



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)

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 6, 2025 — 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

The point of the Christian life is not to distinguish oneself from the ungodly, but to stand in radical solidarity with everyone and everything else. This is the full, final, and intended effect of the Incarnation – symbolized by its finality in the cross, which is God’s great act of solidarity...

— Richard Rohr

GATHERING HYMNS

#175

“Seek Ye First”

LAFFERTY

#331

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

NATIONAL HYMN

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

Rev. BJ Woodworth

Everyone in worship today is encouraged to please sign your name in the red Friendship Books that are in each pew. Doing so will help ELPC maintain a pastoral connection with all who worship with us. Thank you!

* SHARING GOD’S PEACE

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

Bill Johnson

Leader: Sing praises to our Lord:

People: **Who heals us and makes us whole.**

Leader: Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God:

People: **Whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.**

Leader: Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God; give thanks to God’s holy name:

People: **The reign of God is near to us; God’s peace resides in our hearts.**

* OPENING HYMN #298

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

ABBOT’S LEIGH

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

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

- *Children age 4-3rd grade will go to Sunday School: Sacred Stories. Parents will pick up their kids after worship in Room 205.*
- *Tweens are encouraged to stay in summer worship.*
- *Children age 3 and younger can play, sing songs and hear stories in the nursery during worship.*

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

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CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Joe Hajdu

Leader: When we walk from darkness into the light, we can see ourselves as we really are. We see the spots, blemishes and cracks more clearly, and realize that we need God's healing and redemption. So let us come and confess our brokenness to God and wade into the river of the Healer's mercy.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Hajdu

God, we confess that we have often isolated and insulated ourselves from the world and those we deem outside of your loving embrace. We have ignored your invitation to make peace and have chosen to pronounce judgment and criticism rather than harmony and welcome. We have sought power and control rather than the way of loving vulnerability and dependence on others. Restore us to you and your way; awaken us to your goodness already present in our neighbors and the whole world, that we might more faithfully reflect your love and goodness.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Rev. Hajdu

Leader: Friends, receive the peace that made the world and is here right now. Receive the peace that Jesus pronounced and is the fruit of the Spirit. Receive and believe the good news of the Gospel:

People: **We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ Amen!**

HYMN OF RESPONSE (*sing 3x*)

"Give Peace"

Give peace to ev - ery heart. Give peace to ev - ery heart. Give peace, ———
 Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da pac -
 ——— Lord. Give peace, ——— Lord.
 - - - - - cem. Da pa - - - - - cem.

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SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 122 (*"Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill*)

Bill Johnson

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

* **HYMN #719**

"Come, Labor On"

ORA LABORA

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:1-11 (*Inclusive Bible*)

Rev. Hajdu

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"A Mutually Influencing Peace-filled Community"

Rev. Woodworth

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

OFFERING INVITATION

Thanks to everyone who has made a pledge for 2025. Your timely giving to fulfill your pledge helps us fulfill our mission to show God's unconditional love to all.

Please remember to write your name on your offering envelope.

You can also scan this QR code to give online or visit www.ELPC.church/donate.

Rev. Woodworth



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“The Majesty and Glory of Your Name”

Tom Fettle

text: Linda Lee Johnson, based on Psalm 8

* **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.

— **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Woodworth

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Woodworth, Rev. Hajdu

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*in the language or version closest to your heart*)

Rev. Woodworth, Rev. Hajdu

The Lord's Prayer can be found on pg. 35 (English), on pg. 40 (Español), or on pg. 45 (한국어) in the hymnal.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Rev. Woodworth, Rev. Hajdu

SHARING BREAD & CUP

Rev. Woodworth, Rev. Hajdu

The communion elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice. The congregation is invited to come forward by using the center aisle to the communion servers where each may receive the bread and the cup, then returning to their seats via the side aisles. Those seated in the East Transept (the section near the Highland Entrance) will be directed by an usher to the walkway between the front and back section and will file in behind those in the first row of the back section. Those not able to come forward will be served in their seats. Please raise your hand and/or make eye contact with the roaming Communion server.

COMMUNION HYMNS

#507

“Come to the Table of Grace”

TABLE OF GRACE

#511

“Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven”

LLANFAIR

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*in unison*)

Rev. Hajdu

Thank you for nourishing us and energizing us in this holy meal. Now send us out to be your people in the world. May we vulnerably embody and receive the mutually influencing peace of Christ, knowing the kingdom of God has come near. May we see ourselves and all people walking around, shining like the sun!

* **CLOSING HYMN #265**

“Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun”

DUKE STREET

* **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

Rev. Woodworth

Our full worship service is 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.

