



# 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)*

## REFORMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 27, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

Art is a reflection of God’s creativity, an evidence that we are made in the image of God.

— Francis Schaeffer, Presbyterian Pastor and Theologian

### MUSIC MINISTRY

“Selections for Bagpipes”  
“French Folk Song”

Palmer Shonk, *bagpiper*  
Anonymous  
arr. Nordstrom and Farrar  
Beth Goldstein McKee and Hope Academy Students

### WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION & PRESENTATION

25th Anniversary of Hope Academy of Music & the Arts  
Celebration of Linda Addlespurger, Director

### \* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.  
People: Y también contigo.

The Rev. Dr. Fowler-Searcy  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

### CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 124:8; Psalm 46*)

The Rev. Dr. Henk and Michele Bossers

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

People: Amen.

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.

Leader: Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

People: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

Leader: “Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.”

People: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Leader: Let us worship the living and creative God!

People: Hallelujah and Amen!!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #22

“God of the Sparrow”

ROEDER

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

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## Oct 27 • Reformation Sunday

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Henk and Michele Bossers

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(a prayer by Martin Luther)*

The Rev. Henk and Michele Bossers

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.

O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore, I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS *(a prayer by John Calvin)*

The Rev. Dr. Henk and Michele Bossers

Leader: Let us never forget you, O Lord, nor your goodness. Let the remembrance of your mercy be always engraved on our minds. Friends, believe the Good News of the gospel.

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

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
Praise God!

RESPONSE

**“Meditation on Breathing”**

Sarah Dan Jones

*Sung 3 times – first time by Hope Academy musicians; congregation joins on second and third*

Breathe in, breath out. Breathe in, breath out.

When I breathe in, I breathe in peace. When I breathe out, I breathe out love.

When I breathe in, I breathe in peace. When I breathe out, I breathe out love.

SCRIPTURE READING *(Inclusive Bible)*

Genesis 1:1-13

OT page 5

The Rev. Dr. Henk and Michele Bossers

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.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

**“I Shall Not Walk Alone”**

Blind Boys of Alabama

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Dr. Fowler-Searcy

SCRIPTURE READING *(Inclusive Bible)*

Genesis 1:14-27

OT page 5

The Rev. Dr. Fowler-Searcy

SERMON

**“In the Beginning, God Created!”**

The Rev. Dr. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

*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.*

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Oct 27 • Reformation Sunday

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

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE FOR MISSION

Barbara Griffin

OFFERING INVITATION

Barbara Griffin

*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

“Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace”

Philip WJ Stopford

text: The Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

*Today's anthem has been donated to the ELPC Choir library in memory of Richard C. Depperman, loving husband of member Carla D. Depperman. Richard greatly appreciated the music of our choir.*

\* 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. 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, creator of the universe, we offer these gifts to you for the glory of your kingdom, in the name of God, Father and Mother, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: Amén!

Amen!

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN #275

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

EIN’ FESTE BURG

\* RECESSIONAL

“Highland Cathedral”

arr. James Wetherald

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

Palmer Shonk, *bagpiper*

*Please remain standing until the bagpiper has recessed down the center aisle and then be seated for the postlude.*

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Fowler-Searcy

POSTLUDE

“Fly”

Zo Zielinski

Hope Academy Teaching Artists

## Oct 27 • Reformation Sunday

*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. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy  
Liturgists: The Rev. BJ Woodworth  
The Rev. Dr. Henk & Michele Bossers  
Barbara Griffin  
Sara Hackett  
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him),  
*Organist / Music Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
Ryan Croyle, *Organist*  
Palmer Shonk, *Bagpiper*  
Hope Academy Teaching Artists  
Hope Academy Students  
Anqwenique Kinsel  
Beth Goldstein McKee  
Zo Zielinski  
Beadle: Liz Hopkins  
Crucifer: Erich Stein  
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 (\$250), please contact Norma (412.441.3800 x211).

### ◆ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Join us in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Hope Academy of Music and the Arts, and also the long-time leadership and accomplishments of Director Linda Addlespurger.

### ◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.  
*Nov 3* — The Rev. BJ Woodworth preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.  
*Nov 3* — 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 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* 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](http://www.ELPC.church).

## TODAY AT ELPC

Special Reception Celebrating Hope Academy and Director Linda Addlespurger

Today in worship we celebrate the 25th anniversary of Hope Academy of Music and the Arts, and the long-time leadership and accomplishments of Director Linda Addlespurger. Also, join us in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms to celebrate and enjoy light refreshments after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service.



Youth Ministry Pumpkin Carving

Tweens in grades 4–6 are eating lunch and carving pumpkins from 12:30–2 pm. Friends are welcome! Please see Sara Hackett to attend (SaraH@coh.net).

Church Tour

A tour of the *Tower* will be offered today by guides Steve Evrard and Tim VanFleet. To participate, please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 11 am worship service. Please wear closed-toe, comfortable shoes for this tour.

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



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.*

Thank Offering Received — Nov 24

During this Thanksgiving season, you are invited to make a special gift to the PW *Thank Offering* as an expression of gratitude for your blessings. The *Thank Offering* provides seed money for projects that address health, education and economic development needs in the U.S. and internationally.

The *Thank Offering* will be received on Sunday, Nov 24. Please make your checks payable to "Presbyterian Women" and write *Thank Offering* in the memo line. For more info, contact PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

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.



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,  
Mary Alice Lightle, Amiyah McCorvey,  
Gloria Ritchey and her granddaughter.

Condolences to Ebony Moorefield on her husband's passing.

Condolences to Herma Stewart and family  
on her sister's passing.

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No Committee Meetings This Week

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#### Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Group

ELPC offers an online prayer group each Tuesday morning from 8-8:30 am, hosted by ELPC member Steve Evrad. 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).

#### 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.

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 (**especially men's**) 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:b-pepinfo@b-pep.net).

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

### Nov 3 ♦ 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 3 of 3)” by Daniel Aleshire, facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm+Zoom) — A discussion of chapters 13 and 14 of *Always a Guest* by Barbara Brown Taylor, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members