



# 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)*

## TRINITY SUNDAY

MAY 31, 2026 • 11 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters, hovering on the chaos of the world’s first day;  
she sighs and she sings, mothering creation, waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.

— from “Enemy of Apathy”

### PRELUDE

“Allein Gott in der Höh”  
(All Glory Be to God on High)  
“Nicaea – Holy, Holy, Holy”

Timothy Albrecht

Robert Buckley Farlee  
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, *organ*

### WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Robbins

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Nate Willson

Leader: Didn’t you know? Haven’t you heard?  
**People: God our Maker cares for us.**  
Leader: Didn’t you know? Haven’t you heard?  
**People: Jesus our sibling walks with us.**  
Leader: Didn’t you know? Haven’t you heard?  
**People: The Holy Spirit lives in us.**  
Leader: In peace and danger,  
**People: God is with us.**  
Leader: In pain and laughter,  
**People: God is with us.**  
Leader: Today and tomorrow,  
**People: God is with us.**  
Leader: God is always with us,  
**People: In justice and in love.**

\* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #12** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST. DENIO

### 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 go to Sunday School: Sacred Stories. Parents pick up their kids after worship (age 4- 3rd grade in Room 206; grades 4-6 in Room 207). If this is your child's first time attending, please accompany your child upstairs and check in with the teachers.*
- *Children age 3 and younger can play, sing songs and hear stories in the nursery from 8:30 am-12:30 pm.*

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

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May 31 • Trinity Sunday

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

**UNISON PRAYER OF LAMENT & CONFESSION**

Westley Kopanic

Look deep, loving God, and see us as we really are. We are a people who prefer our will to your will. We focus on things of the self and give little thought or care to others. We wander through our days giving little thought to our own discipleship, let alone our call to help others become disciples. Forgive us, God of grace. Forgive us and set us again on the path of your righteousness. Amen.

**TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF REASSURANCE & RESPONSE**

Westley Kopanic

Leader: God of the still small voice, you speak to us when we least expect it:

**People: We hear your voice in the moments of chaos, clutter and uncertainty.**

Leader: Jesus, calmer of the storms, your very presence comforts us:

**People: We are upheld by your quiet authority.**

Leader: Spirit, Counsellor, carrier of our pain and celebrations, we are grateful to experience you as a Mother hen tucking us under your wings:

**People: We feel the fluttering of safety and new life.**

Leader: Thanks be to God for new life.

**People: Amen.**

\* **HYMN #774**

“There Is Now a New Creation”

STUTTGART

**READING OF REFLECTION**

from Nadia Bolz Weber

Rev. BJ Woodworth

In the Trinitarian nature of God, individuality and communality are related in a beautiful life-giving dance of creation. Whatever names we choose to use, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Holy Parent, Holy Child and Holy Spirit, Creator, Redeemer and Advocate, the three aspects remain distinct while the identity remains one through mutual relatedness of giving and receiving. Back and forth together throughout time. Maybe this is not some dusty doctrine, but the holy fecundity of a God who pours out God’s own communal self into the creation.

Leader: May God bless the truth in these words.

**People: Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 (*Inclusive Bible*)

Rev. Robbins

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“Yes, And”

Rev. Robbins

**TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE #174**

“Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

MADELEINE

**MESSAGES FROM GRADUATING SENIORS**

Annie Cowan  
Bazil Litzinger

**BLESSING OF SENIORS**

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

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May 31 • Trinity Sunday

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

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION &  
THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(in language/ version closest to your heart)*

Rev. Woodworth

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

**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.**

**CHURCH NEWS & OFFERING INVITATION**

Rev. Dr. Diaz, Rev. Woodworth

*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](http://www.ELPC.church/donate).*



**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

“Write Your Blessed Name”

K. Lee Scott

text: Thomas à Kempis

*Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved that no prosperity, that no adversity shall ever move me from your love.*

*Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, and a faithful Guide to the courts of heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life.*

*O Jesu, my only Savior!*

*Write your blessed name...*

*Amen.*

\* **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 DEDICATION** *(in unison)*

Rev. Woodworth

**We offer these gifts, O God of all people, in the hope and trust that you will use them to bring healing and hope where there is need. Where natural disaster has befallen, may these gifts help build new life. Where refugees seek safety from violence and fear, may these gifts enable caring and welcoming hearts and hands. Where hatred sullies your hope for your human family, may our gifts be a sign and instrument of reconciliation. Thank you, God, for the privilege of this offering. May it indeed do more than we can imagine! Amen.**

\* **RECESSIONAL HYMN #295**

“Go to the World!”

SINE NOMINE

\* **CHARGE & BLESSING**

Rev. Robbins

**POSTLUDE**

“Wir Glauben All an Einen Gott, BWV 680”

Johann Sebastian Bach

*(We All Believe in One True God)*



*Please note we begin our summer worship schedule next Sunday, June 7, with one Sunday worship service at 10 am.*

Notes regarding the music sung in today's service are available on our website —

<http://tiny.cc/elpcworshipnotes>

You can also scan this QR code to be directed to that info on our website.



