TAIZÉ:

Prayerful Song & Quiet Meditation



 $\textbf{\textit{Annunciation}} \; (c. \; 1472\text{--}1475) \; \textbf{by Leonardo da Vinci}$



November 30, 2022 • 7:00 pm

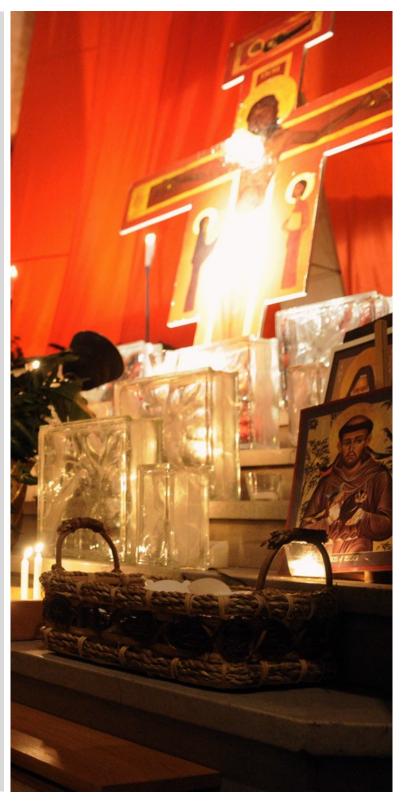
116 South Highland Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206 **412.441.3800**

Welcome to Taizé

We hope this time and space of prayerful song and quiet meditation 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.

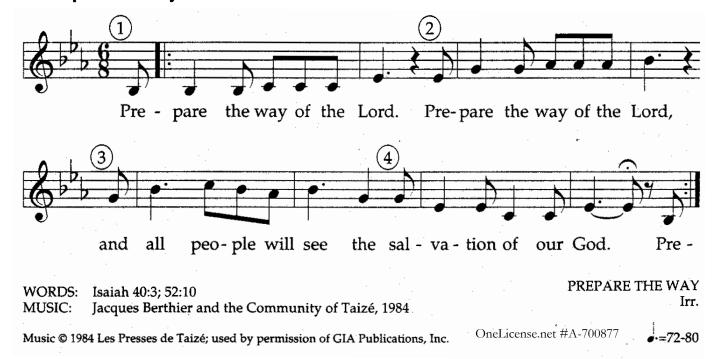
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

G89 Prepare The Way



28 Come And Fill Our Hearts



Psalm 2 (selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: 1 Alleluia 4



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Why do nations and people
Plot against one another,
Setting themselves apart and
Conspiring against the Beloved
And those who follow Love's way?
They say to themselves,
"We are free of Love's law;
Humility and service are for others."

ALLELUIA

The Beloved, who is ever-present,
Can but smile at their foolishness,
Knowing that one day,
They will fall to their knees in regret.
Distracted by greed and arrogance,
They do not hear the Beloved's Voice
Whispering in the silence:
"Awaken all of you living in darkness!
We are all One in Love Consciousness.
You live in my Heart even as I dwell in yours.

ALLELUIA

For you are mine; I am your Beloved. I have given you abundant life
To love and care for all creation.
May it be for the delight of all.
Yet, to know Me,
Fears and illusions must be faced,
As an iron rod hitting a clay pot,
Shining Light into the darkness."

ALLELUIA

Blessed are all who are asked for forgiveness, Whose hearts radiate the Love We all are at the core.

ALLELUIA



The Word and Meditation: Luke 1:28-31, 38, 46-55 (First Nations translation)

Creator's Mighty One (Gabriel) said to her, "Greetings, highly favored one! You are close to the Great Spirit and greatly honored among women." Bitter Tears (Mary) was deeply troubled by this greeting and wondered what the spirit-messenger would say. "Do not fear," he comforted her, "for you have found goodwill in the eyes of the Great Mystery. You will be with child and give birth to a son. You will name him Creator Sets Free (Jesus)."

"I am Creator's servant," she said with boldness. Let it be for me just as you have said." Then Creator's chief spirit-messenger left her.

"From deep in my heart I danced with joy to honor the Great Spirit. Even though I am small and weak, he noticed me. Now I will be looked up to by all. The Mighty One has lifted me up! His name is sacred. He is the Great and Holy One."

