Be Healthy & Smart (BHS) will hold their 2nd annual Community Wellness Resource Fair from 9 am-1 pm on Saturday, Sept 14 at Liberty Green Park (100 Larimer Ave, 15206). Councilman Khari Mosley will be the grand marshal. Register at www.bhswellness.org.

Yoga Retreat: Celebrating the Beauty of You — Oct 5

Join us on Saturday, Oct 5 from 9 am–3 pm for a Yoga Retreat. This retreat is all about embracing yourself as you are, relaxation, and inner peace through yoga, movement and meditation in community. Discover the beauty within yourself as you unwind and recharge in our historic cathedral space environment with others. Yamuna Morgenstern will lead our yoga, movement and reflections. Special guest Jessica Rosario will offer the sound bath with her crystal bowls and mesmerizing voice. The cost is a suggested donation of \$60 (or pay what you can). Please register online at tiny.cc/yoga-retreat. Contact Yamuna for details (domorgens@gmail.com).

Congregational Meeting — Oct 6

The Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) is excited to announce that a candidate has been selected and the Session has called a Congregational Meeting to vote on this candidate on Sunday, Oct 6 after the 11 am service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Sept 15 ♦ 9:45 to 10:45 am

Journey with Scripture (Highland Rm+Zoom) — Relate the Psalms and the liturgical calendar's Gospel of Mark with the Heavenly Hosts, facilitated by Rev. Henk Bossers and other class members

Seekers (Garth Overlook Rm+Zoom) — "Bishop John Shelby Spong's last public lecture," facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm+Zoom) — A beginning discussion of Always a Guest by Barbara Brown Taylor, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members



Whether you embrace the season of fall or are an autumn struggler, join us at Villa Maria from Friday, Sept 27 at 6 pm to Sunday, Sept 29 at 11 am to open yourself up to the bittersweet beauty and the invitations autumn has for you, and receive a liberating measure of divine grace at the Sacrament of Letting Go Retreat. We will be led by Lynn Holden, a spiritual director, professional counselor, and founder of Cultivating Awareness. RSVP to Norma (412.441.3800 x211) by Sun, Sept 15. Cost options are:

- 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 (Friday-Sunday) Shared Bath | \$85
4. Two Nights (Friday-Sunday) Private Bath | \$135