



MAUNDY Thursday

April 2, 2026
7:00 pm



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

116 South Highland Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

412.441.3800 ♦ www.ELPC.church



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)

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 2, 2026 — 7 PM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. *(John 13:34-35)*

The good news is... even Judas gets his feet washed.

PRELUDE

“O Waly Waly (An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare)”

Emma Lou Diemer

based on Glory to God hymn #202

“Ubi Caritas et Amor”

Gerald Near

Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

WORDS OF WELCOME & INSTRUCTION

Rev. Sarah Robbins

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sara and Brianna Hackett

Leader: The birds announce God’s glory! They remind us of the love of God we often don’t pay attention to, but it is always there, singing for us. Welcome!

People: **We come to this place and to this community where we are reminded again that the love of God awaits us and that we are the expression of God’s love to one another. We come to church not to forget this love. We are here to remind ourselves: God’s love is like birds singing every day.**

Leader: That is the good news — we have the love of God!

People: **When we feel we have nothing else, we can lean on the love of God.**

Leader: As we gather today, we are called to listen to the new commandment by Jesus: “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” To love is to listen—to listen to each other, to the signs of life everywhere.

People: **It is also to listen to the silence within us.**

Leader: Throughout this service we will sit in silence and listen. Listen to our hearts, listen to God’s voice, listen to each other.

People: **Just as we listened to God’s love through the birds, let us now listen to God’s love through each other’s voices.**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #626 *(printed in bulletin; sing multiple times)*

AS THE DEER

“As the Deer”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. BJ Woodworth

* Indicates where to please rise in spirit.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Woodworth

Leader: God of love, we come to you feeling a thousand feelings. There is too much going on, and we don't know how to handle it all. We don't even know how to put words to all that we are going through.

People: Receive our prayers.

Leader: God of love, we come to you wanting total control over our lives, the stories we live, the people around us, and our own desires.

People: Receive our prayers.

Leader: God of love, we also come to you feeling numb.

People: Receive our prayers.

Leader: God of love, we come to you in silence.

People: Receive our prayers.

Leader: God of love, we come to you because you are the source of life.

People: Receive our prayers.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Rev. Woodworth

Leader: Receive this good news: the God of love listens to you attentively. "As an eagle stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, as it spreads its wings, takes them up, and bears them aloft on its pinions."

People: We are all listened to. We are all forgiven.

Leader: Let us all sit in silence. Perhaps in this time, you may contemplate the joy of being free.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

CHORAL MEDITATION

"Ubi Caritas, Op. 10, No. 1"

Maurice Duruflé

Where charity and love are, God is there.

Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.

Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:1-35 (*Inclusive Bible Translation*)

Jim DiGiorgio

Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet

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

People: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTING WORDS

Rev. Robbins

WONDER (*lasting approximately 3 minutes*)

Imagine you are Judas; how does it feel to have your feet washed?

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Woodworth

Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give you." (*John 14:27*)



Flow by Carmelle
Beaugelin Caldwell

— THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION & INSTRUCTIONS

COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz, Rev. Robbins, Rev. Woodworth

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 God.

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.

Let us give thanks to God our Maker.

People: **Es justo dar gracias y
alabanzas a Dios.**

**It is right to give God
thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & SILENCE

Rev. Dr. Diaz, Rev. Robbins, Rev. Woodworth

SUNG PRAYER *(printed in bulletin)*

“Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.

Feed us, quench us, bless us, guide us.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.

OFFERING & SYMBOLIC HAND WASHING & RECEIVING OF COMMUNION

HYMN DURING HAND WASHING & COMMUNION #227 *(printed in bulletin; sung multiple times)*

“Jesus, Remember Me”

REMEMBER ME

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:47-54 *(Inclusive Bible Translation)*

Rev. Robbins

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTING WORDS

WONDER *(lasting approximately 3 minutes)*

Imagine you are one in this crowd, what would it feel like to watch Jesus being taken away and arrested?

HYMN #205 *(printed in bulletin)*

“Live in Charity/Ubi Caritas”

UBI CARITAS

Sung repeatedly while cantors sing verses.