Assisted listening devices are available for our Sanctuary worship in the Ushers' Room. Please print your contact info and device number on the sign-out sheet if you need to use one.

Please silence all electronic devices before the service begins.

◆ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: Rev. BJ Woodworth (he/him)
Liturgists: Rev. Joe Hajdu
Sara Hackett (she/her)
Director of Christian Education
Bill Johnson
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him),
Director of Music and Arts
ELPC Summer Choir
Beadles: Polly McQueen
Mario Seneca
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines
Lenore Williams

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor flowers for our weekly worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, contact Norma (412.441.3800 x211). The cost is \$250.

◆ SUNDAY SUMMER WORSHIP

10 am.....**Summer Worship.** Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.

◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Taizé: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation

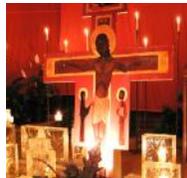
Chants and periods of meditative silence modeled after the Taizé community in France. Rev. BJ Woodworth leads this service in the Chapel.

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



Labyrinth Prayer Walk

A 35-foot floor mat with curved paths leading inward; an ancient tool for walking and seated meditation.

Wednesdays and Thursdays
10 am to 7 pm



◆ WEEKLY SPIRITUAL LIFE OFFERINGS

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 to 7 pm

Cathedral Yoga

Yamuna will lead yoga in-person in the Sanctuary.

Wednesdays
6 to 7 pm (*before Taizé*)

Journey Dance

Enjoy an evening of healthy, energizing, funky and divine dancing on the 3rd Friday of every month

3rd Friday of month
7 to 8:30 pm

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this morning and ask you to **sign your name in our red Friendship Books** in each pew.

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 to register or for more info (JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

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

TODAY AT ELPC

Welcome Visitors!

If you are joining us for the first time, we're glad you are here! Please do not forget to write your name and contact info in the RED friendship book in your pew. Pastor Michael will reach out to you for any prayer requests and to answer any questions you might have.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Spiritual Gathering

Please join our next Spiritual Gathering today at 11:30 am to share conversation and lunch. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome. Please contact Wil Forrest for info (Wil@coh.net).



Interested in Being a Tour Guide?

Are you interested in joining one of the ministries of ELPC by leading members and visitors as a tour guide of our Gothic Sanctuary and Romanesque Chapel, stained glass windows, or views from the landmark central tower? The tours include the church's 206 year history, architectural details, beauty and symbolism designed by famed architect Ralph Adams Cram. Training will be provided. Contact Jo Ellen Aleshire (joaleshire@gmail.com) if interested.

Safety and Security Trainings

ELPC leadership has been working on and revising our *Emergency Response Plan* with local first responders to evolve and address our changing environment and the times in which we live.

To further this effort and to better prepare our staff and congregation, the *Safety & Security Advisory Committee* (SSA) will be presenting a series of trainings over the next several months concerning important issues to create a safer church for us all. We will have trainings on mental health, fire safety, first aid, Stop the Bleed, AED, CPR, and intruder threat. All these trainings will be attended by staff members and open to church leaders. Some, such as fire safety/fire drill and intruder threat, will include sessions intended for all congregation members to attend.

In addition to these trainings, the SSA Committee is working on enhancing safer, clearer egress paths and emergency communication systems around the church building. We believe that part of being radically hospitable is keeping all who enter our building as safe as possible.

We invite you to pray for us in our work and to keep an eye out for training sessions in coming months in which you can participate. *The SSA Committee is Sandy Brake, Don Breitbarth, Lynne Chadwick, Carol Chonoska (chair), Carol Chontos, Pastor Michael Diaz, Wil Forrest, Sara Hackett, Tom Morton, Rev. Jim Tinnemeyer, Isaiah Wilson, and Nancy Wright.*

Church Tour – July 13

The next scheduled tour will be on Sunday, July 13 after the 10 am worship service, featuring the Sanctuary and Chapel. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to participate.

Chapel Market Dinner – July 18

Our ELPC community includes not only our members and friends, but also the people who find hospitality at the Chapel Market, and those who enjoy the green space of the rain garden along Penn Ave.



To celebrate that community, the Neighbors Committee hosts a monthly hot dinner for anyone who needs it. Volunteers not only cook and serve, but also sit down to eat and talk with our neighbors. Our last two dinners were well attended and truly enjoyable events.

Our next dinner is scheduled for Friday, July 18 from 5:30-6:30 pm. If you want to volunteer to help with the dinner, contact Gerald McClendon (GeraldM@coh.net), Heather Eng (heng16@gmail.com), or Cathleen Malmstrom (calmalm1@gmail.com).

