

they shall be called children of God

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Wednesday, November 3, 2021 • 7:00 pm

116 South Highland Avenue ♦ Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 ♦ www.ELPC.church

Prelude by Gerard Rohlf

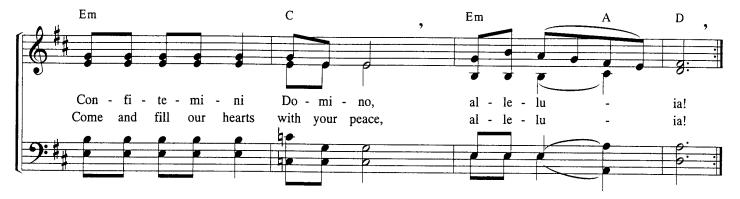
Welcome and Opening Centering by Rev. John Titus

This worship space is created to enhance your prayer. Please feel free, at any time, to come to the front to sit on the rug and be closer to the light, to pray with one of the icons, to light a candle with your prayer, to move with the music, or to sing in whatever language is comfortable to you. We hope that you will become aware of the presence of the living God as you pray in this place and that you might take that awareness out with you into the world.



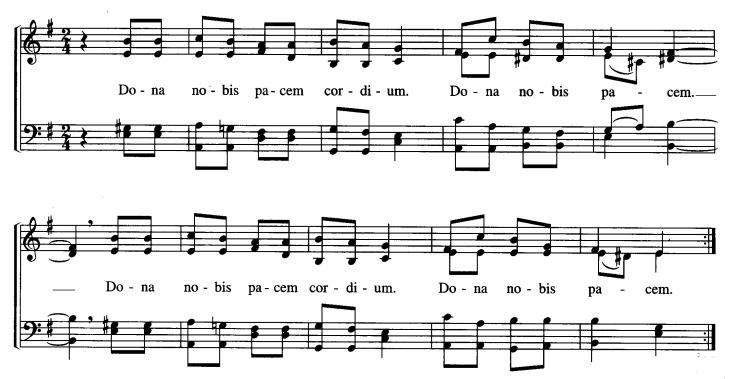
28 Come And Fill Our Hearts





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NB6 Give Us Peace Of Heart



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Sung Response: 3 Alleluia 11



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My spirit soared with a voice soke to me: "Come, come to the Heart of Love!" How long I had stood within the house of fear Yearning to enter the gates of Love! ALLELUIA

The New Jerusalem, the Holy City, Is bound firmly together; All who seek the Heart of Love, Those who have faced their fears, Enter the gates in peace and with great joy, Singing songs of thanksgiving, There, in harmony with the cosmos, The community gathers united in love.

ALLELUIA

Pray for the peace of the world! May all nations prosper as one! May peace reign among all peoples, And integrity dwell within every heart!

ALLELUIA

Then will friends and neighbors, And former enemies as well, Cry out, "Peace be within you!"

For the good of the universe And in gratitude to the Beloved, Let us serve the Holy One, Of all nations with glad hearts. ALLELUIA



The Word/Meditation: Matthew 5:1-2, 9

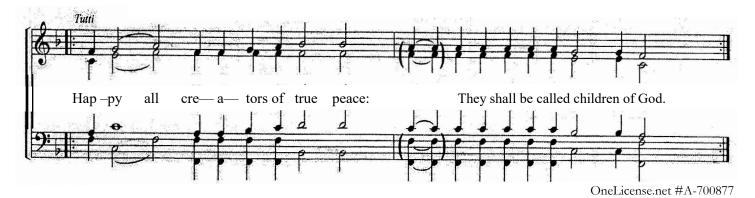
When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."



Words from Brother Roger of Taizé

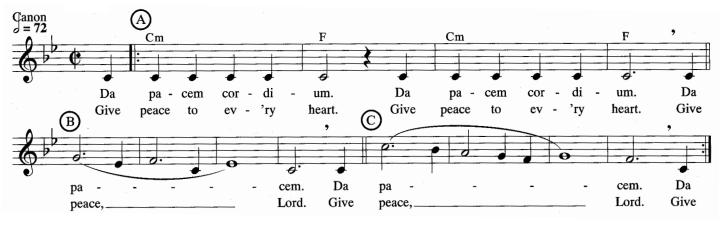
Seeking reconciliation and peace involves a struggle within oneself. It does not mean taking the line of least resistance. Nothing lasting is created when things are too easy. The spirit of communion is not gullible. It causes the heart to become more encompassing; it is profound kindness; it does not listen to suspicions.