THE STRIPPING OF THE CHURCH

Imagine Jesus as one who means everything to you, being violently arrested and taken from you. How would you feel? How would you feel if the forces of empire conspired against you, intimidated you, and tried to take one of your family members or beloved friends? Would you desire to lash out with a sword? Would you freeze in panic? Would you try to run away? Maybe you wonder if you might be next, next in line to be arrested and taken away? Just as Jesus was violently stripped away from the disciples in the garden, the chancel will now be stripped of all decorations and the very symbols that point us to Jesus.

ORGAN MEDITATION

“Adagio for Strings”

Samuel Barber/William Strickland

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

At the end of the Stripping of the Church, you are invited to depart the sanctuary in silence.

THE STORY CONTINUES ON GOOD FRIDAY AT NOON AND 7 PM.

This worship service was adapted from a service created by Dr. Claudio Carvalhaes/A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org.

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**

Liturgists: Rev. Dr. Michael A. Diaz (he/him/él)
Rev. Sarah Robbins (she/they)
Rev. BJ Woodworth (he/him)
Jim DiGiorgio
Sara and Brianna Hackett

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him)
Director of Music and Arts
ELPC Chancel Choir
Gail Novak Mosites, *Cantor*

Beadles: Polly McQueen
Heather Eng
Mario Seneca

Crucifer: Tim Engelhardt
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES**

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

12 Noon.....**Good Friday Service.** In the Chapel.
Service of Shadows/Tenebrae.

7:00 pm.....**Good Friday Service.** In Sanctuary.
Service of Shadows/Tenebrae.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4

7:00 pm **Easter Vigil Service.** The Great Vigil includes reaffirmation of baptism vows, communion and announcement of Christ's resurrection. Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead this service.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5

8:45 am.....**Journey Worship.** Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz will preach at this communion service in the Chapel.

A continental breakfast will be served in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms from 9:45-10:45 am.

11 am.....**Sanctuary Worship.** Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists. Special music begins at 10:45 am. Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz will preach at this communion service.

♦ **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 evening and ask you to **register your name in our red Friendship Books.**

If you're a first time visitor, please fill out a **NEW HERE** card found in the pew backs and put in the *Offering Box* located in the sanctuary. Our pastors will reach out to you for any prayer requests and to answer any questions you might have.

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on **Sunday, April 12 after the 11 am worship service** to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Please register at elpc.church/visit-us/becoming-a-member, or contact Jen King (JenK@coh.net).

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

#626 — AS THE DEER *(sing multiple times)*

D A Bm Dsus D
 As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my
 G A7sus A7 D G A7 D A
 soul longs af - ter you. You a - lone are my
 Bm Dsus D G Asus A7 D
 heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.
 Bm Bm/A G D/F# G Bm
 You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a - lone
 Em F#sus F# D A
 may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my
 Bm Dsus D G A7sus A7 D
 heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

This praise chorus begins as a paraphrase of Psalm 42:1 and later incorporates parts of Psalm 28:7. In some early Christian communities, people chanted or sang Psalm 42 on their way to be baptized, and many early Christian baptisteries were decorated with deer drinking water.

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

Daniel Iverson

Dr. Cláudio Carvalhaes

Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us.

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us." The music consists of four measures.

Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us.

The second system of music is identical to the first system, with the same melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us." The music consists of four measures.

Feed us, quench us, bless us, guide us.

The third system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Feed us, quench us, bless us, guide us." The music consists of four measures.

Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us.

The fourth system of music is identical to the first system, with the same melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the Liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on us." The music consists of four measures.

#227 — JESUS, REMEMBER ME *(sung multiple times)*

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The second system of music is identical to the first, consisting of two staves in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of two flats and a 3/4 time signature. The melody and lyrics are repeated.

This chant-like setting, intended for repeated singing, comes from the ecumenical monastic community in Taizé, France. Based on the prayer of the penitent thief crucified with Jesus (Luke 23:42), this text is a poignant expression of the desire to be present with Christ in glory.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1981

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1981

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REMEMBER ME

Irregular

#205 — LIVE IN CHARITY

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The first system contains the lyrics: "Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love. U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,". The second system contains the lyrics: "Live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you. u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est." The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with some triplets indicated by a '3' over the notes.

This refrain comes from a Latin hymn associated with the washing of feet on Maundy Thursday. Whether in English or Latin, it is most effective when sung unaccompanied and in parts. In many ways it is a miniature equivalent of "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" (see no. 727).

