



# 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-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 10, 2024 — 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

You have been chosen, you are sound and whole, you are like the very first beat of the heart, you are the bow that shoots the arrows, and also their target ... in tears your smile would glow forever. Do not be afraid to suffer, give the heaviness back to the weight of the earth; mountains are heavy, seas are heavy. Even those trees you planted as children became too heavy long ago — you couldn't carry them now. But you can carry the winds ... and the open spaces ...

— Rainer Maria Rilke

### MUSIC MINISTRY

“Adagio in E”

Frank Bridge  
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

### 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 *(adapted from the PCUSA’s Brief Statement of Faith)*

Coleman and Linda Lane

Leader: As we gather in worship this day, let us all remember that in a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to continue.

People: Therefore, let us pray without ceasing and witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior.

Leader: Let us continue to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

People: In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily **tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch and wait for God’s new heaven and new earth.**

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #821

“My Life Flows On”

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Coleman and Linda Lane

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

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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Coleman and Linda Lane

God, we confess that we have placed too much of our faith, hope and love in things that are unpredictable, unreliable and unstable. We have allowed thoughts that are hateful, harmful and not healing to dominate our minds. We have said things we regret and wish we could have back. We have acted in ways that were mean, uncaring and even vengeful. We have not loved our enemies. We have allowed our fear and anguish to immobilize us in despair. Help us come back to you and find ourselves again. Return unto us the joy of our salvation, and the hope of your abiding presence that we might reengage our lives, one another and this world with kindness, mercy, love and hope.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Coleman and Linda Lane

Leader: Friends, God is our Beloved, a Loving Presence in times of trouble. God is merciful and gracious, quelling our anger with patient love. As far as the heavens are high above the earth, **so great is God's loving response to us. God sees our weaknesses with compassion. Friends,** this is the good news of the Gospel; receive its power of renewal and invitation to repair.

People: En Jesucristo somos restaurados,                      In Jesus Christ, we are restored,  
reconciliados y reparados.                                      reconciled and repaired.  
¡Alaben a Dios!    Praise God!

RESPONSE #90 (*sing 3x*)

“Wait for the Lord”

WAIT FOR THE LORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 46

OT page 696  
Coleman and Linda Lane

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

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

- *Children age 4-6th grade will go to Sunday School: Sacred Stories. Parents will pick up their kids after worship (age 4-3rd grade in Room 206; grades 4-6 in Room 207).*
- *Children age 3 and younger can play, sing songs and hear stories in the nursery from 8:30 am-12:30 pm.*

\* HYMN #775

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

WALK WITH ME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Woodworth

SCRIPTURE READING

Lamentations 3:24-29, 32

OT page 1009  
The Rev. Woodworth

SERMON

“Grieve, Breathe, Push”

The Rev. Woodworth

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. 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.*

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE FOR MISSION

Katie Haas-Conrad

OFFERING INVITATION

Katie Haas-Conrad

*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 E LPC. A donation box is also available in the Sanctuary.*



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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM      “We Shall Walk Through the Valley In Peace”      arr. Moses Hogan

*We shall walk through the valley in peace.  
 We shall walk through the valley in peace.  
 For Jesus himself will be our leader.  
 We shall walk through the valley in peace.*

*We will meet our loved ones there.  
 We will meet our loved ones there.*

*For Jesus...  
 There will be no trials there.  
 There will be no trials there.  
 For Jesus...*

\* 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. 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 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: O God, you give us life; you are the source of every blessing. These offerings are but a token of our gratitude to you. Use them, and us, to work your will in this world you love, and let all we say and do be to your glory. In Jesus' name we pray.  
 People: Amén!      Amen!

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN #39      “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”      FAITHFULNESS

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION      The Rev. Woodworth

POSTLUDE      “Carillon-Sortie”      Henri Mulet  
 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. BJ Woodworth  
Liturgists: Katie Haas-Conrad  
Sara Hackett  
Coleman and Linda Lane  
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him),  
*Organist / Music Director*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
Beadle: Liz Hopkins  
Crucifer: Mario Seneca  
Sound: Tim Benedict  
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 Room after the 11 am service for a time of fellowship, hosted by the Membership and Outreach Committee and the Stewardship and Finance Teams. Learn how your contributions support the **church's ministries throughout the year**. Enjoy some good food, warm drinks, and lively conversation!

◆ SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am.....Journey Worship. An interactive, energetic service for those seeking a fresh encounter with the gospel of Jesus Christ.  
*Nov 17* — The Rev. James Tinnemeyer preaching.

11 am.....Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.  
*Nov 17* — The Rev. James Tinnemeyer 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

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

### Social Hour

Join us in the Fellowship Room after the 11 am service for a time of fellowship, hosted by the Membership and Outreach Committee and the Stewardship and Finance Teams. Learn how your contributions support the church's ministries throughout the year. Enjoy some good food, warm drinks, and lively conversation!

### Church Tour

A tour of the *Sanctuary and Chapel* will be offered by guide Jo Ellen Aleshire today. To participate, please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 11 am worship service.

### Family Art Event

Families with children and teens are invited to stay after Sanctuary worship for a fun family art event in the Harambe Room.

### 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 Tom Sturgill.

The *Sanctuary service* DOD is Linda Sanders. She is seated in the East Transept (Highland Ave entrance).



