Taizé:

Prayerful Song & Quiet Meditation

August 17, 2022 • 7:00 pm





East Liberty Presbyterian Church

116 South Highland Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206

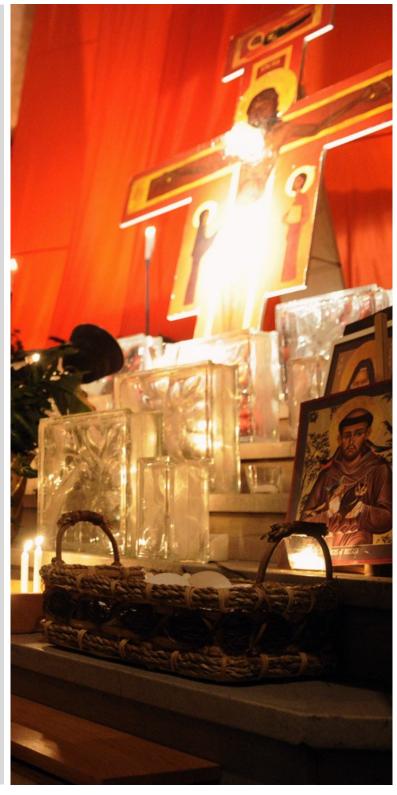
412.441.3800

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.

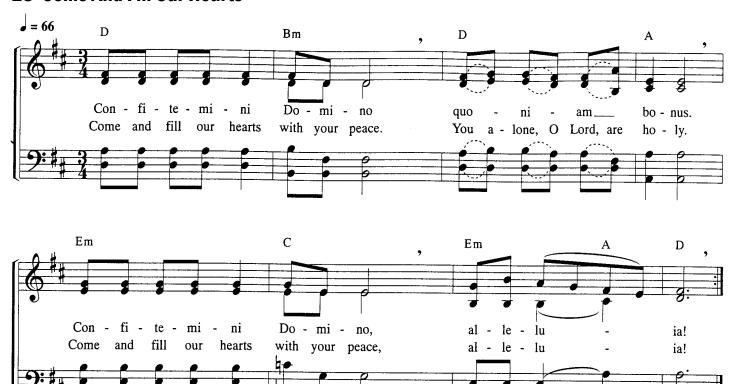
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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



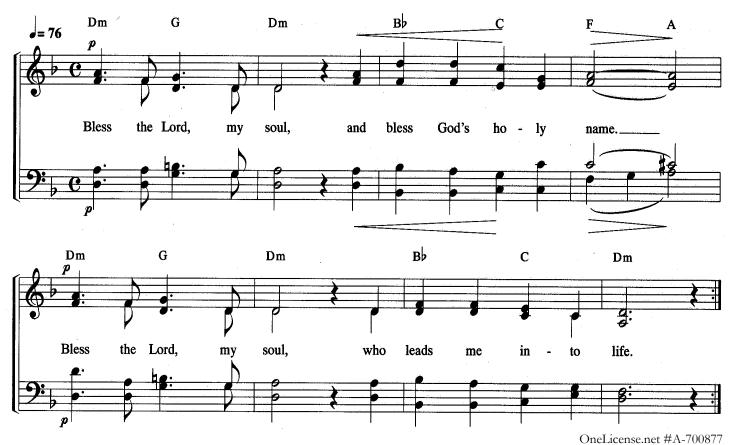
Prelude by Gerard Rohlf

28 Come And Fill Our Hearts



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9 Bless The Lord



Sung Response: CLM2 Alleluia 20



Bless the Beloved, O my soul, And all that is within me; I bless your Holy Name! Bless the Beloved, O my soul, And remember the goodness of Love.

ALLELUIA

You forgive our stubbornness,
You heal our disease,
You save us from the snares of fear,
You crown us with steadfast Love and Mercy,
You satisfy our every need
And renew our spirit like the eagle's.

ALLELUIA

Through you comes peace and Justice for all who are oppressed. You make known the pathway of truth, And guide us on the Way.

