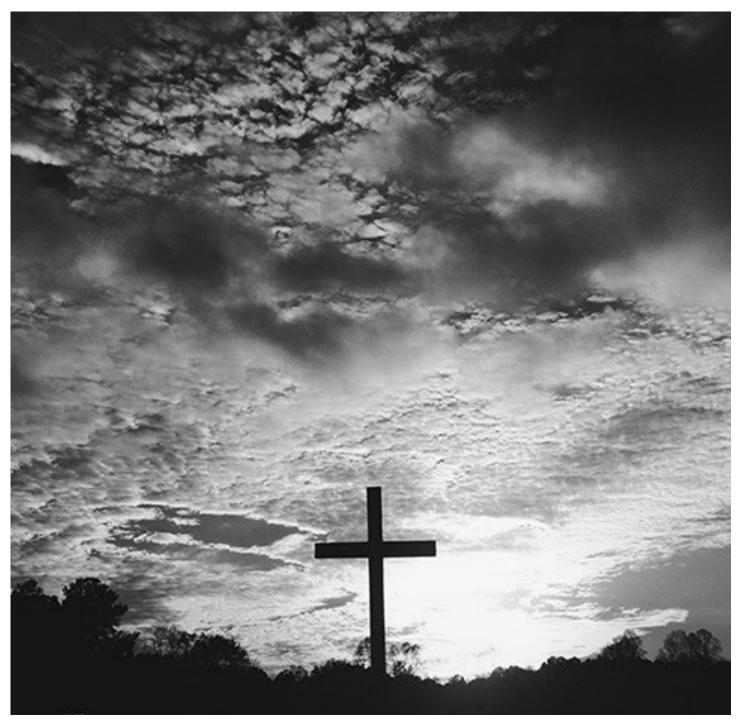
Taizé Prayer





MARCH 23, 2022 • 7 pm

116 South Highland Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206 **412.441.3800**

Welcome and Opening Centering by Rev. BJ Woodworth

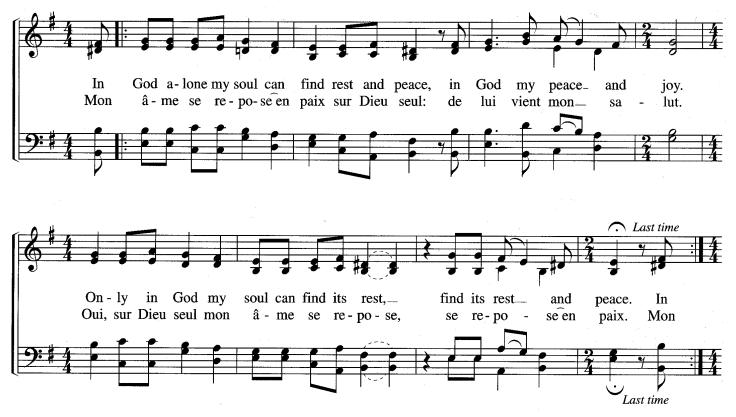
This worship space is created to enhance your prayer. As you enter, grab a prayer stone or palm cross to hold. Feel free to come forward to the craft table to doodle or color a mandala, come sit on prayer cushion and be closer to the front, pray with one of the icons, light a candle, or move with the music. During Lent there are two prayers stations up on the altar! If the songs are new to you, let their simple repeated refrains be sung over you and join in as you are able. 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.



CLM9 God Is Forgiveness

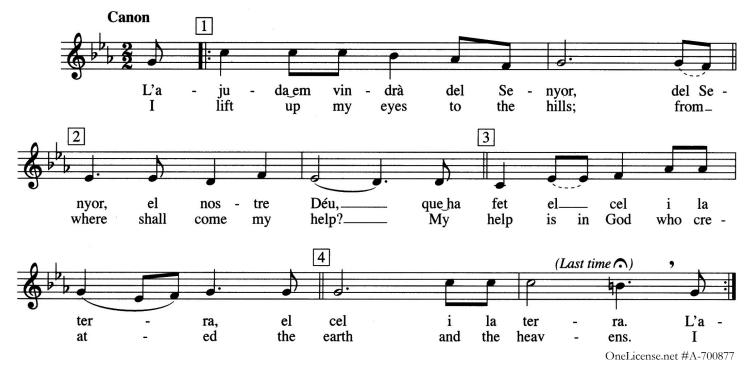
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NB8 In God Alone



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Sung Response: CLM28 | Lift Up My Eyes

Blessed are you whose wrongdoings Have been forgiven, Whose shame has been forgotten. Blessed are you in whom Love Divine Finds a home, And whose spirit radiates truth.

