



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)

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 20, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

People who have really met the Holy are always humble... People who’ve had any genuine spiritual experience always know they don’t know. They are utterly humbled before mystery. They are in awe before the abyss of it all, in wonder at eternity and depth, and a Love, which is incomprehensible to the mind. — Richard Rohr

MUSIC MINISTRY

“Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works”

Emma Lou Diemer

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

“Jubilant Procession”

G.F. Handel/Mark Ardrey-Graves

ELPC Ringers

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

East Liberty Presbyterian Church occupies the ancestral, traditional and contemporary lands of the Shawandasse Tula, Osage and Monongahela Culture and peoples. In offering this land acknowledgement, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty, history and experiences.

* 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

Elizabeth Hopkins

Leader: The Spirit of God be with you.

People: And also with you. Come, let us worship the Creator with hearts open to all peoples, where pride and prejudice once dwelt;

Leader: Let us worship the Creator with minds open to the wisdom of Native peoples, where listening and respect once had no place.

People: Let us honor the One who freely gives by showing honor to those who were once and still remain oppressed.

Leader: Let us worship the God of diversity, who made the world in colors, in seasons, in endless variety; who created the diversity of the earth’s peoples in God’s image.

People: We were created to honor one another and in so doing, we honor the Creator. Let us **honor the Creator today, by reflecting in our worship and in life, the Creator’s image** of love. Amen.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #21 (repeat verse 1 after verse 2)

LACQUIPARLE

“Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Works”

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

Oct 20 • 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Elizabeth Hopkins

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Elizabeth Hopkins

O Great Spirit, God of every people and every tribe, we come to you as your many children, to ask for your forgiveness and guidance. Forgive us for the colonialism that stains our past, the **ignorance that allowed us to think that we could claim another's home for our own. Heal us of** this history. Remind us that none of us were discovered since none of us were lost, but that we are all gathered within the sacred circle of your community. Guide us through your wisdom to restore the truth of our heritage. Help us to confront the racism that divides us as we confess the pain it has caused to the human family. Call us to kinship. Mend the hoop of our hearts and let us live in justice and peace, through Jesus Christ, the One who came that all people might live in dignity.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Elizabeth Hopkins

Leader: Creator, you bent the earth like a bow until it was one round, shining planet. At your word the land was drawn into mountains and deserts, forests and plains; the waters were gathered together into rivers, lakes and seas. Many times, when people crossed these seas from other lands, they broke the circle of your creation by their greed and violence, and they shattered the lives of others. Creator, renew the circle of the earth, and turn the hearts of all people to one another; that they and all the earth may live and be drawn toward you, through the power of your Son, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, in the circle of the Trinity, forever One. Friends, this is the good news of the Gospel; receive its power of renewal and invitation to repair.

People: En Jesucristo somos restaurados,
reconciliados y reparados.
¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are restored,
reconciled and repaired.
Praise God!

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN (*sing 3x; see insert*)

GUATEMALAN FOLK MELODY

“The Peace of the Earth”

HANDBELL ANTHEM

“Chimings of Great Joy”

Dan R. Edwards

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 53:4-12

OT page 901
Jason Van Ness

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

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 #642

“Heleluyan, We Are Singing”

HELELUYAN

SCRIPTURE LESSON (*Inclusive Bible version*)

Mark 10:32-45

NT page 65
The Rev. Woodworth

SERMON

“It Can't Be Like That With You!”

The Rev. Woodworth

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

Nez Perce version, written by Hattie Corbett Enos, Nez Perce Elder:

Oh, Great Spirit, You are our Shepherd Chief,
In the most high place whose home is everywhere, even beyond the stars and moon.
Whatever You want done, let it be done everywhere. Give us Your gift of bread day by day.
Forgive our wrongs as we forgive those who wrong us. Take us away from wrong doings.
Free us from all evil, for everything belongs to You. Let your power and glory shine forever.
Amen.

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

“Ain’t Got Time to Die”

Hall Johnson

Lord, I keep so busy praising my Jesus, ain't got time to die.

'Cause when I'm healing the sick I'm praising my Jesus, ain't got time to die.

Refrain: *'Cause it takes all of my time to praise my Jesus, all of my time to praise my Lord.*

If I don't praise Him the rocks gonna cry out: "Glory and honor, glory and honor!" Ain't got time to die.

Lord, I keep so busy working for the kingdom, ain't got time to die.

'Cause when I'm feeding the poor I'm working for the kingdom, ain't got time to die. (Refrain)

Lord, I keep so busy serving my Master, ain't got time to die.

'Cause when I'm giving my all, I'm serving my Master, ain't got time to die. (Refrain)

Now won't you get out of my way, let me praise my Jesus, get out of my way, let me praise my Lord.