Our full worship service is being livestreamed on Facebook and archived at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church). 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 Usbers' 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.

Today's liturgy is used with permission from the Presbyterian Outlook.

◆ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: Rev. Sarah Robbins (she/they)

Senior Messages:

Annie Cowan

Bazil Litzinger

Liturgists: Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz (he/him/él)

Rev. BJ Woodworth (he/him)

Sara Hackett (she/her)

Westley Kopanic

Nate Willson

Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him)

*Director of Music and Arts*

ELPC Chancel Choir

Beadle: Jo Ellen Aleshire

Crucifer: Jason Van Ness

Sound: Wayne Gaines

Bobby Jarsulic

◆ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor flowers for our weekly worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, please visit [tiny.cc/SundayFlowers](http://tiny.cc/SundayFlowers), or call Norma (412.441.3800 x211).

◆ SUMMER SUNDAY WORSHIP

10 am.....**Summer Sanctuary 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

◆ 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, 6-7 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.

If you're a first time visitor, please fill out a **NEW HERE** card found in the pew backs and give that card to a pastor at the Penn Ave or Highland Ave entrance to receive a gift in exchange for your filled out card. 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, June 14 after the 10 am worship service** to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Please see one of the pastors after the service to attend.

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church).

## Sunday, 31 May 2026 – Trinity Sunday

On Trinity Sunday (the Sunday after Pentecost Sunday) we proclaim the mystery of our faith in the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One-in-Three and Three-in-One. Read more about Trinity Sunday here:

<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/theology-worship/worship/christian-year/trinity-sunday>

### Prelude

John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876) composed the tune NICAEA in 1861. The tune name commemorates the First Council of Nicaea, which adopted the Nicene Creed and formalized the doctrine of the Trinity in 325.

### Processional Hymn

The hymn tune ST. DENIO is based on a Welsh folk melody originally published in 1839. The tune name refers to St. Denis, the patron saint of France. Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908) wrote the text in 1867. Smith was a minister of the Free Church of Scotland.

### Offertory Anthem

Author and Dutch monk Thomas à Kempis (c. 1380-1741) is best known as the author of *The Imitation of Christ*. Apart from the Bible, no book has been translated into more languages than this work. The text of *Write Your Blessed Name* is taken from a prayer of his from in *Prayers and Meditations on the Life of Christ* and set to music by composer K. Lee Scott (b. 1950).

Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly engraved that no prosperity, that no adversity shall ever move me from your love.

Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, and a faithful Guide to the courts of heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life.

O Jesu, my only Savior!  
Write your blessed name...  
Amen.

### Postlude

*Wir Glauben All an Einen Gott* (We All Believe in One True God) is one of the Lutheran catechism chorales found in Johann Sebastian Bach's (1685-1750) monumental *Clavierübung III*, published in 1739. It is based on a hymn setting of the creed by Martin Luther. A driving ostinato line in the feet undergirds the three-voice fugal texture in the hands.

## 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 give that card to a pastor at the Penn Ave or Highland Ave entrance. You will receive a gift in exchange for your filled out card. Our pastors will reach out to you for any prayer requests and to answer any questions.

### Church Tower Tour

Steve Evrard and Nate Stephens will guide a tour of the Tower today. Pre-registered participants should gather in the Highland Lobby after the 11 am worship service for the tour. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes.

### Organist Nathaniel Gumbs in Concert

Co-sponsored with the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh, 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 today at 3 pm.

ELPC members and friends should contact Dr. Ed Moore for complimentary tickets (EdM@coh.net).



### Art Exhibit: Souls Shot

The Peace Committee is hosting an exhibit called *Souls Shot* in the Trustees' Room. It is an exhibit of portraits of gun violence victims. It will be there for a few weeks. Stop by. You will find it moving.



### Earth, Our Original Monastery at Taizé – Wednesdays

For most of June and July at Taizé — on Wednesdays at 7 pm in the Chapel — we will be utilizing the visual mediations of the Work of the People and the poetic blessings of Christine Valters Painter to shape and form our time of prayerful song and quiet meditation.

As Christine herself says, “our work as spiritual seekers and contemplative is to see all of creation as woven together in holiness, and to live this truth. In this loving act, we begin to knit together what has been torn; we gather all that has been scattered. Contemplative practices are a way to bring healing presence to the world.” Together we will pray, sing, notice, contemplate and share how we are connecting with earth as our original nourishment and revelation of God as Cathedral, Scripture, Saints, Spiritual Director, Icon, Sacrament, and Liturgy. Each week will also offer reflections, practices and prayers for the coming week. *We hope you will join us as you are able.*

### Sing the Duruflé Requiem with the Chancel Choir – Rehearsal on June 4

The ELPC Chancel Choir, Dr. Ed Moore, and organist Jon Tyillian will be presenting the *Requiem* by Maurice Duruflé on Friday, Nov 6. An introductory read-through rehearsal will be Thursday, June 4 at 7 pm. If you are interested in singing with the choir for this event, please contact Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net) for more info about the rehearsal schedule and other details.