### 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.*

### Young Adult Ministry — Nov 17

Are you 18–40? Do you love bagels? Then join us for *Jam with the YAMs* (Young Adult Ministry) on Sunday, Nov 17 after the 11 am service. We gather on the third Sunday of each month in the Harambe Room for bagels, coffee, and fellowship. Contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

### Giving Tree — Select Gifts from Nov 17 to Dec 8

The annual *Giving Tree* will be available soon. Gifts can be chosen online at [tiny.cc/elpc-giving-tree](http://tiny.cc/elpc-giving-tree). Deacons will be available to help after worship on Sundays, Nov 17 and 24, Dec 1 and 8.

### LGBTQIA+ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering — Nov 17

You are invited to attend the LGBTQIA+ Ministry's spiritual gathering on Sunday, Nov 17 after the 11 am worship service. Join us to share lunch and conversation. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike welcome! Contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

### Tween Bowling Night — Nov 22

Tweens in grades 4–6 are invited to an evening of pizza and bowling at ELPC on Friday, Nov 22 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Friends are welcome. RSVP to Sara (SaraH@coh.net).

### Fall Pie Festival — Nov 24

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to the third annual *Fall Pie Festival* following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Nov 24 in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms. Bring your favorite fall pie (or cake or cookies) to share! Whipped cream and drinks will be provided. Let us **know what you'd like to bring**. Look for sign-up sheets at the church soon or call Norma (412.441.3800 x211).

### Volunteers Needed to Decorate Sanctuary — Nov 24

ELPC is seeking volunteers to decorate our Sanctuary following 11 am worship on Sunday, Nov 24 from Noon-2:30 pm. Single persons, families, couples are all welcome. Children and youth under 12 years old must be supervised by their parent/guardian. Grab some pie after worship, then come to the Sanctuary to help decorate!

### Thank Offering Received — Nov 24

During this Thanksgiving season, you are invited to make a special gift to the PW *Thank Offering*. 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.

### Christmas in East Liberty — Dec 13

Cathedral Concerts return with *Christmas in East Liberty* on Friday, Dec 13 at 7:30 pm. This highly anticipated concert is an East Liberty tradition and will feature holiday favorites. Join us live in the Sanctuary or online on YouTube or Facebook. The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be accepted. Contact Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net).



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

Gloria Barber, John Belechak,  
**Martha DeMarzi's friend Jim,**  
**Doris Dick's sister-in-law,** Kathy Kiewra,  
 Mary Alice Lightle, Amiyah McCorvey,  
 Gloria Ritchey and her granddaughter,  
 and Paul Seif and his family.

*Condolences to Doris Dick on her cousin's husband's passing.*

### Committee Meetings This Week

*The church staff will be off tomorrow in observance of Veterans' Day.*

Property..... Today @ Noon  
 Finance..... Tuesday, Nov 12 @ 5:30 pm  
 YAYA..... Tuesday, Nov 12 @ 6:00 pm  
 Deacons..... Tuesday, Nov 12 @ 7:00 pm  
 Worship, Music & Arts..... Tuesday, Nov 12 @ 7:30 pm  
 Mission Board..... Thursday, Nov 14 @ 5:30 pm

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

Book Donation by ELPC Member Michael Hellman  
*A Journey of Acceptance* is now available to borrow from the ELPC Library (in the Garth Overlook Room). It is a living memoir written by local ELPC member Michael Hellman.

We all have a story to tell. *A Journey of Acceptance* lays the foundation for telling his story honestly and sharing challenging times in life when *some days are best forgotten*. Sharing his journey is a compelling way to make a difference. It begins with a serious diagnosis portrayed as, "... put your life in order, and you'll be dead in 18 to 24 months."

ELPC Officer Nominations for 2025 – Due Dec 1  
 The congregation is invited to nominate members of ELPC for the office of Elder, Deacon, and next year's Nominating Committee (ONC). The ONC will prayerfully consider all recommendations submitted by the congregation as they prepare a slate for terms starting in 2025. Guidelines and nomination forms are available in the church mailroom and on the church website. Complete the form online by scanning this QR code.



## 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).


## IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Connect Protect Recover Campaign Event – Nov 12**  
 The *Connect Protect Recover Campaign* was launched in June as part of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services' commitment to addressing disparities in substance use disorders (SUD), including overdose deaths, in low-income communities of color throughout the county. A campaign event will be held at UPMC Health Plan, Neighborhood Center (6401 Penn Ave, The Village of Eastside) on Tuesday, Nov 12 from 6-8 pm. This event will provide info, support and resources to families and caregivers, including free Narcan kits and training, self-care gifts and other giveaways.

**Special Affordable Homeownership Opportunity**  
 Open Hand Ministries announces the upcoming availability of the cottage at 428 Ardary Str in Garfield. This small craftsman style home has been remodeled from its new roof to its hardwood floors. Actually, this was a total gut renovation which means that everything in the house is new, including the electrical, heating and air conditioning, and plumbing systems. This three bedroom home may be perfect for your family. If you want more info about the home and also about your eligibility for affordable homeownership, contact Wayne Younger, Executive Director of Open Hand Ministries (office@openhandpittsburgh.org; 412.924.1409).

### BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The ELPC Board of Deacons invites you to the *Blue Christmas* service on Friday, Dec 6 at 7 pm in the Chapel. The service is designed as a source of strength during what is a difficult season for many.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

**Nov 17 ♦ 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) – "Gerald McClendon on His Work as Mission Coordinator of ELPC," facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food (Good Samaritan Rm+Zoom) – A discussion of chapters 17 and 18 of *Always a Guest* by Barbara Brown Taylor, led by The Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members