If I don't praise Him the rocks gonna cry out: "Glory and honor, glory and honor!" Ain't got time to die.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all creatures here below.

Praise Holy Spirit evermore. Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

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 generous providing, you have given us so many gifts that enrich our lives: the scriptures, the church communities of faith, the Advocate Holy Spirit, the Savior Jesus Christ. Use these offerings, we pray, in service of the justice you are establishing so no one may struggle or want or ever be afraid again. In Christ's name we pray.

People: Amén!

Amen!

* RECESSIONAL HYMN #441

“Hear the Good News of Salvation”

NETTLETON

* CHARGE & BLESSING

The Rev. Woodworth

POSTLUDE

“Toccata Pontificale”

Gordon Young

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.

The liturgy today has been adapted from liturgy prepared by the Church of the Apostles, a mission of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia.

◆ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Liturgists: The Rev. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Sara Hackett
Elizabeth Hopkins
Jason Van Ness
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him),
Organist / Music Director
ELPC Chancel Choir
Judd Poeske, *Soloist*
ELPC Ringers
Beadle: Laura Ristau
Crucifer: Jan Herzer
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ 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 per Sunday.

◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and water are available in the Balaka Room.

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.
Oct 27 — The Rev. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy preaching.
11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.
Oct 27 — The Rev. Dr. 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 on Mondays

Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead a time on Zoom of 30 minutes of communal silence and guided meditation on scripture.

Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am

Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 • Passcode: bestill

Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Group

Join Steve Evrard on Zoom for a time of scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue.

Tuesdays, 8 to 8:30 am

Meeting ID: 896 9680 6662 • Passcode: 116
or you may call in by dialing 929.205.6099

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* TODAY after the 11 am service to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please see one of the pastors to attend, or contact Jen King for info on future classes (JenK@coh.net).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.

TODAY AT ELPC

Inquirers Class

Attend an **Inquirers' Class** after today's 11 am service in the Fellowship Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Contact Jen King for info about future classes (JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

Connections Group Potluck Lunch

The *Connections Group* will be hosting a potluck lunch at 12:15 pm in the Good Samaritan Room. The lunch is open to everyone at ELPC.

Church Tour

A tour of the *Sanctuary and Chapel* will be held today. If you would like to participate, please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 11 am worship service.

Youth Ministry Corn Maze

Following the 11 am service, youth in grades 7–12 are heading to Gearhead Farms in Murrysville for a *Corn Maze and Hayride!* The cost is \$20 to cover the maze and lunch. Scholarships are available. We will return to ELPC at 5:30 pm. Please see Sara Hackett to attend.

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 Dana Carl.

The *Sanctuary service* DOD is Peta Harrigan Cole. She is seated in the East Transept (Highland Ave entrance).



Church Tour — Oct 27

A tour of the *Tower* will be offered on Sunday, Oct 27 after the 11 am service. If you would like to participate, please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 11 am worship service. Please wear closed-toe, comfortable shoes for this tour.

Special Reception Celebrating Hope Academy — Oct 27

Join us following the 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Sunday, Oct 27 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Hope Academy and the long-time leadership and accomplishments of Director Linda Addlespurger. Come to the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms to celebrate and enjoy light refreshments.



Youth Ministry Pumpkin Carving — Oct 27

Youth in grades 4–12 are eating lunch and *Carving Pumpkins* from 12:30–2 pm on Sunday, Oct 27. Friends are welcome! RSVP to Sara (SaraH@coh.net).

Remembrance of Those Who Have Passed Away — Nov 3

As part of our *All Saints' Day* service at the 11 am service on Sunday, Nov 3, we will remember those in our congregation and larger church family who have passed away since November 2023. Send the names and passing dates of extended friends and family to Norma in the church office (412.441.3800 x211) by Monday, Oct 28.

PW Bible Study — Nov 4 and 5

Presbyterian Women's 2024-2025 Bible Study *Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters: Food Justice* will meet on Monday, Nov 4 from 7–8:30 pm (on Zoom), and on Tuesday, Nov 5 from 10 am–Noon (hybrid). There will be a potluck lunch after **Tuesday's Bible Study**. **Please bring a dish to share with the group** if you are able; beverages will be provided. For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Volunteer for Fall Clean-Up at ELPC — Nov 9

If you would like to help clean up the church grounds for the fall season, please join Don Breitbarth on Saturday, Nov 9 from 9 am—Noon. Work will include removing the annual flowers in the courtyard and at S Highland Ave, planting spring tulip bulbs, and some miscellaneous cleanup in the rain garden. Gloves, garden tools, and donuts provided! Please contact Don for more info (don.breitbarth@gmail.com).