ALLELUIA

You are merciful and gracious, Quelling our anger with your patient Love. You love us more than we can ask or imagine; In truth, we belong to you.

ALLELUIA

As parents are concerned for their children, So you come to those who reach out in faith. For our ways are known, Our weaknesses seen with compassion.

ALLELUIA

The Beloved's home is in our hearts, As we discover in the silence. Bless the Beloved, O you angels, You faith-filled ones who hear the Word, Following the voice of love!

ALLELUIA

The Word: Isaiah 58:10-14 (The Inclusive Bible)

If you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows will become like noon. Yahweh will always guide you, giving relief in desert places. God will give strength to your bones and you will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry. You will rebuild the ancient ruins, and build upon age-old foundations. You will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, and Restorer of Ruined Neighborhoods.

If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath and doing business on the holy day, if you call the Sabbath delightful and the day sacred to Yahweh honorable, if you honor it by not pursuing your own ways, seeking your own pleasure, or speaking your own words, then will you find your happiness in Yahweh, and I will lead you triumphant over the heights of the land. I will feed you on the heritage of Leah and Rachel and Jacob, your ancestors! The mouth of Yahweh has spoken.

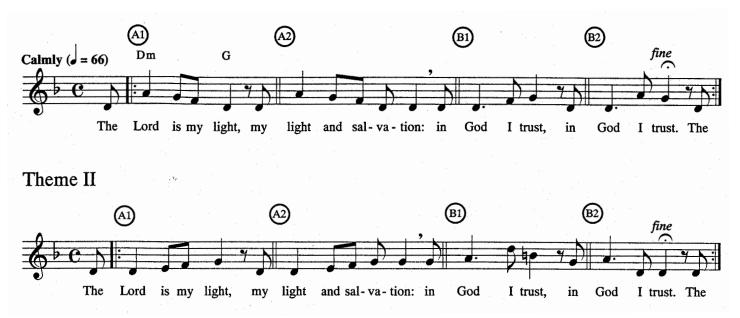
Quiet Meditation and Reflection (for approximately 5-7 minutes)

Words from Saints and Ancestors

The church's task: it's not simply to bind the wounds of the victim beneath the wheel, but also to put a spoke in the wheel itself.

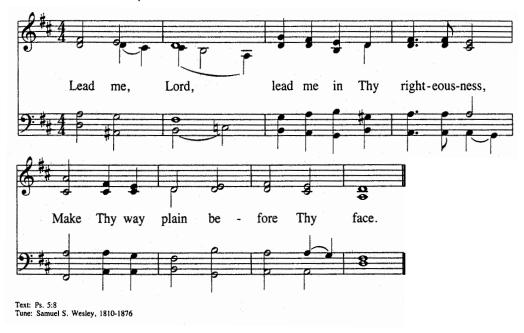
— Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906 – 1945), German Lutheran pastor, theologian, anti-Nazi dissident

36 The Lord Is My Light



Prayers of Intercession (written by Rev. Abi)

Sung Response: G91 Lead Me, Lord



Listening God,

Hear our prayers as we come before you.

Hear the ones who are crying with pain in their heart.

Hear the ones who are weeping with grief long into the night.

Hear the ones who are sobbing in their loneliness.

LEAD ME, LORD

Loving God, Heal their pain. Restore their lives Mend their broken hearts.

LEAD ME, LORD

Leading God,
Lead us through the dark valleys.
Lead us through troublesome times.
Lead us to our home with you.

LEAD ME, LORD

Teach us to listen to your voice,
That we may hear the cry of the needy and respond.
Teach us to love that
We may offer care that brings others to you for healing.
Teach us to lead,
With your vision so that we not lead others blindly through life.

