

TAIZÉ PRAYER



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021 • 7:00 PM



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

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.

13 Let Us Praise Your Name

$\text{♩} = 72$ B Em Am Em B D G D Em Am BSUS B Em (fine)

A - do - re - mus te Je - su Chri - ste, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Et lau -
Let us praise your name, God our Sa - vior, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise and

G C D Em B D G C D Em B D.C.

de - mus te Je - su Chri - ste, et lau - de - mus te, al - le - lu - ia!
bless your name, God our Sa - vior, praise and bless your name, al - le - lu - ia!

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28 Come And Fill Our Hearts

$\text{♩} = 66$ D Bm , D A ,

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Em C , Em A D ,

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - ia!

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Isaiah 40:1-2; 3-5; 21-24; 25-26; 27-31 (from NRSV)

Sung Response: 2 Alleluia 7

♩ = 116

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia! (hum)

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Comfort, O comfort my people,
Says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
And cry to her
That she has served her term,
That her penalty is paid,
That she has received from the Lord's hand
Double for all her sins.

ALLELUIA

A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
Make straight in the desert
A highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
And every mountain and hill be made low;
The uneven ground shall become level,
And the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
And all people shall see it together,
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

ALLELUIA

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood
From the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
And spreads them like a tent to live in;
Who brings princes to naught,
And makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

ALLELUIA

To whom then will you compare me,
Or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
Calling them all by name;
Because he is great in strength,
Mighty in power,
Not one is missing.

ALLELUIA

Why do you say, O Jacob,
And speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord,
And my right is disregarded by my God"?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
The Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
His understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
And strengthens the powerless.

ALLELUIA

Even youths will faint and be weary,
And the young will fall exhausted;
But those who wait for the Lord
Shall renew their strength,
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: Luke 3:1-6; John 1:7-9

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea...during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Words from Howard Thurman

A dream is the bearer of a new possibility, the enlarged horizon, the great hope.

NB15 Jesus, Your Light

Je — sus your light is shi — ning with - in us. Let not my
Jé - sus le Christ, lu - mière in - té - rieu - re, ne lais - se

doubts nor my dark - ness speak to me. Je — sus your light is
pas mes té - nè - bres me par - ler. Jé - sus le Christ, lu -

shi — ning with - in us. Let my heart al - ways wel - come your love.
mière in - té - rieu - re, don - ne - moi d'ac - cueil - lir ton a - mour.

Prayers of Intercession

In the season of Advent, you may also write your prayers of waiting using the insert in the bulletin, and bringing it forward and placing it in the basket.

Sung Response: 20 O Lord, Hear My Prayer (first verse only)

The musical score is for a two-part setting of the hymn 'O Lord, Hear My Prayer'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 72. The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the first line of the hymn: 'O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me. O'. The second system contains the second line: 'Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O'. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: Em, C6, D, G, C, Am6, B in the first system; and Em, C6, D, G6, Am, B, Em in the second system. The piece concludes with a 'fine' marking and a repeat sign.

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God come and comfort your people who are mourning and grieving. Come and speak softly and tenderly to them.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

God come and prepare the way; make the road straight and smooth for those who are lost and confused and in need of wisdom and direction.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

God come and fill in the valleys, level off the hills, smooth out the ruts, clear out the rocks, for those who have are oppressed and are seeking justice in the world.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

God come and energize those who are tired; come and give fresh strength to those struggling to carry on.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

God come and help each of us as we wait upon You, that we might receive fresh strength amidst our eager anticipating your coming in our lives, families, neighborhoods, churches, and world.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

God come to us in this season of Advent that we may see your light and follow, that, like John the Baptist, we may witness to testify to the light, so that your bright glory will shine in us, and everyone will see it.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

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

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - lowed be thy name; thy king - dom come;

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread;

for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us;

lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil. For thine is the King - dom,

and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

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.



G105 Jesus Christ, Inner Light

OSTINATO REFRAIN: All

Je - sus Christ, in - ner light, let not our own

dark - ness con - quer us. Je - sus Christ,

in - ner light, en - a - ble us to wel - come your love. *Fine*

G60 Salvator Mundi

Sal - va - tor mun - di sal - va nos. Sal - va - tor mun - di
sal - va nos. Sal - va nos, sal - va nos. Sal - va - tor mun - di sal - va nos.

The musical score for "G60 Salvator Mundi" is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 84. The score is divided into four measures, each labeled with a circled letter: (A), (B), (C), and (D). The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes.

Savior of the world, save us, free us.

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G90 Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
his name is called Em - man - u - el.
God with us, re - vealed in us,
his name is called Em - man - u - el.

The musical score for "G90 Emmanuel, Emmanuel" is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The score is divided into four measures, each labeled with a circled letter: (A), (B), (C), and (D). The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score includes a "Unison" marking at the beginning of the first measure.

WORDS and MUSIC: Bob McGee, 1976

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CCLI #689547

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.

SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

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

Tonight's pastoral presence is Rev. BJ Woodworth, Minister of Taizé Prayer here at ELPC. BJ is also Director of Spiritual Life Ministries and is available to provide spiritual direction to anyone who is a part of the ELPC community (attending Taizé makes YOU a part of that community). He can be reached at 412.441.3800 x141 or at BJW@coh.net.

ELPC EVENTS



Giving Tree

Signup Genius will be used this year for gift selection—
www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A49ACAA28A57-giving1.

Sign up with help from the Deacons at the Highland Ave entrance before and after tonight's service. Gifts are due on Sunday, Dec 5.