Stewardship Sunday Food Drive — Nov 17

The Neighbors Committee invites you to participate in a special food drive to help stock the shelves of East End Cooperative Ministries' food pantry with healthy, non-perishable foods to distribute to those in our community who are in need. On *Stewardship Sunday*, Nov 17, please bring your food donations (along with your stewardship pledge cards) to worship. You can also drop off your donations in the Highland Lobby prior to Nov 17.

Here is a list of suggested items: *brown rice, whole grain pastas, instant potatoes, boxed mac and cheese, low-sodium soups and broth, low-sugar canned fruits and vegetables, canned tomato paste and sauce, canned tuna, high-fiber breakfast cereals, pancake mix and syrup, brownie mix, peanut butter, jelly, baking soda, bags of dried beans and unsalted nuts and seeds.*



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

Gloria Barber, John Belechak,
Doris Dick's sister-in-law, John Belechak,
Mary Alice Lightle, Amiyah McCorvey,
Gloria Ritchey's granddaughter, and Larry White.

Committee Meetings This Week

CYF Tuesday, Oct 22 @ 6:00 pm
Justice..... Wednesday, Oct 23 @ 5:30 pm
Neighbors..... Wednesday, Oct 23 @ 6:00 pm
Peace..... Thursday, Oct 24 @ 5:30 pm

Liturgists Invited

Would you like to serve as a liturgist for the Journey and Sanctuary worship services? If you want to participate — reading the Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, scripture lessons, etc. — please contact Norma (412.441.3800 x211; Norma@coh.net) so you can be added to the pool. We are happy to make accessibility accommodations at your request to ensure that this opportunity is open to all.

Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Group

ELPC offers an online prayer group each Tuesday morning from 8-8:30 am, hosted by ELPC member Steve Evrard. These 20-minute sessions feature scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue. All are welcome at this opportunity for fellowship and prayer. The Zoom Meeting ID is 896 9680 6662 (passcode is 116), or you may call in by dialing 929.205.6099.

Members Looking for House to Rent

ELPC members Don Hall and Brenda Johnson are being evicted from their rented home of 15½ years. If anyone in our faith family knows of a home Don and Brenda could rent that is close to a bus line with a fenced-in backyard, please contact them (Don at 412.273.0461; Brenda at 412.362.6040).

ELPC is proud to be a PC (USA) Matthew 25 and Earth Care Congregation!

Donations for Chapel Market

The Chapel Market is in need of winter clothing and full-sized toiletries items (soap, body wash, toothpaste, toilet paper, toothbrushes, lotion etc.) Donations can be left at the Highland Lobby, or dropped off at the Chapel Market when open (on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 5–7 pm, or Thursdays from 10 am–12 pm).

If you would like to volunteer in the Chapel Market, please contact anyone on the Neighbors Committee or Gerald McClendon (GeraldM@coh.net).

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Free Health Clinic — Nov 1 and 2

Mission of Mercy is offering free dental (no dentures or implants), hearing (free hearing aids) and vision (free glasses) health services at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center (downtown) on Friday, Nov 1 and Saturday, Nov 2 for everyone over 2 years old. Doors open at 6 am, and the clinic begins at 7 am. Patients will be seen on a first-come basis. Visit www.mompgh.org for info.

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 online at: <http://Tiny.cc/amen-to-action>. You can also donate at www.pts.edu/Amen-to-Action. School aged children can participate with adult family members. Please contact Bob Forloines for more info (rforloines@gmail.com).

A Day with Cole Arthur Riley — Nov 2

Cole is the creator of *Black Liturgies* and author of *This Here Flesh*. She is a native of Pittsburgh and will be offering her wisdom and sharing from her liturgies at Sixth Presbyterian Church (1688 Murray Ave, 15217) on Saturday, Nov 2 from 9 am—2 pm. The cost is \$20 per person. Cole will be speaking on *Dignity, Justice, Lament, and Solidarity*. Register at www.jotform.com/form/242466134554053.

Roll to the Polls — Nov 5

The *Black Political Empowerment Project* is offering rides to the election polls on Tuesday, Nov 5 for the following areas: Bloomfield, Braddock, East Hills, East Liberty, Garfield, Hill District, Homewood, Manchester, McKeesport, Northside, Southside and Wilksburg. If you need a ride to go to your designated election poll to vote, please call 412.212.8775, or email b-pepinfo@b-pep.net.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Oct 27 ♦ 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) — “Christian Nationalism (Part 2 of 3)” by Daniel Aleshire, facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm+Zoom) — A discussion of chapters 11 and 12 of *Always a Guest* by Barbara Brown Taylor, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members