Prayers of Intercession

Sung Response: 44 Give Peace to Every Heart



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God who calms the storms, make peace first and foremost in our own hearts, minds, bodies, and souls. Where we are troubled and stirred up bring comfort and ease. Where there is discord and brokenness bring harmony and reconciliation.

GIVE PEACE TO EVERY HEART

God who brings peace that surpasses our understanding, come to our broken relationships, and bring healing and reconciliation. In our families, among our coworkers, in the church and even our enemies.

GIVE PEACE TO EVERY HEART

Eternal God, in your perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and there is no strength but the strength of love. So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as your children.

GIVE PEACE TO EVERY HEART

Lord Christ, at times we are like strangers on this earth, taken aback by all the violence, the harsh oppositions. Like a gentle breeze, you breathe upon us the Spirit of peace. Transfigure the deserts of our doubts, and so prepare us to be bearers of reconciliation wherever you place us, until the day when a hope of peace dawns in our world.

GIVE PEACE TO EVERY HEART



Silent and Spoken Prayers

Please feel free to add your spoken petitions.

A note about praying for others out loud: Some people are comfortable with having their prayer concerns lifted up in public worship. Others are not. Before you share aloud any prayer concerns, please be sure that you are not breaking confidentialities.

Whether or not you say the person's name out loud, God hears and receives the intentions of your heart.

NB53 The Lord's Prayer



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Prayer over the Anointing Oil (in unison)

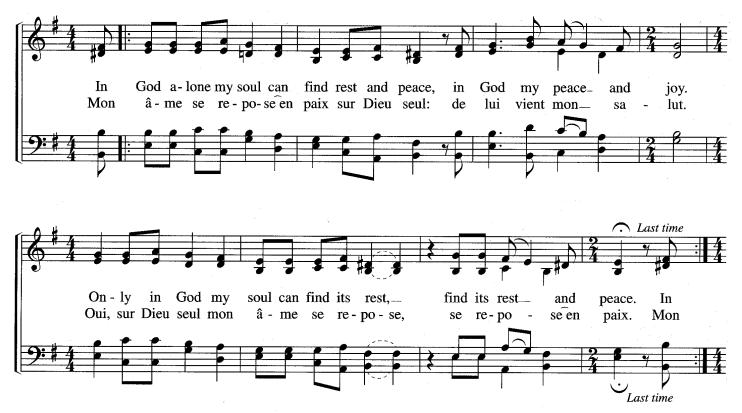
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left in the columbarium.

Bless this oil, O Lord, pressed from the fruit of the earth. Let it be a holy ointment for the wounds and worries of those who receive it. May it be a sign to all of us of your constant desire to touch our lives and bring us to health and wholeness. Bless us, O Lord, as we come before you and seek to experience through the touch of others, your everlasting love. Amen.



