



East Liberty Presbyterian Church

116 South Highland Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206

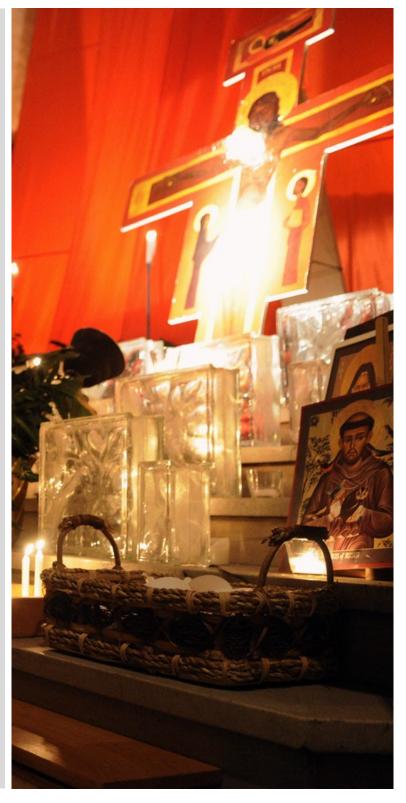
412.441.3800

# **Welcome to Taizé**

We hope this time and space of prayerful song and quiet mediation will give you rest in body, mind and spirit. We invite you to pray and meditate in a variety of ways as you are so inclined.

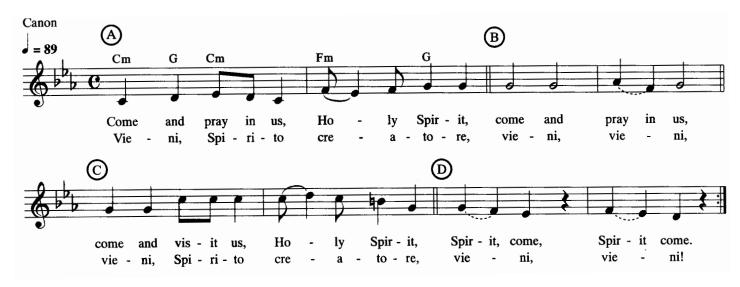
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in prayer for another.
- Visit one of the prayer stations up on the altar.

May you awaken to the restful and restorative presence of the Spirit, and may you carry that awareness with you out into the world.



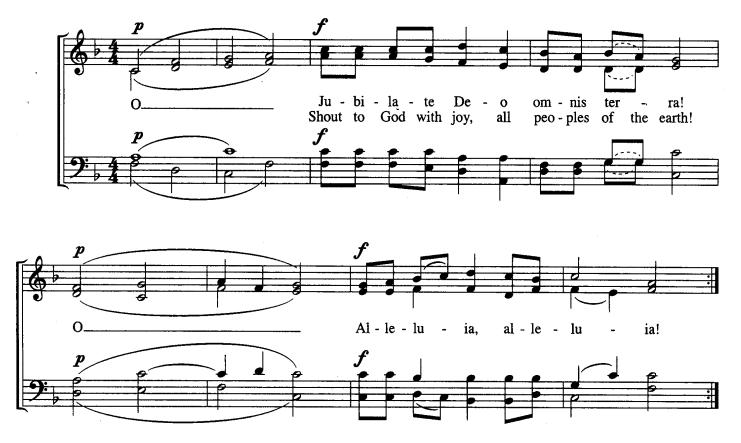
**Prelude by Gerard Rohlf** 

## 42 Come And Pray In Us



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## **CLM24** Shout To God With Joy



## **Psalm 82** (selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

## Sung Response: 1 Alleluia 4



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O Compassionate Teacher,
You are our merciful Counselor;
In the silence you make yourself known
To all who take time to listen.
Would that those in power
Would heed your voice:
"How long will you misuse power
That oppresses the poor?

ALLELUIA

When will you learn that
To act justly and with integrity
Will bring mutual blessing to all?
Do you not know that
To give succor to the poor
And to free people to succeed
Will bring you more joy
Than all your bank accounts?"

**ALLELUIA** 

Arise! Awaken to the new dawn! Come into the Light; Shed darkness like skin on the snake! For the foundations of the cosmos Are shaking with injustice.

#### **ALLELUIA**

I say, "Within you dwells the Beloved, The Breath of your breath; Open your heart in the silence And know the one in the many."

#### **ALLELUIA**

Arise! Join in the new creation! Let harmony reign Among all the nations!

ALLELUIA



## The Word: Hebrews 11:29-32, 39-40; 12:1-2 (The Inclusive Bible)

By faith, the people passed through the Sea of Reds as though on dry land. When the Egyptians tried the same, they drowned. By faith, the walls of Jericho fell after being encircled for seven days. By faith, Rahab the prostitute didn't perish with those who were disobedient, after she welcomed the spies in peace.

What more can I say? There is no time for me to give an account of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, or David, Samuel and the prophets. These are all heroes of our faith, but none of them received what was promised, since God has provided something better for us, so that they would not be made perfect apart from us.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside everything that impedes us and the sin that so easily entangles us. Let us run with perseverance the race laid out for us. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection. For the sake of the joy to come, Jesus endured the cross, heedless of its shame, and now sits at the right of God's throne.

## **Silent Meditation** (for 5-7 minutes)

## **Words from Saints and Ancestors**

Saints are people like ourselves, reachable figures, who have lived well through situations similar to our own as proof that we too, in all of our smallness, can stretch ourselves to the limits of the best of us. In them are reflected the many facets of the face of God.

