



# 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)*

## NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

Love people even in their sin, for that is the semblance of Divine Love and is the highest love on earth. Love all of God’s creation, the whole and every grain of sand of it. Love every leaf, every ray of God’s light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things. Once you perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it better every day. And you will come at last to love the whole world with an all-embracing love.

— Fyodor Dostoyevsky (1821-1881)  
*a Russian novelist, short story writer, essayist and journalist*

### MUSIC MINISTRY

“Prelude in G Major, BWV 541”  
“Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier, BWV 731”  
*(Blessed Jesus, We Are Here)*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

### WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

Carol Chonoska

### MINUTE FOR MISSION

News from the Pastor Nominating Committee

Jim Eng

### \* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Carol Chonoska

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

Gene and Marva Harris

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Serve God with gladness; come into God’s presence with singing.

People: **Let us remember that it is God who made us, and to whom we belong; we are God’s people and the sheep of God’s pasture.**

Leader: Let us enter this time of worship with gratitude and with praise, giving thanks and blessing God’s name.

People: **For we know and believe that God is good, and God’s steadfast love endures forever and is faithful to all generations.**

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #396

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

HOLY MANNA

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Gene and Marva Harris

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

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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gene and Marva Harris

**Before God and God's people, I confess that I have been reluctant to speak out clearly, naming the injustice I see and declaring God's vision. Before God and one another, I confess my reluctance to receive my calling as a person of God, made by God and chosen as a witness to God's dream of justice and joy. Remind me, God, that you have made me for your service and renew me with your Word. Restore me, God. Grant me courage to live out your way of peace and grace. I ask it in Jesus' name.**

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Gene and Marva Harris

Leader: God has promised that whenever we repent and seek a new union with God, forgiveness is ours. That promise comes true now. Siblings, sisters and brothers, hear and receive the good news of Christ Jesus:

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

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #635 (sing 2x)

LAUDATE DOMINUM

“Sing, Praise, and Bless the Lord”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 124:1-8

OT page 762  
Gene and Marva Harris

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

*There is 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 #330

“Our Help Is in the Name of God”

OLD 124TH

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 4:14-30

NT page 84  
The Rev. Brian Wallace  
Associate Minister and Acting  
Head of Staff for Pittsburgh Presbytery

SERMON

“Off on the Right Foot”

The Rev. Wallace

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Joe Hajdu

*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.*

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

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. Hajdu

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“God Be in My Head”

*God be in my head and in my understanding, God be in mine eyes and in my looking,  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking, God be in my heart and in my thinking,  
God be at mine end and at my departing.*

Andrew Carter

\* 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. A - men.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Hajdu  
Carla Depperman

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:	Blessed be the Lord, for God is good, and God's love endures forever. Our Creator, help us to mirror your goodness through this offering, in the world.	
People:	Amén!	Amen!

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN #772

“Live into Hope”

TRURO

\* CHARGE & BENECTION

The Rev. Wallace

*Please be seated for a brief  
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
to dissolve Pastor Heather Schoenewolf's call as ELPC's Acting Co-Pastor  
and Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries, effective September 30.*

POSTLUDE

“Fugue in G Major, BWV 541”

Johann Sebastian Bach  
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](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. 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. Brian Wallace,  
*Associate Minister and Acting  
Head of Staff for Pittsburgh Presbytery*

Liturgists: The Rev. Joe Hajdu  
Carol Chonoska  
Carla Depperman, Jim Eng  
Sara Hackett  
Gene and Marva Harris

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,  
*Organist / Music Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir

Beadle: Mario Seneca  
Crucifer: Jan Herzer  
Sound: Tim Benedict  
Wayne Gaines

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP/SOCIAL HOUR

Join us in the Fellowship Room after today's *Congregational Meeting* when members of the ad hoc *Voting Team* (under the Justice Committee) will be available to do voter registrations, mail-in ballot requests, check status, and receive a voter pledge card with an issue checklist. Refreshments provided.

◆ 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. *Our beautiful arrangements are provided by Bloom Brigade ([www.bloombrigade.com](http://www.bloombrigade.com)).*

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP—WORLD COMMUNION

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.  
*Oct 6* — Pastoral Candidate preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.  
*Oct 6* — Pastoral Candidate 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 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.

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 Jen King for more info on future classes ([JenK@coh.net](mailto:JenK@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

### Congregational Meeting

There will be a special *Congregational Meeting* today after the 11 am service 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.

### Church Tour

All are welcome to join guide Tom Morton for a tour of the stained glass after today's *Congregational Meeting*. Please gather at the Highland Lobby to participate.

### Voter Event / Social Hour

Join us in the Fellowship Room after today's *Congregational Meeting* when members of the ad hoc *Voting Team* (under the Justice Committee) will be available to do voter registrations, mail-in ballot requests, check status, and receive a voter pledge card with an issue checklist. This event will be a *Social Hour* too, so come enjoy food and conversation.

### Art Show on Display: Abolitionist Expressions

ELPC's Justice and Worship, Music & Arts Committees invite you to attend an art show that runs through Oct 20 in the Highland and Trustees Rooms, featuring paintings, collages, and other artwork created by people who are or have been incarcerated. Artwork can be viewed on Sundays from Noon-2 pm, and Wednesdays from 5:30-7 pm.

### Cathedral Concert: Back to Broadway

Our new season of Cathedral Concerts kicks off at 3 pm today 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.

### 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 Nate Stephens. He is seated in the East Transept (Highland Ave entrance).