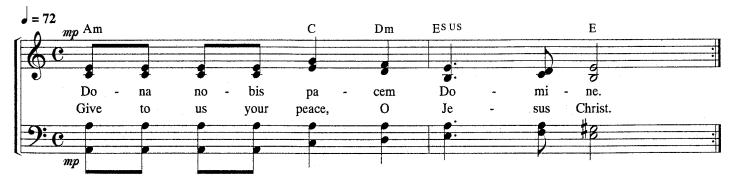


NB8 In God Alone

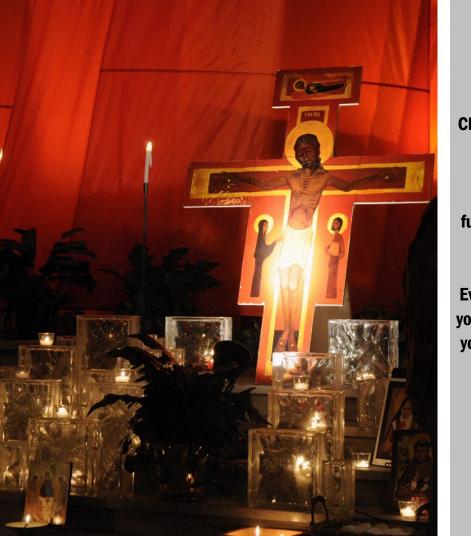


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31 Give To Us Your Peace



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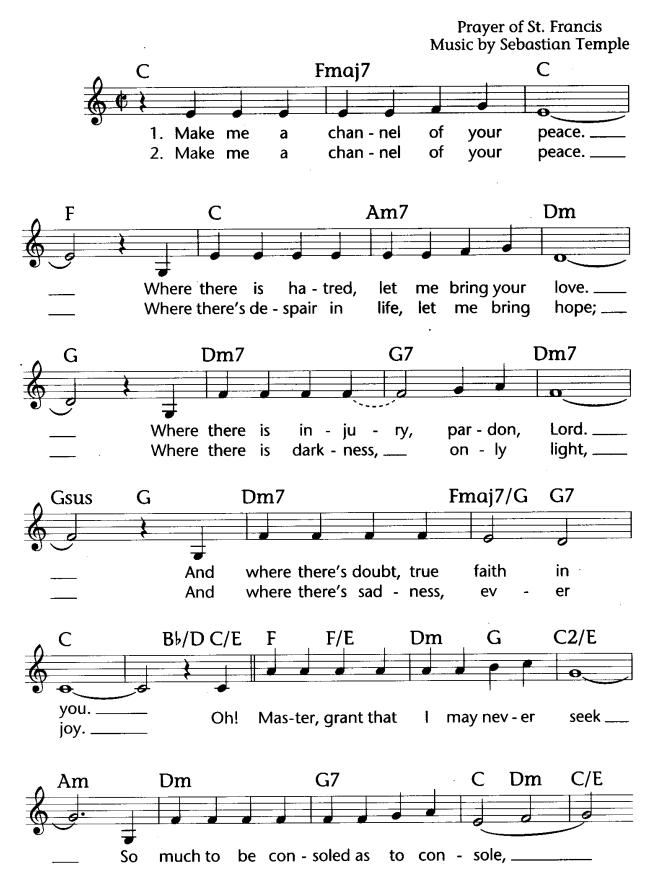
Christ Jesus, in your Gospel we find a hope for all human beings.

The Kingdom, the Life of God in fullness, is already present among us and within us.

Even if we sense hardly anything of your presence, we place our trust in you. And your love and your joy can blossom in our lives.

(Brother Alois of Taizé)

* Make Me A Channel of Your Peace



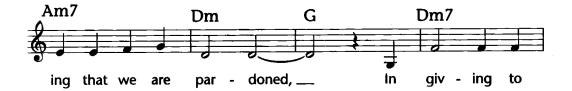
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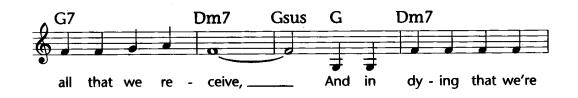
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The Closing Blessing (in unison)

May the Lord bless and keep us from all harm, and may God lead us to eternal life; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen. People: Amen.



ADVENTUS RETREAT

Joining a Hope That Has Come

6pm Friday, December 3^{to} 7pm Saturday, December 4

Cost: \$25

"Advent is a season of wondering and waiting; a season where much of the movement is a looking deep within for the call and our response. Advent shows up on the church calendar post-Autumn equinox when there is less daylight and more nighttime and ends just after the winter Solstice when night begins to get shorter, and daylight once again starts its return.

Spiritually speaking, the season of Advent is much like a womb-time, at least for people in our area of the world who are snugly wrapped in the long hours darkness. As Christians, we wait together anticipating Jesus' birth while simultaneously looking toward the future reign of Christ. Advent ends on the eve Christmas; it ends with the birth of Jesus—the Light of the World who broke through the darkness with a new way of seeing." (adapted from www.theworkofothepoeple.com)

DETAILS: We will have opening and closing Zoom time in community with each other and optional times in between to join together for the prayer liturgies and mediations included in the retreat experience.