— Sister Joan Chittister, born April 26, 1936, a Benedictine Sister of Erie, PA

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## CLM20 I Am Sure I Shall See



**Prayers of Intercession** (adapted from "Choose Life; Choose Peace with Justice," in Midday Prayers for Peace and Justice on Hiroshima Day, August 2010)

## Sung Response: 4 Kyrie Eleison 1



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Holy One, we thank you for the many people who have followed your way of life joyfully: for the many saints and ancestors who have offered up their very lives so that your life abundant may become manifest.

### **KYRIE**

We thank you for the truth our saints and ancestors have learned and passed on to us. Give us courage to follow their way of life.

#### **KYRIE**

We pray for the millions in our world who must go hungry today, all who are exploited and marginalized because of their caste or class, skin color or gender, that they may not lose hope, and may find the strength to struggle for their dignity.

#### **KYRIE**

We call upon you for those who are persecuted, imprisoned, tortured or threatened with death because of their witness to justice and peace. For those who have "disappeared" because they dared to speak, that their spirits may not be broken by their bodies' pain.

#### KYRIE

We remember those who live in regions torn by tension and war, by disaster, famine and poverty, for the millions of refugees around the world, that in the midst of tears and bitterness they may discern signs of hope.

#### **KYRIE**

Strengthen our will for peace and justice; increase our faith in your kingdom where "love and faithfulness will meet, righteousness and peace will embrace," and may your will be done here on earth as it is in heaven.

#### **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**



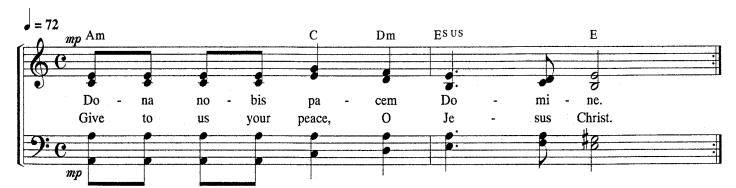
## **Prayer over the Anointing Oil** (in unison)

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.

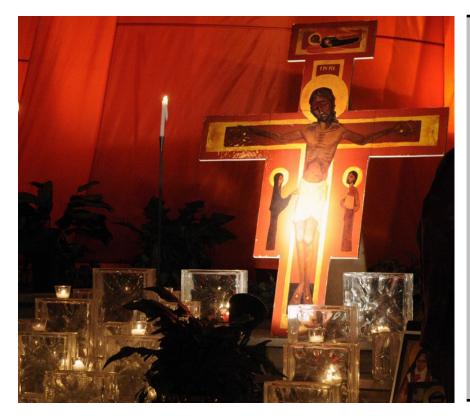
Bless this oil, O Lord, pressed from the fruit of the earth. Let it be a holy ointment for the wounds and worries of those who receive it. May it be a sign to all of us of your constant desire to touch our lives and bring us to health and wholeness. Amen.



## 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)

## NB32 Your Word, O Lord



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## \* Great Is Thy Faithfulness





Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960 Tune: FAITHFULNESS, 11 10 11 10 with refrain; William M. Runyan, 1870–1957 © 1923, 1951, Hope Publishing Company

## Blessing (in unison)

Go from this place awake and aware of God's Light, Life and Love; inspired to reveal God's Light, exhibit God's Life, and embody God's Love.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

# SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

#### **Cathedral Yoga**

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

Wednesdays, 6 to 7 pm

#### **JourneyDance**

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

Aug 19, Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 9 (second Friday) 6:30-7:45 pm

#### **Taizé Podcast Now Available**

If you are unable to come to our Taizé services in person on Wednesdays at 7 pm, stream or download a 15-minute contemplative recording each week. Each podcast includes a brief time of centering, music, a meditation, and a closing prayer. You can find a link to listen to the recordings at www.ELPC.church, in our *This Week in Worship* email news flash each Friday, or in our new app.

# 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 BJW@coh.net

# **ELPC EVENTS**

#### LGBTQ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering — Aug 14

All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to the LGBTQ Ministry's next Spiritual Gathering following worship on Sunday, Aug 14. To ask questions or RSVP, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x118).

#### Church Tours - Aug 14 and 28

Bob Starzynski will lead an *Underground Tour* of ELPC on Sunday, Aug 14. Then on Aug 28, a *Tower Tour* will be offered. Tours will be held after the 10 am summer worship service. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to participate. All are welcome!

## Pick Up Your Copy of PW Bible Study Book - Aug 21 and 28

All women are invited to participate in the 2022–2023 Presbyterian Women's Bible Study, *Celebrating Sabbath*. Pick up a Bible Study book after worship on Sundays, Aug 21 and 28. Bible Study begins on Tuesday, Sept 6 at 10 am, and Monday, Sept 12 at 7 pm. We will meet monthly through May 2023. For info, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

#### **Environmental Book Club - Aug 25**

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee has selected *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler as its next book. You're invited to read the book and join us for a discussion on Thursday, Aug 25 at 7 pm, led by Nancy Heastings and Penn Hackney in the Highland Room or online via Zoom. For more details, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Published in 1993, this climate sci-fi is set in 2024 California. The story's lead character is a 15-year-old Black girl whose father is a preacher. Global climate change and economic crises have led to social chaos.

For some writers, science fiction serves as a means to delve into fantasy. But for Butler, it largely served as a vehicle to address issues facing humanity. Her books blended elements of science fiction and African American spiritualism.