I LIFT UP MY EYES

When I acknowledged not my shortcomings, I became ill through all my defenses. And day and night, guilt weighed heavy Constricting my heart; My spirit became dry as desert brines. I LIFT UP MY EYES

I cried out, "Forgive me, O Comforter, For those times I have sinned in my thoughts, My words, and my deeds;" And the Beloved created within me A clean and open heart.

I LIFT UP MY EYES

Therefore, let everyone who is sincere Give thanks to the Beloved; For whenever we feel paralyzed by fear, We shall be embraced by Love. Dwelling in the Heart of the Beloved, We are free from distress, Free to live more creatively.

I LIFT UP MY EYES

O my Beloved, you are my guide, You reach me to walk in the Light. Be watchful of me, counsel me As I listen to you in the silence. I pray for the gifts of inner peace and wisdom, For the grace to reverence all of Creation. I LIFT UP MY EYES

Many are the heartaches

Of those separated from love; Steadfast love abides with those who surrender Their lives into the hands of the Beloved. Be glad and rejoice! Let your life give witness to Love's Way; And shout for joy, All you upright of heart! I LIFT UP MY EYES

The Word/VISUAL Meditation: Luke 15 – The Prodigal Son

Tonight, instead of the written word we will meditate on the visual depiction of the story of the prodigal sons through Rembrandt's painting. Notice colors, people, hues, and shapes, let your eyes gaze at the whole scene and notice where you are drawn? Where are you in the artwork? What do you see from that perspective? What deeper meaning emerges? What emotions does this image evoke in you? What does the image bring forth in you? Does this image lead you into an attitude of prayer? Rest with a silent soft gaze upon the whole scene.

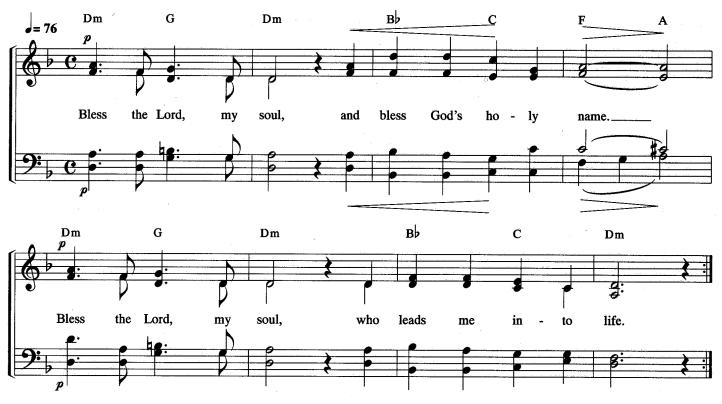


Words from Phuc Luu

The younger brother Who saw his father as dead Who took his inheritance And spent his fortunes Found himself lost In the squalor of his life In feeding the pigs And desiring food not fit for him to eat A famine had crossed over his soul Casting a cloud of poverty and disease This younger son Saw himself as a sinner An outcast, to be despised and shamed And hated In his self-exile, he came to his senses And returned home Returned to himself

And the Father, Who was waiting all this time Seeing him from far off Embraced his child, Lavished on him a party Saw his tattered clothing The worn soles of his shoes Adorned him richly With all that he had In abundance In plenty

The elder Perceived someone not estranged Not other and alien But as a child To be loved Tenderly Compassionately Extravagantly Found To be finally one Becoming whole As he finally came home



9 Bless The Lord

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Intercessory Prayers (adapted from Thom M. Shuman, at www.lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com)

Sung Response: NB42 Kyrie 5



Holy God, Word Shaper: remind us that you are not our accountant, but our lover; you are not angry at us, but you forgive us; you are not our enemy, but the One who runs towards us with wide open arms, throwing a party to celebrate our newness!

