AIZE PRAYER* February 2, 2022 • 7:00 pm East Liberty Presbyterian Church 116 South Highland Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 www.ELPC.church www.ELPC.church



Prelude by Gerard Rohlf

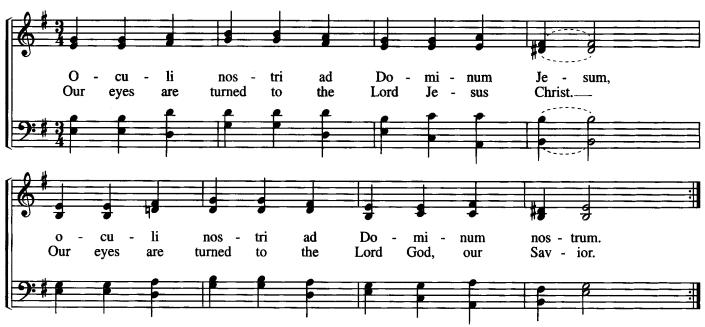
Welcome and Opening Centering by Rev. BJ Woodworth

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.

NB29 O Come And Let Us Sing To God



NB17 Our Eyes Are Turned



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Sung Response: 3 Alleluia 11



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Love is my light and my salvation, Whom shall I fear? Love is the strength of my life, Of whom shall I be afraid?

ALLELUIA

When fears assail me,
Rising up to accuse me,
Each one in turn shall be seen in Love's light.
Though a multitude of demons rise up within me,
My heart shall not fear.
Though doubts and guilt do battle,
Yet shall I remain confident.

ALLELUIA

One thing have I asked of Love, That I shall ever seek: That I might dwell in the Heart of Love All the days of my life, To behold the Beauty of my Beloved, And to know Love's Plan.

ALLELUIA

For I shall hide in Love's heart in the day of trouble, As in a tent in the desert,
Away from the noise of my fears.
And I shall rise above my struggles, my pain,
Shouting blessings of gratitude in Love's Heart,
And singing melodies of praise to my Beloved.

ALLELUIA



The Word/Meditation: John 9:1-7 (selected verses)

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

Words from Brother Roger of Taizé

When we can express to God all that burdens our life and keeps us trapped beneath the weight of a judgment, then light is shed on the shadows within us. Knowing that we are listened to, understood, and forgiven by God is one of the sources of peace ... and our heart begins to find healing.

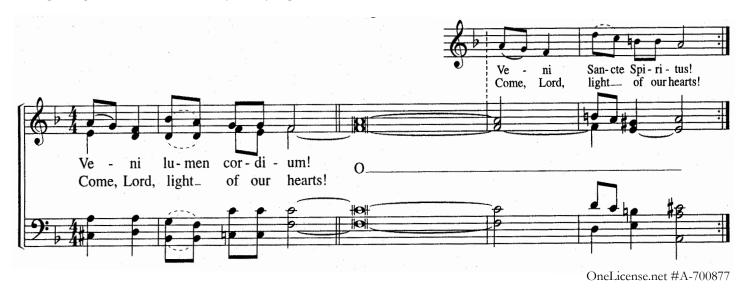
NB22 Sing To The Lord



Prayers of Intercession

In the season of Epiphany, you may also write your prayers for light and guidance on a star found on the activity table and bring it forward and place it in the basket.

Sung Response: NB45 Come, Lord, Light Of Our Hearts



Jesus, light of the world, we come to you for you alone can heal our blindness. In your kindness and compassion, come to us in our darkness and blindness, Place your hand upon the eyes that we may see more of you in our lives.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Jesus, light of the world, we come to you for you alone can heal our blindness. Enlighten us that we may know the hope to which you have called, The riches of your glorious inheritance in the saints, And your incomparably great power for us.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Jesus, light of the world, we come to you for you alone can heal our blindness. We pray for those who are lost and wondering, And those whose direction is currently unknown and uncertain. May you be a lamp unto their feet and a light to their path.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Jesus, light of the world, we come to you for you alone can heal our blindness. We pray for those who are sick and suffering in body, mind, and spirit. Comfort them, heal them, be near to them, walk with them and make them whole.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Jesus, light of the world, we come to you for you alone can heal our blindness. For our political leaders, local, national, and international, As they seek to make decisions and policies that guide our cities, states, and nations. Grant them wisdom, light, and humility that they may see those most vulnerable and in need.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

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)