LEAD ME, LORD



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)

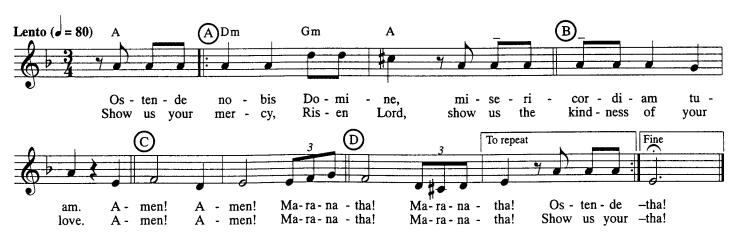
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left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

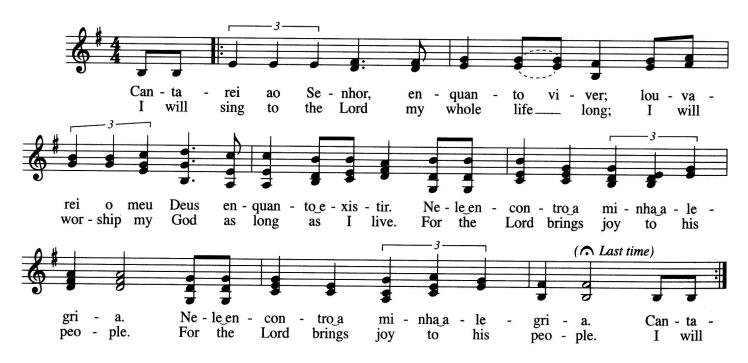




15 Show Us Your Mercy



CLM12 I Will Sing To The Lord

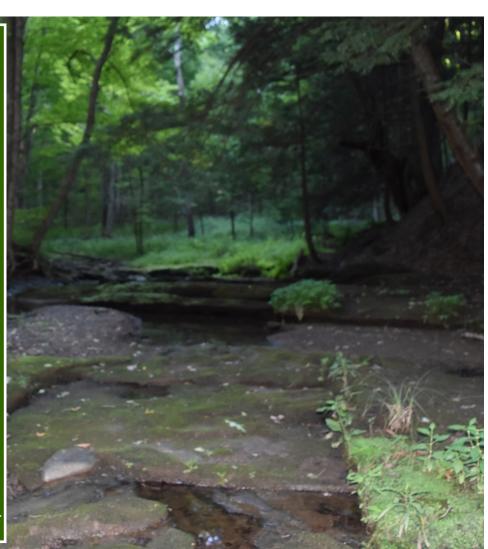


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Silence and Love

Christ says: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). We need silence in order to welcome these words and put them into practice. When we are agitated and restless, we have so many arguments and reasons not to forgive and not to love too easily. But when we "have calmed and quieted our soul", these reasons turn out to be quite insignificant. Maybe we sometimes avoid silence, preferring whatever noise, words or distraction, because inner peace is a risky thing: it makes us empty and poor, disintegrates bitterness and leads us to the gift of ourselves. Silent and poor, our hearts are overwhelmed by the Holy Spirit, filled with an unconditional love. Silence is a humble yet secure path to loving.

— Brother Alois of Taizé



G77 South African Alleluia



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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.

New Fall Spiritual Life Group: "The Revolutionary Love Project" — Begins Sept 15

How can developing postures and practices of REVOLUTIONARY LOVE towards yourself, others and even our opponents be transformative? Join the Spiritual Life project Committee on Thursdays from 5:30-7 pm, starting on Sept 15. Please contact the Rev. BJ Woodworth with questions or to RSVP (BJW@coh.net).

Scan the QR code or visit www.tiny.cc/m91uuz to see Valarie Kaur's *Ted Talk* for a compelling preview.



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!

Letter Writing by Environmental Team - Aug 14

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to join them in the Whitfield Lobby on Sunday, Aug 14 after the worship service for letter writing to express thanks and gratitude to the Biden Administration and our legislators for their steadfast work towards climate goals, including climate provisions in the *Inflation Reduction Act*. We are grateful for their science-based approach in recognizing the threat of climate crisis and taking steps necessary for the health and longevity of God's people and God's planet. Give thanks when the thanks are due!

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.