KYRIE

Jesus Christ, Shaper of our story: remind us that you travel to that distant country called our sin to bring us home once again; you share your inheritance with us so we might be blessed; you know the famine of our bodies and spirits and fill us with your hope.

KYRIE

Holy Spirit, Life Shaper: surrounded by your grace, we offer glad cries of salvation; encircled by your constant love, we shout for joy; enclosed in your comforting arms, nothing can overwhelm us.

KYRIE

God of all prodigals, whether we have strayed from you, squandering your gifts, and forgotten your deep love for us or whether we have sought to earn your love by following all the rules religiously, remind us that you are LOVE and there is nothing we can do (good or bad) to change that.

KYRIE

May we all become more like You, our loving Parent, and see all who are lost, poor, homeless, and wandering with the eyes of compassion, welcoming them into life and community. May we likewise see all who stive and strain to do the right thing with the eyes of kindness, gentleness, and compassion, reminding that your love is free and graciously given.

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



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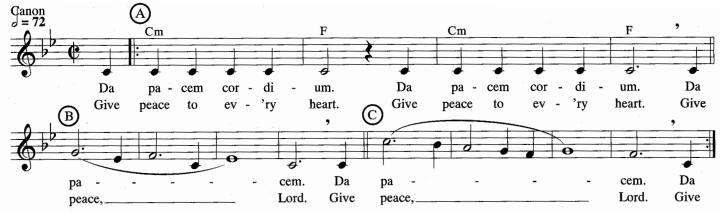
Prayer over the Anointing Oil (in unison)

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. Amen.



44 Give Peace



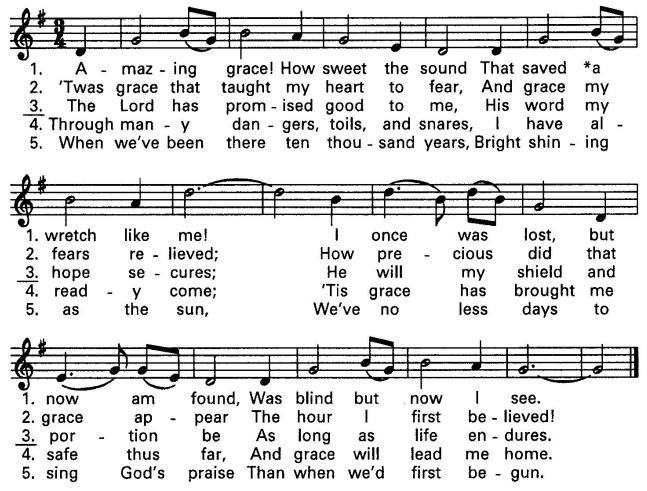
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Dm^7 1. F Dm⁶ G Em/C = 72 Am mf, p 7 Dios tie da te es -pan te. Quien а ne Na da be, na te tur God shall fright - en. Those who seek Noth - ing trou ble, noth - ing can can mf p Dm6 E 2. F Am E Am 0 10 d Ð 0 So Dios da le fal ta. lo bas ta. na -God fills lone us. nev er go want ing. a _ 77 f

29 Nothing Can Trouble

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NEW BRITAIN



*Alternate text: "and set me free!"

Text: CM; verses 1–4, John Newton, 1725–1807; verse 5, anon., fr. A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790. Music: Columbian Harmony, 1829.

The Closing Blessing (in unison)

In this season of Lent, may you know that God waits to be gracious to you, and will rise to show mercy to you. May you know that in returning and rest you shall be saved, and in quietness and trust is your strength.

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

SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

Contemplative Prayer

Join Rev. BJ Woodworth on Zoom during the season of Lent for Contemplative Prayer, involving the reading of a Psalm and Centering Prayer (20 minutes of silence), in community with one another.

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

Cathedral Yoga

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

Wednesdays, 6 to 7 pm

Lenten JourneyDance – April 8

Experience Lent in a unique way this year. Join Yamuna for her Lenten JourneyDance in the Chapel on Friday, April 8 from 6:30-7:45 pm. Take a musical, dancing journey as we approach the end of Lent, with songs from Godspell among other songs, including "Guide me, God," "Song of the Pharaohs," "Joyful, Joyful," and "Prayer of St. Francis." All ages and body types welcome. Wear comfortable clothes and come with an open heart to dance your Lenten journey. A donation from the heart is very much appreciated. Call or text Yamuna with any questions at 412.728.8645.