TEXT: Latin, 8th cent.; English trans. Taizé Community, 1991
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979
Text and Music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

UBI CARITAS (Taizé)
Irregular

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April 2, 2026 • Maundy Thursday

TODAY AT ELPC

Welcome Visitors!

If you are joining us for the first time, we're glad you are here! Please fill out a **NEW HERE** card found in the pew backs and put it in the *Offering Box* located in the Sanctuary. Our pastors will reach out to you for any prayer requests and to answer any questions.

Step Into the Story of Nell and Poll Exhibit

Please take some time to visit a unique, self-guided experience in the Trustees Room — a storywalk on the lives of Nell and Poll, members of a family enslaved and sold by two of our early founders. It has stations paired with prayers, guided meditations, poetry, and reflections.

The storywalk is available until 3 pm on Easter Sunday:



PW Bible Study – April 6 and 7

Presbyterian Women's bible study will meet on Monday, April 6 from 7-8:30 pm (online only), and on Tuesday, April 7 from 10 am-Noon (hybrid) in the Fellowship Room. Tuesday's study will be followed by a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to share; beverages will be provided. Email PW.ELPC@gmail.com for more info and the Zoom link.

Wills & Healthcare Decisions Clinic – April 12

The ELPC Board of Deacons Health Ministry will sponsor a *Wills & Healthcare Decisions Clinic* presented by students from the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University to be held on Sunday, April 12 after the 11 am Sanctuary service in the Good Samaritan Room. For those who cannot attend in-person, a virtual option will be available. Topics will include: Financial Power of Attorney, Healthcare Power of Attorney, Last Will and Testament, Alternatives to Guardianship, and incapacity planning. The Thomas R. Kline School of Law provides FREE legal services to low income qualifying people who need but cannot afford legal representation. To RSVP fill out: tiny.cc/deacons-clinic. With any questions, please contact Tom Sturgill (sturgillpgh@yahoo.com).

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Spiritual Gathering – April 12

All are invited to the monthly spiritual gathering of the LGBTQIA+ Ministry at 12:30 pm on Sunday, April 12 for conversation and lunch. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks welcome! Contact Wil Forrest, LGBTQIA+ Ministry Coordinator, to attend (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

Cathedral Concert: Organist Nathaniel Gumbs – April 12

Dr. Gumbs, Director of Music at the Riverside Church in New York City, will be joined by soprano Olanna Miller for a concert in the ELPC Sanctuary on Sunday, April 12 at 3 pm. This performance is co-sponsored with the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh. ELPC members/friends can contact Dr. Ed Moore for complimentary tickets (EdM@coh.net).



Shaping Our Future:

Strategic Planning Gathering – April 19

You are invited to join us for our first *Shaping Our Future Gathering* on Sunday, April 19 from 12:15-1:30 pm in the Social Hall. This will be a meaningful opportunity for us to come together as a community to listen deeply to one another and to God. Through guided conversations, we will reflect on our shared story, name what matters most in this season, and begin imagining the future God is calling us toward. Everyone's voice matters. Whether you've been here for decades or just recently arrived, your perspective and experience is an essential part of this journey as we help shape the next chapter of ELPC.

Lunch and childcare will be provided. ZOOM is an option as well for those joining online.

Please register online:

<http://tiny.cc/shaping-our-future>

Background: In February, ELPC's Session voted to begin a strategic visioning process with guidance from Michelle Snyder from the Center for Healthy Churches. Michelle previously worked with ELPC in 2023, facilitating the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) which aided the Pastoral Nominating Committee's work in calling Pastor Michael as Senior Pastor. The strategic visioning process is the next stage of our work together that will aid us in developing a three-year strategic plan.



INQUIRERS' CLASS

Sunday, April 12
after 11 am worship service

Attend the next *Inquirers' Class* on Sunday, April 12 after the 11am Sanctuary worship service in the McKelvy room.

Learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided.

Register online at: visit elpc.church/visit-us/becoming-a-member, or contact Jen King (JenK@coh.net).



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

Carlos, Cathleen W, Christopher S, Fran, Herma and family, Jeff, Kate's friend Jody, Kevin H, Kim, Mark, Matthew, Mike H, Nancy, Patti, Raesean, Rebecca A, Robert, Sara, Sarah, Theresa, Diane M, Linda Benedict, Jan Herzer's friend Kim and friend Jeff, The Lane family's friend Pierena M, Paige McKenzie, Jan Pressman's grandson, and Fran Wilson.

