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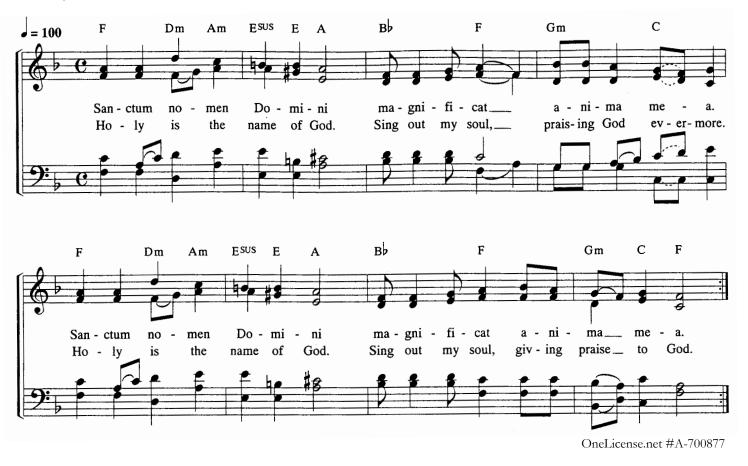
## Wednesday, November 17, 2021 • 7:00 pm

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

#### **Prelude by Gerard Rohlf**

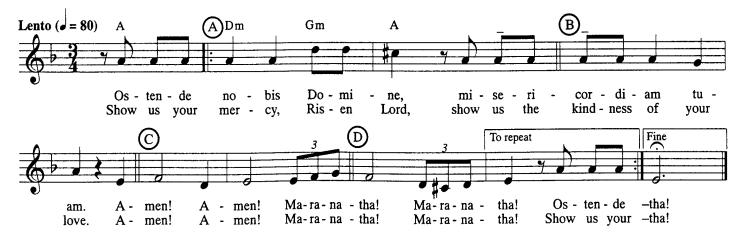
#### Welcome and Opening Centering by Rev. BJ Woodworth

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.



#### 43 Holy Is The Name Of God

15 Show Us Your Mercy





#### Sung Response: CLM2 Alleluia 20

Let my life give witness to you, To those filled with fear. Create in me a clean heart, That your light might be seen! My soul sighs awaiting your living presence; For I sense your love and light. My heart wells up with gratitude and praise, As I recall the innumerable blessings You continually bestow. When I ponder the plight of the world, My heart weeps for all the oppressed.

#### ALLELUIA

How long, o Merciful One, Must we endure the greed, The arrogance of those who are in power— Those whose hearts have turned from you, Who follow not the way of Love, Who have become blind to the truth, And deaf to your voice Whispering in their hearts?

#### ALLELUIA

Awaken the people of earth, O you, Who are the Great Awakener! In your steadfast love, Melt all hearts that have turned to stone; Long have we awaited a great Spirit-quake. ALLELUIA O Holy One, Love Consciousness Is firmly fixed in the heavens. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; Love is the hope and promise of all the earth. ALLELUIA

Help us to reverence her, To care for her with compassion; For we have sorely misused her. If you had withheld your love from us, We would have perished from our fears. Your Truth is ever before us; By it, you have set us free.

#### ALLELUIA

I am yours, grace me with your Presence, For I would be a loving friend And companion to you. I say to those I meet, "Come, the way is yours! Come, all you who are fearful and lonely! Followed the sacred path of Truth; Come to the inner way of Light!" ALLELUIA

#### The Word/Meditation: Matthew 5:1-12 (the Nick King S.J. translation)

Seeing the crowds, he went up into the mountain; and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And opening his mouth, he began to teach them, saying:

Congratulations to the poor in spirit — theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Congratulations to those who are mourning — they shall be consoled.

Congratulations to the gentle — they shall inherit the earth.

Congratulations to those who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness — they shall be satisfied.

Congratulations to the merciful — they shall be mercied.

Congratulations to the pure in heart — they shall see God.

Congratulations to those who create peace — they shall be called children of God.

Congratulations to those who are persecuted because of righteousness —

- theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Congratulations to you when they reproach you and persecute you and falsely talk
- all kinds of evil against you because of me.

Rejoice, and be glad, because your reward in heaven is huge.

You see, that's how they persecuted the prophets before you.

#### Words from Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)

Having reached the end of the beatitudes, we naturally ask if there is any place of this earth for the community which they describe. Clearly, there is one place, and only one, and that is where the poorest, meekest, and most sorely tried of all men is to be found – on the cross at Golgotha. The fellowship of the beatitudes is the fellowship of the Crucified. With him it has lost all, and with him it has found all. From the cross there comes the call 'blessed, blessed.'