### Pittsburgh Pride – June 7

ELPC members and friends are invited to participate in Pittsburgh Pride on June 7! Info is available at <https://pittsburghpride.com>. Details about how you can participate with ELPC are available in the Highland Lobby. Contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

### Free Dinners at the Chapel Market – June 12

Come enjoy a hot, home-cooked meal at the Chapel Market and meet new friends in our community who may feel unwelcome and are food insecure. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30 pm on these Fridays in the upcoming months: June 12, July 17 and Aug 21.

### LGBTQIA+ Ministry Spiritual Gathering – June 14

All are invited to today's monthly spiritual gathering of the LGBTQIA+ Ministry at 11:30am on Sunday, June 14 for conversation and lunch. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks welcome! Contact Wil Forrest, LGBTQIA+ Ministry Coordinator, to attend (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).



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

Christopher S, Collen I, Doris' cousin Jane, Greg C, Jackie W, Jeff, Kathy, Nan J and Katie P, Nancy W, Shayzen, Steve M's brother Bill, Ray Anthony, Bob Boucher and his daughter Amber, Carol and JoAnn Chonoska's friend Jimmy, Chris Markwell, and Fran Wilson.

**Committee Meeting This Week**

**Facing Systemic Racism.....**Tuesday, June 2 @ 6:00 pm  
For info to join a meeting, contact Jen King ([JenK@coh.net](mailto:JenK@coh.net)).

**Juneteenth Parade – June 20**

The Facing Systemic Racism Committee invites all ELPC folks to join us for the annual *Juneteenth* parade on Saturday, June 20. We will gather at 9:30 am at the parade starting point on Freedom Corner in the Hill District (corner of Centre Ave and Crawford St), lining up along Crawford St. Meet us there, or if you'd like to ride in the church van to and from the festivities, we will depart from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary on Highland Ave at 9 am. Cars may be parked at the Seminary for free. Please reserve a seat in the van by contacting Michele Bossers ([michele2285@gmail.com](mailto:michele2285@gmail.com)). Let's shout for joy and for justice at this important commemoration!

**Register for Vacation Church School – June 22 to 26**

ELPC will have Vacation Church School from Monday to Friday, June 22–26 from 9 am–3 pm, for children in pre-K (age 4 and pottytrained) through grade 5 (completed). Our theme this summer is *Kids Connect*, where children wake up those neurons, get those synapses flowing, and jump on the wavelength of God's love! Each day includes worship and drama, Bible study, art and science explorations, brain-building challenges, and active games. Registration forms are available on our website: [ELPC.church](http://ELPC.church).

In our

**COMMUNITY**

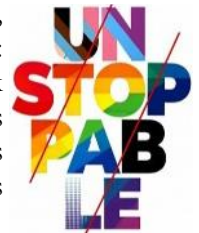


**Gun Violence Prevention Advocacy – June 2**

On June 2 several members of ELPC will join CeaseFirePA's *Day of Advocacy* in Harrisburg. They will meet with legislators, rally and send the message to prioritize public safety and pass life saving gun violence prevention laws. They ask for your prayers for everyone that day. In addition, please call your Representative or State Senator to let them know that you want their vote for HB 1065 (Ban ghost guns), HB 1866 (Ban Machine gun conversion devices) and Requiring Secure Storage of firearms. Contact Vivienne ([vselia@comcast.net](mailto:vselia@comcast.net)).

**Pittsburgh Pride Choir Concert: UNSTOPPABLE! – June 6**

On Saturday, June 6 at 7:30 pm, Pittsburgh Pride Choir will present: UNSTOPPABLE! at Point Park University's Playhouse. Western PA's LGBTQIA+ and allies choir is 140 voices strong. In person and livestream tickets are available at [pittsburghpridechoir.org](http://pittsburghpridechoir.org).



**Sunday School Classes for adults will resume on Kick Off Sunday, Sept 13.**

**An Opportunity to Serve Communion**

Worship Music & the Arts (WMA) is looking to widen our team of Communion servers. If you, as a member of ELPC, would like to join the team of servers, please identify your interest by emailing [info@coh.net](mailto:info@coh.net). After an orientation session, you would be included on the team and invited to serve at occasional communion services.

**Calling All Graduates**

Are you graduating from high school, college, trade school, graduate school, etc. this spring? We would like to celebrate these achievements together! Submit your name, degree, and school attended to Jen King ([JenK@coh.net](mailto:JenK@coh.net)).



**INQUIRERS' CLASS**

**Sunday, June 14 after 10 am worship**

Attend the next *Inquirers' Class* on Sunday, June 14 after the 10 am Sanctuary worship service in the Fellowship 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](http://visit-elpc.church/visit-us/becoming-a-member), or contact Jen King ([JenK@coh.net](mailto:JenK@coh.net)).

**• UPCOMING CHURCH TOURS •**

**Sunday, June 7**

Exterior tour led by Penn Hackney

**Sunday, June 14**

Sanctuary and Chapel tour led by JoEllen Aleshire

**Sunday, June 28**

Tower tour led by Steve Evrard and Penn Hackney

Pre-register for this tour at [tiny.cc/towertour](http://tiny.cc/towertour)