Environmental Book Club – Dec 2

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to read *Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest* by Suzanne Simard. Learn about the complexity of sustainable forestry and the puzzle of deciding which trees to harvest and which to retain, and how this practice influences a forest's ability to recover and remain healthy. Then join the book club on Thursday, Dec 2 at 7 pm for a discussion via Zoom. For details, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Hanging of the Greens – Dec 5

Help decorate ELPC for the Christmas season on Sunday, Dec 5 following the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Any amount of time you can help would be appreciated!

Zoom Inquirers' Class – Dec 5

Are you interested in becoming part of the ELPC faith family? Join Pastor Randy Bush on Sunday, Dec 5 at 2 pm on Zoom to learn about ELPC's ministries and programs and ways to be involved at ELPC and in our community! Zoom info: www.zoom.us; Meeting ID: 811 9583 8813.

PW Bible Study – Dec 6 and 7

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study lesson *Ruth and Loyal Love* on Monday, Dec 6 from 7-8:30 pm and/or Tuesday, Dec 7 from 10 am-Noon. Both sessions will meet on Zoom. For more info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

The Perspective Christmas Pageant – Dec 12

Through narration, scripture, costumes, song, and art, the children and youth of ELPC will lead us in a hybrid retelling of the joyful Christmas story at the center of our faith. Some narrators and actors will be leading us "live" in the Sanctuary, while other actors will be joining us virtually. But, it doesn't matter where we are—ALL will tell this important story.

You can view this production in person at ELPC or watch the pageant via Zoom on Sunday, Dec 12 at 10 am. Contact Megan (MeganL@coh.net) for the Zoom link.

Sanctuary/Chapel Tours – Dec 12 and 26

Following the 11 am service on Sundays, Dec 12 and 26, join a tour of ELPC highlighting church history and architectural contrasts of the Chapel and Sanctuary. The Narthex, Trinity Chapel, and Chancel will be included.

Christmas in East Liberty Concert – Dec 17

Cathedral Concerts return with *Christmas in East Liberty* on Friday, Dec 17 at 7:30 pm. This highly anticipated concert and East Liberty tradition will feature The Brass Roots and conductor Daniel Curtis, the ELPC Chancel Choir and conductor Dr. Edward Alan Moore, and organist Ethan LaPlaca. Hear holiday favorites and the premiere of two newly commissioned pieces: *Carol Fantasia* by Mary Beth Bennett and *Spiritual Suite* by Marcus Grant. Join us in the Sanctuary or virtually on YouTube or Facebook. The concert is free, a freewill offering will be accepted. Contact Dr. Ed (EdM@coh.net) to sing!

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering—Dec 19

You are invited to the next spiritual gathering of ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry on Sunday, Dec 19 at 12:30 pm to share food and fellowship. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome! This month we will meet in person and via Zoom. Contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net).

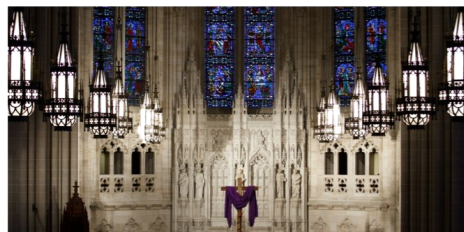
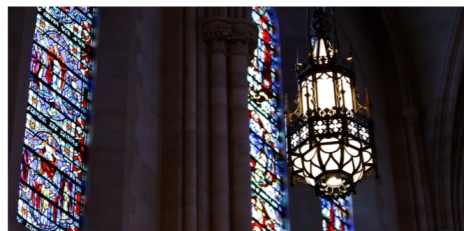
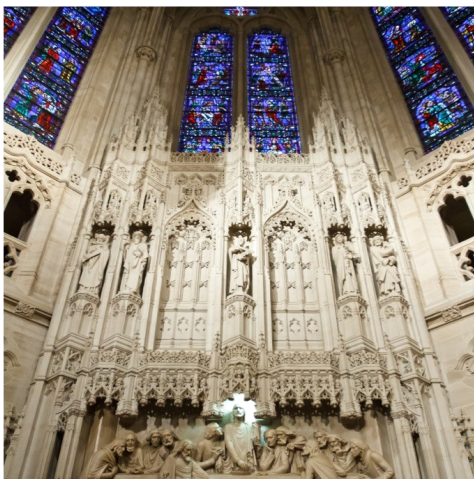
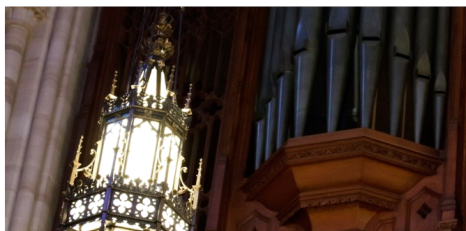
New Yoga and Centering Prayer Offering in December

The ELPC Spiritual Life Committee is excited to offer Yoga and Centering Prayer on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8–9 am throughout December! Sessions will be led by Katrina Woodworth on Zoom. The suggested donation is \$0-\$15. Register online at www.tiny.cc/yoga-and-prayer.

Christmas Eve Services (in-person and virtual)



5 pm Family Service
10 pm Candlelight Service (music begins at 9:30 pm)



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

www.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:	Taizé Community, 71250 TAIZE, France
To contact Taizé:	community@taize.fr
To visit Taizé:	meetings@taize.fr
List of useful info:	info@taize.fr
Web site:	www.taize.fr
Telephone:	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.