#### **CLM25** Jesus, Your Spirit

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**Prayers of Intercession** (please read in unison the intercession that follows the phrase "God, in your mercy.") Adapted from the book <u>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</u> by Dallas Roark, a summation of Bonhoeffer's views on The Beatitudes.

#### Sung Response: 4 Kyrie 1



GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of being poor in spirit — accepting the loss of all things including our own selves for your sake.

**KYRIE** 

GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of mourning — doing without what the world calls peace and prosperity, refusing to be in harmony with the standards of the world. KYRIE

GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of meekness — giving up claims to our own rights for the will of Christ.

#### KYRIE

GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of hungering and thirsting for justice — renouncing all claims to personal achievement, while we wait for your reign of righteousness. KYRIE

GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of mercy — giving up claims to our own dignity, helping the needy, sick, outcasts and all those who need any kind of ministry.

KYRIE

GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of purity in heart — giving our hearts completely to the reign of Jesus, purifying our hearts with your Word.

#### KYRIE

GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of being peacemakers — renouncing all violence and maintaining fellowship where others would break it off.

#### KYRIE

GOD, IN YOUR MERCY... help us to receive the blessing of being persecuted for righteousness — suffering for any just cause, in the face of rejection by the world.

#### **KYRIE**



#### **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**



#### Prayer over the Anointing Oil (in unison)

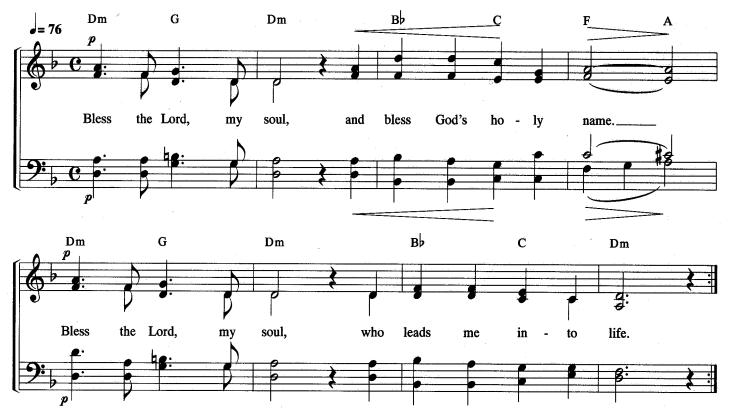
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left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

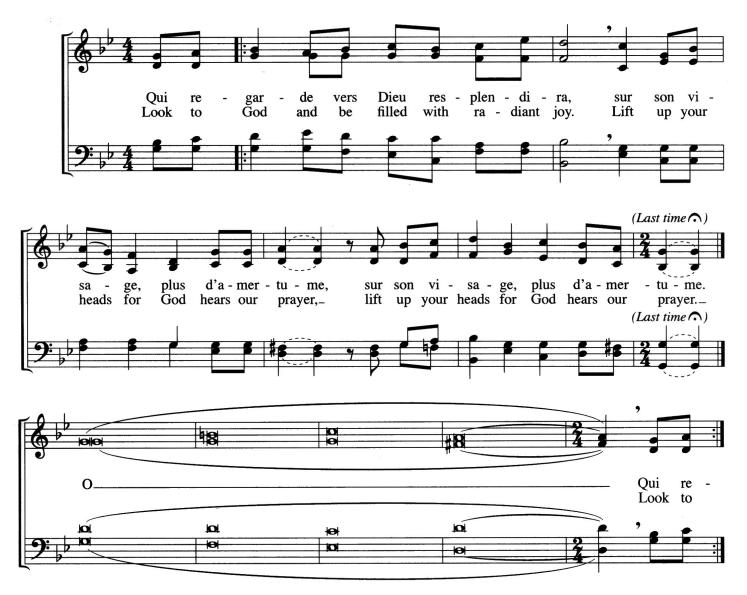




#### 9 Bless The Lord



#### CLM32 Look To God And Be Filled



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#### G125 Stand Firm



One evening at the World Conference on Mission and Evangelism in San Antonio, Texas (May 1989), a woman from Cameroon stood up in an informal gathering to sing this song.

The impression given was that any group of people or any individual may be called upon by name in the course of singing, at the cantor's discretion. This would be in keeping with a similar practice seen in another context where a Cameroonian cantor engaged unsuspecting people to attend the Lord's business.

The song should be sung with deliberation, the volume rising and falling depending on who is being called to stand firm.

Words: Traditional Music: Origin unknown; arrangement © 1990 Iona Community

#### 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.

# **CS 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

# ADVENTUS RETREAT

Joining a Hope That Has Come

# 6pm Friday, December 3<sup>to</sup> 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.



# 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.