JourneyDance

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

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

Spring Yoga and Creation Contemplation classes

In March and April, Katrina Woodworth will teach one class on Wednesdays from 8-9 am on Zoom. Winter is waning and Spring is around the corner. Seasonally and spiritually, we are entering into Lent, Easter and Spring. What better way to transition than to get on our mat and be in touch with our bodies! Inspired by the PC(USA) Lenten Daily Reflection Calendar, our yoga practice, readings and meditations will focus on caring for creation in solidarity with Christ's sacrifice and resurrection! Please register in advance at http://tiny.cc/spring-yoga. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Enneagram Study Group

Join facilitator Lynn Holden on the third Mondays of March through June and Sept through Dec, from 12:30-1:30 pm on Zoom (www.Zoom.us; Meeting ID: 966 6904 5127, Passcode: 9types) for an Enneagram Study Group. Required book is *The Sacred Enneagram: Finding Your Path to Spiritual Growth* by Christopher L. Heuertz.

ELPC EVENTS

Support Our Winter Food Drive - March 20

Following 11 am worship on Sunday, March 20, the Neighbors Committee will host a *Winter Food Drive* in the staff parking lot on Baum Blvd. Requested donations include: canned or dried fruit, canned vegetables, cereal, crackers, individual fruit cups, jelly, peanut butter, pasta and sauces, rice, soups and broth, salt, seasonings, and spices. Contact Tim VanFleet (tavanfleet@gmail.com) or Pastor Patrice (patricefs@coh.net) for info.

Church Tours – March 20

Join us on March 20 for a tour of the tower. Please wear closed-toe walking shoes for the tower tour. The tour begins after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Sunday, March 20. Please gather in the Highland Lobby at the hospitality desk to join the tour guide.

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering – March 27

Join us at our LGBTQ Ministry's next *Spiritual Gathering* — either in person at the church or online via Zoom on Sunday, March 27 at 12:30 pm. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are welcome — in fact we will be focusing on our wonderful allies during this time together! For more details or to attend, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

Letter Writing Event – March 27

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee will offer an in-person letter-writing and advocacy time on Sunday, March 27, following our Sunday Church School classes and our Sanctuary worship service in the Highland Room. Topics address environmental and social justice components of the Build Back Better Act, as well as the Hopes for Homes Act. Please join and contribute your voice to advocate for these issues. If unable to join in person, sample letters, fact sheets and your representative addresses are available on our website at ELPC.church.



Tread Lightly for Lent 2022 **DAILY REFLECTION / ACTION CALENDAR**

The Presbyterian Hunger Program strives to walk with people in moving towards sustainable choices that restore and protect all of God's children and creation. As people of faith, we seek to "serve and preserve" God's world. However, some of our collective choices have led to a changing global climate. To turn this tide, we must commit to treading lightly on God's Earth.

In Lent, we reflect on Christ's ministry, death, and resurrection. We slow down, take time, and examine our internal spiritual lives and the way we live out our Christian faith in the world around us.

Our hope is that this Lenten calendar will be the beginning of actions intended to create more mindful behaviors throughout the year.

March 23

Refresh your memory regarding which items your city or town allows for curbside recycling. Remind your family, friends and coworkers to recycle.

March 24

Learn about the UN's the Children's Climate Risk Index (CCRI) at https://bit.ly/3EphRZk

March 25

Watch this short video on environmental injustice's disproportionate impact on people of color: https://youtu.be/ dREtXUij6 c.

March 26

Participate in Earth Hour by switching off all electricity at 8:30pm local time in solidarity with global efforts to secure nature and our home: www.earthhour.org.

March 27 Take PHP's Climate Care Challenge at www.pcusa.org/ccc.

March 28 Read and Reflect on Genesis 1:29.

March 29

Pray: "Creator of the rivers and oceans, who washes us clean and refreshes us daily, help us to be like a cup of cold water to others in your name: refreshing, cleansing, and relieving. Amen"

March 30

Pick up as many pieces of litter as you can and challenge a friend to do the same.

and Act