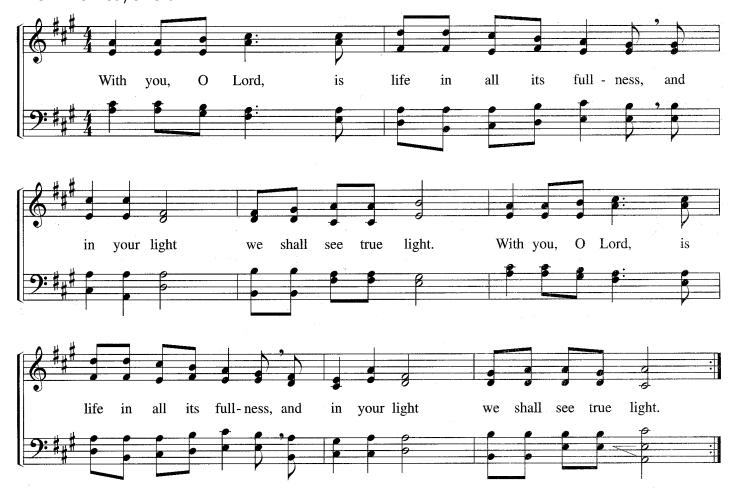
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left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

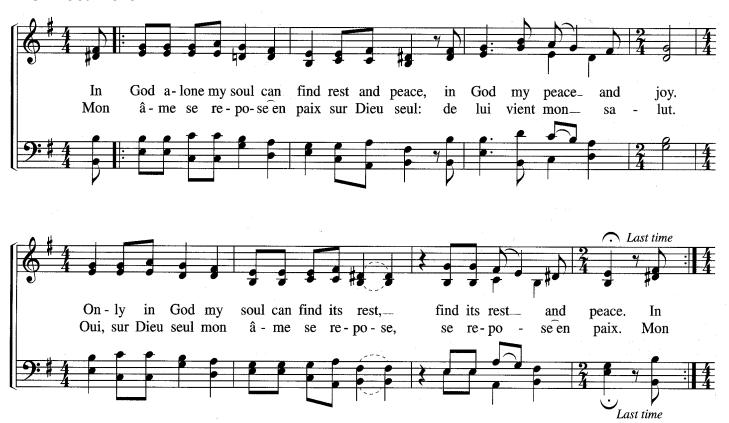




NB31 With You, O Lord



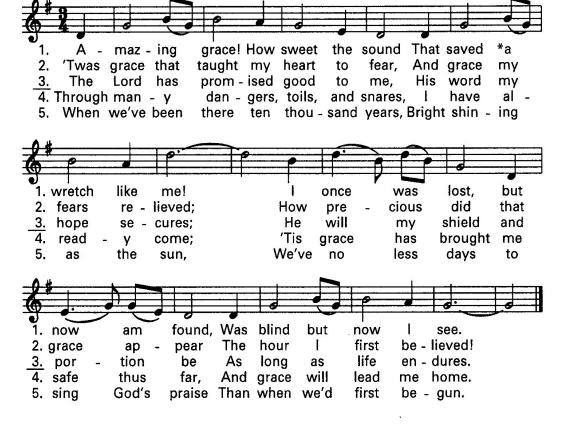
NB8 In God Alone



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NEW BRITAIN





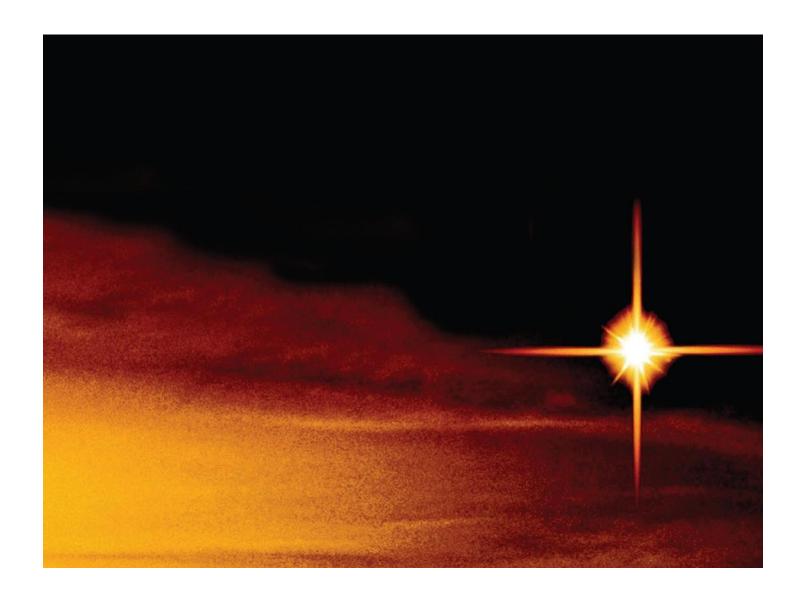
^{*}Alternate text: "and set me free!"