Everything you need will be prepared for you in advance and be able to be picked up on Sunday, November 28 for you to prepare a space internally and externally to be on retreat.

While this retreat is virtual, if you are interested in physically getting away to participate, we have up to 10 single rooms available at Camp Crestfield for \$75/night and \$14/meal (if you would want meals provided). Please contact Rev. BJ Woodworth for details.

RSVP to Norma (Norma@coh.net) by Sunday, November 21.

Contact Rev. BJ Woodworth (BJW@coh.net) with questions.



GS SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS 80

Contemplative Prayer (on Zoom)

Mondays from 7:30-8am

Join us for a time to practice a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art and our bodies to help us start our day in communion with God and one another.

Facilitated by Rev. BJ Woodworth

www.Zoom.us Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 Passcode: bestill Or dial: 646 876 9923 US • Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 • Passcode: 6787603

Mindfulness Meditation (on Zoom)

Thursdays from 8-8:30am

Be guided in mindfulness meditation practices and offer supports for practicing meditation in everyday life. Those new to meditation and those with meditation experience are welcome.

Facilitated by Susan Spangler and Ted Cmarada

www.Zoom.us Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 Passcode: bestill Or dial: 646 876 9923 US • Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 • Passcode: 6787603

Enneagram Lunchtime Discussion Group (on Zoom)

3rd Tuesdays of the month from 12:20-1:30 pm

Contact Rev. BJ Woodworth with questions (BJW@coh.net)

Each month we explore and reflect upon different aspects of the Enneagram like, our Enneagram's approach to time, spiritual practices, our bodies etc. These topics are chosen by those within the group from month to month, often through an article or podcast to reflect upon.

www.Zoom.us Meeting ID: 966 6904 5127 Passcode: 9types Or dial: 646 876 9923 US • Meeting ID: 966 6904 5127 • Passcode: 566904

GS ELPC EVENTS №

November Morning Yoga & Gratitude Meditation

The ELPC Spiritual Life committee is excited to offer November Morning Yoga & Gratitude Meditation on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-9 am on Zoom. Start your day on your mat, stretching and moving your body for 40-45 minutes of gentle Hatha yoga, followed by a spiritual reading on gratitude and 15 minutes of meditation. Led by Katrina Woodworth. Recommended donation per class is \$5-\$15 through Venmo or PayPal. Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tZYvduGvrTwuG9KhPoto5FVDvoygFKLQmmkK.

Tulip Planting and Fall Clean-Up - Nov 6

We will have a garden work day on Saturday, Nov 6 from 10 am-1 pm to plant tulip bulbs (and eat donuts) at the Highland Ave entrance, and to do a fall clean-up in the Courtyard. Contact Megan to RSVP (MeganL@coh.net).

Stewardship Sunday – Nov 7

This year's Stewardship theme is *Follow as God Leads*. As we look ahead with faith to be led where God leads us in 2022, we're setting a goal of \$760,000 in pledges, a 4% increase over last year. Bring your pledge card to church on Stewardship Sunday, Nov 7, or submit your pledge online or by mail. You also may bring donations for the EECM Food Pantry. Requested items include canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, crackers, dried fruit, individual fruit cups, jelly and peanut butter, pasta and sauce, rice, salt/seasonings/spices, and soups/broths. You can also drop off donations in the staff parking lot (Baum Blvd) from 12:30-1:30 pm if you are not attending worship in-person.

Learn How to Help a Refugee Family - Nov 10

The Justice Committee has been working with AJAPO to devise a plan for ELPC to adopt a refugee family. We will need help from the congregation. There will be opportunities for all different levels of support from providing a household item or clothing to visiting the family on a regular basis. If you want to volunteer to help the family with in-person mentoring, friendship, support, transportation, job preparation, school liaison, or you just want to help with planning for their arrival, please contact Eric Jester (eric@new-burgh.com). Our next planning meeting will be on Wednesday, Nov 10 at 5:30 pm via Zoom.