Day Retreat for LGBTQIA+ Folks and Allies – July 19

Take a step away from your regular schedule and come together with others who are seeking a self-care and care-for-others balance. Members of the ELPC community are invited to a day retreat (sponsored by ELPC's Justice Committee and LGBTQIA+ Ministry) for LGBTQIA+ folks and their allies at a local queer establishment for a day of exploration, laughter, reflection, creativity, and food.

On Saturday, July 19 from 9 am—3 pm, we will gather at Harold's Haunt in Millvale for this retreat, with special guest presenter, Debra Flint. **RSVP to Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net) by July 13.** Contact Wil Forrest or Carol Chonoska (carolchonoska@gmail.com) with any questions.



Labyrinth Prayer Walk

The Labyrinth is available on:
Wednesdays and Thursdays
10 am—7 pm
in McKelvy Room

Volunteers Needed

We need 3 to 6 more people on our team to help with the set up and teardown of the labyrinth.

Set up happens on Wednesdays from 9-10 am; teardown is Fridays from 9-10 am.



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

- Conley and Charles, Jim, Nelson, Sam, U.S. government, Marsh Anderson, Edith Battle and her daughter, Henk and Michele Bossers' brother-in-law and daughter-in-law, Ashley and Emily DeTar Birt and their child, Sharon Hardnet, Jan Herzer's friend, Felix Mallott, Marti Moore, Joan Mukogosi, Rachel Neil's mother, Henry Petrilli, Paul Seif's mother, Michael Stapleton, and Beth Urbaitis.

Condolences to the family of Ruth Kuschmierz on her passing.

Committee Meetings This Week

Deacons.....Tuesday, July 8 @ 7:00 pm
Worship, Music, Arts.....Tuesday, July 8 @ 7:30 pm

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

Middle School Camp at Crestfield – July 20 to 25

Youth in grades 6–8 are invited to attend *Service Adventure Camp* from July 20 to 25, which combines Crestfield adventure with local missions and service opportunities. Campers will be sent out to local non-profits to learn about and assist those agencies, then swim or rest. The cost is \$400 (scholarships available). Contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Connections Group Gatherings – July 25 and Aug 24

The ELPC *Connections Groups Ministry* invites everyone to attend the following summer events. Grab your blanket or chair and join us for these free outdoor concerts! Bring a picnic, buy food from the vendors, relax, enjoy music and talk with EPLC folks! RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com.

- Friday, July 25: *Fridays at Frick* — The Stemtecs Band will dazzle us with jazzy melodies. Grounds open at 5 pm; music starts at 6:30 pm and ends around 8 pm.
- Sunday, August 24: *Reservoir of Jazz* — Join us at the Highland Park Reservoir for a performance by Paul Cosentino's Boiler Maker Jazz Band. Music starts at 5 pm and ends at 7 pm.

Pittsburgh Black Pride Events at ELPC – July 25 and 26

Everyone is invited to the FREE *Pittsburgh Black Pride* concert on Friday, July 25 at 6:30 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary.

Then return for a family fun day at ELPC on Saturday, July 26 from Noon-4 pm for *Pittsburgh Black Pride*, co-hosted by Pittsburgh Black Pride, and ELPC's Justice Committee and LGBTQIA+ Ministry. Come share fellowship, food and fun at this free event open to all! Contact Wil Forrest for more info (Wil@coh.net).

In our

COMMUNITY



Dr. Ed in Concert – July 10 and 13

Dr. Edward Alan Moore will be playing two organ concerts next week. Both of these concerts are free with a freewill offering being received.

- Thursday, July 10 - a 30 minute recital at 5 pm as part of Westminster Presbyterian Church's Organ Summer (2040 Washington Rd, 15241). Details can be found at <https://westminster-church.org/event/westminster-organ-summer-2025/>.
- Sunday, July 13 - The Arsenal Duo (Dr. Ed and pianist Nathan Carterette) will present a concert of music for organ and piano duet and solo at 4 pm at Ingomar United Methodist Church (1500 W Ingomar Rd, 15237). More info at <https://ingomarchurch.org/summer-recital-series/>. This concert will also be livestreamed: <https://www.youtube.com/@IngomarChurch>.

ELPC Seeking a New Associate Pastor for Care and Connection

The process has started to seek a new Associate Pastor for ELPC who will oversee care and connection and be the liaison for the Board of Deacons and for the Membership and Outreach Committee. Session has appointed a search committee—or Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC)—that is busy developing a job posting known as a Ministry Discernment Profile. Although the position is listed as a temporary Associate Pastor, which allows a quicker process, the successful candidate could become an installed pastor at a later date. The position description can be found at elpc.church/careers.

Donations for Chapel Market



The Chapel Market needs:

- **summer clothes**
- **diapers (sizes 5-7)**
- **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).