Family Bowling – April 19

Families are invited to join us for pizza and bowling in ELPC's original 1930s Duck Pin Bowling Alley, located on the ground floor. We encourage parents and grandparents to attend the *Shaping Our Future* gathering, also happening that day, and will have staff chaperoning kids so grownups can attend. Monthly family events are sponsored by the Children and Families Ministry team to foster a caring community of families at ELPC where kids and adults feel loved and empowered to explore their faith. Please RSVP to Sara (SaraH@coh.net).

Young Adult Happy Hour – April 20

On Monday, April 20, the Young Adult Happy Hour continues at Geeg and Dan Eash's home in Penn Hills. Happening on the third Monday of every month from 6-7:30 pm, join us for appetizers and drinks (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks available).

Our Young Adult Ministry welcomes all adults post-high school through their 20s and 30s. ALL people and questions are welcome!

Please RSVP to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Listening for God's Heartbeat: Retreat – April 24 to 26 and Classes – April 29, May 6, 13 and 20

Join us for a retreat at Villa Maria Retreat Center from April 24-26 with facilitator Rev. Jeff Eddings from April 24 to 26.

We will also offer weekly classes at ELPC on Wednesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, 20 from 5:30-6:30 pm (light dinner at 6:30 pm).

Drawing upon John Philip Newell's book *Listening for the Heartbeat of God: Celtic Daily Prayer*, we will explore the rich stream of Celtic spirituality to help us practice listening for God in our lives. We will explore different movements of listening — for goodness, within creation, for God in all things, with our imagination, and in action. You may purchase the book and read along but it is not required.

Please register for the retreat by scanning this QR code, or by visiting:

<http://tiny.cc/gods-heartbeat>

Please sign up for the weekly classes at:

<http://tinyurl.com/gods-heartbeat-classes>



In our

COMMUNITY



PPC Performance: 50 Shades of Gay – April 17

Kermit isn't the only one singing about the *Rainbow Connection* these days. Join the Pittsburgh Pride Choir for their 2026 Cabaret Concert *50 Shades of Gay*, on Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 18 at 8 pm in the ELPC Social Hall. You will hear songs about *Pink Ponies*, *Purple Rain*, *Blackbirds*, and being *Golden!* You won't want to miss these concerts filled with solos, small ensembles, and the full 140 voice choir. PPC rehearses and performs at ELPC. Purchase tickets at pittsburghpridechoir.org. Any accessibility questions may be emailed to: accessibility@pittsburghpridechoir.org.

OHM: Run for a Reason in Pittsburgh Marathon – May 2+3

Open Hand Ministries invites you to join them as a runner or walker in the Pittsburgh Marathon events on Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3. Funds raised support affordable home ownership and closing the Wealth Gap in Pittsburgh. *Here's how you can help:* Register for the Marathon, Half Marathon, 5K, Relay, Kids Marathon, Toddler Trot or Pet Walk events. Choose Open Hand Ministries as your Run for a Reason Charity. Invite your friends and family to sponsor you.

Participant Goals: 10 or more relay teams of 5 people. 10 churches. 50 individual runners! Use this QR code to register to *Run for a Reason!*



Volunteers Needed: 40,000 volunteers are needed to make this signature Pittsburgh event happen. Open Hand is responsible for getting 20 volunteers for the fluid station at Negley and Stanton.

Please contact Laura Ristau, Marathon Coordinator for OHM, for info (marathon@openhandspittsburgh.org).

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

April 12

Adult classes are held from 9:45-10:45 am in the rooms indicated:

Journey with Scripture – Highland Room + Zoom

The Journey with Scripture class reads together various scripture readings for that week in worship, whether from the lectionary or our pastor's choosing. These readings span across the entire Bible. Henk Bossers and other class members facilitate the class

Seekers – Garth Overlook Room + Zoom

Faces Around the Cross: Peter — The Look of Love led by Rev. Dr. Darrell Knopp. Facilitated by Gwen Puza

Soul Food – Good Samaritan Room + Zoom

Continuing discussion of *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Bishop Mariann Budde. Facilitated by Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members



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