Spiritual Gathering – Nov 14

All LGBTQIA+ folks and allies are welcome to attend our LGBTQ Ministry's next Spiritual Gathering on Sunday, Nov 14 at 12:30 pm. For more details, please contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

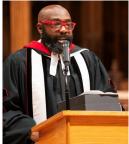


Giving Tree – Nov 14, 21 and 28

ELPC members have always been extremely generous in supporting this important ministry, and we look forward to providing gifts to children in our community once more. This year, you will have three Sundays to take a gift tag on Sundays, Nov 14, 21 and 28 or participate online using SignUp Genius. Gifts are due by Sunday, Dec 5.

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Asa Lee – Nov 21

On Sunday, Nov 21, we will welcome Dr. Asa Lee, the new president of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, as a guest preacher at our 11 am worship service. The Rev. Dr. Lee is an ordained Baptist minister with degrees in music, theology, and educational leadership.



Youth Ice Skating – Nov 21

Youth in grades 6–12 will gather for ice skating at The Rink at PPG Place on Sunday, Nov 21. Please bring \$10 (scholarships are available). Fully vaccinated students can ride in the church van. We'll meet downtown, but the time will be determined. RSVP to Sara (SaraH@coh.net).

Advent Devotions

The Faith Formation Board is collecting stories around the theme of *Waiting* written by those in our ELPC community to be part of an Advent devotional. Please reach out to Pastor Heather (HeatherS@coh.net), Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net) or Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) if you have a story to share about a time it was hard to wait and those who helped you through it, a time you waited and felt closer to God, or saw God show up in surprising ways, or a time you waited and asked God a lot of questions along the way. We look forward to sharing our stories while we wait this Advent.

Advent Party – Nov 28

Youth in grades 6–12 are hosting an Advent Party for our church family on Sunday, Nov 28 from 12:30-1:30 pm. We need your help leading crafts, setting up, selecting the best music, and helping



others feel welcome. Email Sara (SaraH@coh.net).



Please visit our website for more information about the ministries of East Liberty Presbyterian Church.

ELPC.CHURCH

INFORMATION ABOUT TAIZÉ

ABOUT TAIZÉ: Taizé is an international ecumenical prayer community in Taizé, France which was founded in 1940 by a young seminary student, Roger Schultz, as a place of hospitality and reconciliation during World War II. Today, thousands of young people come each week to Taizé to pray with the brothers and discern God's purpose for their lives. Taizé Prayer Pilgrimages and Intercontinental Meetings around the globe bring together thousands more in an effort to become the prayerful, reconciled presence of Christ wherever they live.

Taizé prayers at East Liberty Presbyterian Church were begun in the Spring of 1992 in preparation for an intercontinental meeting in Dayton. The experience proved to be so meaningful that we have continued to pray every Wednesday evening since then, inviting people of all backgrounds to join with us.

Taizé is located in eastern France, southeast of Paris, north of Lyons, due west of Geneva, Switzerland, between the towns of Chalon-sur-Saône and Macon. Here are the ways to get Taizé information:

> Address: To contact Taizé: To visit Taizé: List of useful info: Web site: Telephone:

Taizé Community, 71250 TAIZE, France community@taize.fr meetings@taize.fr info@taize.fr www.taize.fr 011-33 385 50 30 02 Fax: 011-33 385 50 30 16

YOU ARE WELCOME AT EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Our congregation seeks to promote peace, justice and human dignity; to reflect a spirit of openness, sharing and learning in our ministry and mission; to build a richly diverse faith community that witnesses to our oneness in Christ across all boundaries of race, social class, ability, culture, age, gender and sexual identity. *(From our Strategic Plan.)*

ELPC Web site: www.ELPC.church E-mail: BJW@coh.net

You are welcome at any of our programs and worship services. It is possible to have more than one church home. Perhaps you would be interested in becoming a member or friend of this Church. If so, please speak to The Rev. BJ Woodworth, Minister of Taizé Prayer (BJW@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x141).

Praying in Color with MANDALAS Grab some colored pencils in the back

One of the most ancient forms of prayer is the mandala and it's used across many different religions. The word mandala means "container of sacred essence" in Sanskrit. It originated as a spiritual practice in the 6th century BC out of the Hindu and Buddhist religions, but is now used by many others, including Christians. Mandala coloring can be a calming and focusing prayerful activity – beyond thoughts, feelings and words – amidst our Taizé prayer.