The Closing Blessing (in unison)

Radiant Morning Star,
you are both guidance and mystery.
Visit us with disturbing dreams,
and our journeys with strange companions.
Grace us with the hospitality
to open our hearts and homes
to visitors filled with unfamiliar wisdom
bearing profound and unusual gifts.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.



ELPC Mask Usage Update All people visiting and working in ELPC will be required to wear a face mask both inside and outside (on the property) regardless of vaccination status, with it being strongly recommended that the mask be an N95, surgical, or comparable mask.

SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

Contemplative Prayer

Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead a time on Zoom to practice a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art and our bodies.

Mondays, 7:30 am to 8 am Meeting ID #959 8065 3992 • Passcode: bestill

February Yoga and Mindful Meditation

Start your day on your mat, stretching and moving your body for 45-50 minutes of gentle Hatha yoga and 10-15 minutes of guided mindful meditation. February classes will have gentle and slow mindful movement, linking postures and breath and end with guided silent meditation. Donation-based. Must register online at https://tinyurl.com/Feb-Yoga-and-Meditation.

Monday and Wednesday mornings, 8-9 am Feb 16, 21, 23, 28
No classes February 7, 9 or 14

Cathedral Yoga

Yamuna will lead yoga in-person in the Sanctuary before the 7 pm Taizé Prayer service.

Wednesdays, 6 to 7 pm

Journey Dance

Enjoy an evening of healthy, energizing, funky and divine dancing on the 3rd Friday of every month (with a few exceptions) from

Third Friday of every month (mostly), 6:30-7:45 pm Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 15, May 13

The Rev. BJ Woodworth is 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

Foundation of HOPE | Adult Diversion Presentation — Feb 6

On Sunday, Feb 6 from 12:30-1:30 pm, please join the Justice Committee for a presentation about the *Foundation of HOPE Adult Diversion Program* that redirects adults involved in low-level offenses into a restorative program and away from a criminal record, prosecution, and incarceration. ELPC will be joined by the *Foundation of HOPE Adult Diversion* Director Mica Williams, and a case manager, who will discuss their work and opportunities for involvement by ELPC members. The presentation will be in-person in the Social Hall and also available Zoom. Light snacks will be provided. For more info, contact Stephanie Creasy (screasy16@gmail.com).

A New Take on Climate Change — Feb 10

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee is reading a new book titled All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis, edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson. This diverse collection of essays and a few poems are written by female activists, scientists, artists, architects, policymakers, and thinkers of various ages. We invite you to read the book, and join us to talk about your favorite parts on Thursday, Feb 10 at 7 pm via Zoom. To RSVP, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Combined Worship Service with Eastminster Presbyterian Church — Feb 13

On Sunday, Feb 13, the first in a series of annual joint services with Eastminster Presbyterian Church is being planned. The worship service will combine the music leaders and choirs of our two churches, and utilize liturgists from both congregations. As a "pulpit swap," the Rev. Aaron Teter, newly installed co-pastor of Eastminster Presbyterian Church, will present the message. This joint service is planned to be a hybrid event.

Climate Change and the Green New Deal — Feb 13

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to a panel discussion on *Climate Change and the Green New Deal* at 12:30 pm on Sunday, Feb 13 in the Social Hall and on Zoom (www.Zoom.us; Meeting ID 827 3760 9292; Passcode 755590). Together, we will examine the issue of climate change, its implications for racial and economic justice, and how we can combat it by building a mass movement for a *Green New Deal*. Panelists include Claire Cohen, M.D., Patricia DeMarco, Ph.D. and Helen Gerhardt. Light refreshments will be provided.



Shine Like Stars!

During the Season of Epiphany, we celebrate the appearance of Jesus the Christ in the midst of humanity; we rejoice in the dawning of the Light of Christ in darkness. Like the magi we too look for "stars" that will lead us to the Christ, as we are attentive to the light of God showing forth and manifesting itself in ourselves, others and all the world.

We are inviting you to help us create a piece of art, a star-lit sky, to share the Taizé Community with the larger ELPC church community.

In this season of Epiphany (Jan 5-Feb 23) we are inviting you to decorate stars with your scribblings, doodles, and prayers. There are star mandalas you can do in the bulletin, and stars at the craft table in the front of the Chapel. Leave your stars in the basket at the altar.