### PW Bible Study — Oct 1 and 7

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study *Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters* on Tuesday, Oct 1 from 10 am–Noon (hybrid), and Monday, Oct 7 from 7–8:30 pm (Zoom). There will be a potluck lunch after Tuesday's Bible Study; please bring a dish to share (beverages will be provided). Please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com for info.



## Meet our Pastoral Candidate!

*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.

Session has called a *Congregational Meeting* to vote on this candidate on Sunday, Oct 6 after the 11 am service. Members can participate on Zoom (Meeting ID: 824 2903 4526). Please note only members will be able to vote for the candidate. Every ELPC member participating on Zoom will need to be on an individual computer to vote.



### 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. 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](https://tiny.cc/yoga-retreat). Contact Yamuna for details ([domorgens@gmail.com](mailto:domorgens@gmail.com)).

### Interested in Hosting Pilgrims? — Oct 5-10 and Oct 10-15

We are looking for people interested in hosting our guests from Malawi. There are two hosting periods planned: Saturday, Oct 5–Thursday, Oct 10, and Thursday, Oct 10–Tuesday, Oct 15 (when the pilgrims depart). To help, contact Eddie Willson ([willson.eddie@gmail.com](mailto:willson.eddie@gmail.com)) or Kay Shissler ([kshissler@juno.com](mailto:kshissler@juno.com)).

### Open Gym with Coffee & Donuts — Oct 6

Parents and kids are welcome to hang out, drink coffee or juice, eat a donut, and play in the ELPC Gym on the first Sunday of every month from 9:45–10:45 am. The next gathering will be on Sunday, Oct 6.



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

Gloria Barber, Sharon Hardnet, Amiyah McCorvey and Larry White.

Condolences to Linda Addlespurger and family on her husband's passing.

Condolences to Kirsten Downing and family on her mother's passing (Melinda Hoppe Young).

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### Committee Meetings This Week

Faith Formation ..... Tuesday, Oct 1 @ 6:00 pm  
Property..... Tuesday, Oct 1 @ 7:00 pm

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

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The Peace and Global Witness Offering Received – Oct 6  
Every year on *World Communion Sunday*, (Oct 6 this year) ELPC joins congregations across the globe to celebrate the sacrament of **The Lord's Supper** and joins Presbyterian churches to receive the *Peace and Global Witness Offering*.

Young Adult Ministry: Jam with the YAMs! – Oct 13  
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 from Noon-1 pm in the Harambe Room (Oct 13 is not the third Sunday, but will be the next gathering because of a scheduling conflict). Contact Sara (SaraH@coh.net).

LGBTQIA+ Ministry – Oct 13  
You are invited to attend our LGBTQIA+ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering on Sunday, Oct 13 at 12:30 pm. 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).

Full Inclusion Sunday with RCC – Oct 13  
On Sunday, Oct 13, ELPC will celebrate *Full Inclusion Sunday* at our 11 am service, with our Artists-in-Residence, RCC, joining our Chancel Choir. The Renaissance City Choir (RCC) affirms and celebrates LGBTQIA+ identity through the unifying power of music. RCC is western Pennsylvania's only LGBTQIA+ and allies choral group and affirms, by example and through song, the worth and dignity of those in our community. The RCC rehearses and performs at ELPC and wants to thank the leadership and members of ELPC for providing a safe space and artistic home. *RCC's Holiday Concert will be here on Saturday, Dec 7.*

Gatherings for Kids – Wednesdays and Thursdays

- 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, and dinner.
- 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.

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

World Mission Initiative Conference and W. Don McClure Lecture – Oct 11 and 12  
Join Pittsburgh Theological Seminary for the *WMI Conference and W. Don McClure Lecture* on the theme *Mission in the Margins: Lessons and Practices from the Global Church* on Friday and Saturday, Oct 11-12. Dr. Harvey Kwiyani, mission scholar and practitioner, will be the keynote speaker. The conference will include workshops and a panel discussion. For registration and information, visit [www.pts.edu/WMI-conference-2024](http://www.pts.edu/WMI-conference-2024). Presbyterian Women in ELPC is a sponsor of this conference.

Revolutionary Love Tour with Valrie Kaur – Oct 15  
In the thick of a divisive election season, join visionary civil rights leader Valarie Kaur in an immersive experience of storytelling, music, song, ancestral wisdom, and community-building on Tuesday, Oct 15 from 6-9 pm at 1Hood Media (460 Melwood Ave, Suite 207, 15213).

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you into a space for soulful introspection, deep listening, and courageous action. Each stop uplifts local leaders, artists, and advocates who catalyze hope. You will leave with the tools needed to lead with love and courage in your daily life. This event is free, but please reserve your tickets online at [tiny.cc/revolutionary-love-tour](http://tiny.cc/revolutionary-love-tour), or scan this QR code.



Amen to Action Event – Nov 2  
Join with neighbors from local congregations and nonprofits to pack 100,000 meals for the Pittsburgh Community Food Bank during *Amen to Action* at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary on Saturday, Nov 2 from 8 am-Noon. If you want to participate with ELPC's Neighbors Committee, sign up at [www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CADAA2EAAFCCF8-50490811-amen#/](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CADAA2EAAFCCF8-50490811-amen#/). You can also donate at [www.pts.edu/Amen-to-Action](http://www.pts.edu/Amen-to-Action). School aged children can participate with adult family members. Email [rforloines@gmail.com](mailto:rforloines@gmail.com) with questions.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

### Oct 6 ♦ 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) – “American Guns are Fueling Mexico's Supply of Illegal Drugs to the U.S.” video by Mariana van Zeller, facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm+Zoom) – A discussion of chapters 5 and 6 of *Always a Guest* by Barbara Brown Taylor, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members