Her face seemed to shine as she continued. "He shows kindness and pity to both children and elders who respect him. His strong arm has brought low the ones who think they are better than others. He counts coup* with arrogant warrior chiefs but puts a headdress of honor on the ones with humble hearts." She smiled, looked up to the sky, and shouted for joy!

"He prepares a great feast for the ones who are hungry, but sends the fat ones home with empty bellies. He has been kind to the tribes of Wrestles with Creator (Israel) who walk in his ways, for he has remembered the ancient promises he made to our ancestors—to Father of Many Nations (Abraham) and his descendants."

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

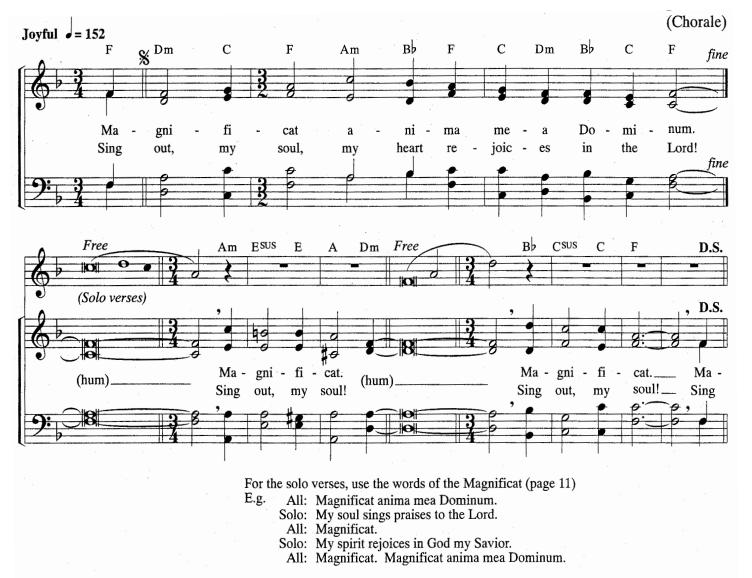
Words from Saints and Ancestors

Ancient Mother, Black Madonna, Dark Lady of Birth, Death, and Rebirth, you speak out from the heart of the world. Your message is uncompromising: Brother, stop hurting your brother. Sister, put down your weapons. Neighbor, open your door to your neighbors. Wake up, stand up, wash yourselves and look up attentively. Dedicate yourself to prayer. Develop the virtues of charity, availability, and humility. Make peace with every breath.

— Mirabai Starr, author, translator of the mystics, taken from "Mother of God Similar to Fire"

^{* &}quot;Counting coup" was a Native American practice among some of the Plaines tribes of touching an enemy with a coup stick as an act of courage during battle, to show he could have killed him but chose to spare him instead. Each time the coup stick was used in battle, a mark would be placed on it. It counted the number of victories won.

24 Magnificat

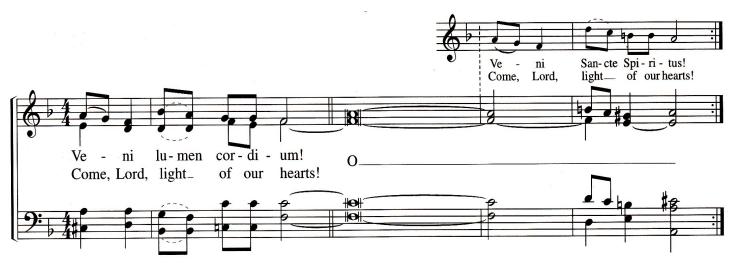


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Prayers of Intercession

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



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Loving God, our spirits rejoice in all your gracious acts towards us, most of all, the event we so look forward to—the wonderful and precious gift of your Son, Jesus, the Christ. We give thanks for the willingness of Mary to believe that the impossible could and would happen. Help us to have a like faith.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Open our hearts and minds to believe that your promises can come to surprising fulfillment. Show us how we can best serve you with mercy and in humility, empowering people to live lives of dignity and worth.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

As we look at our screens and read accounts of people throughout the world who are being made powerless because of the greed and violence of others, remind us of the great possibility of prayer to effect changes for good, and that we are Christ's body in the world.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

We pray with Mary and ask that you bring down the powerful and lift up the lowly; fill those who are hungry and drive away those who profit by the weakness and ignorance of others.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Comfort and encourage all those who feel that life holds no hope and help them and each of us to truly believe, O God, that with you, nothing is impossible.

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)

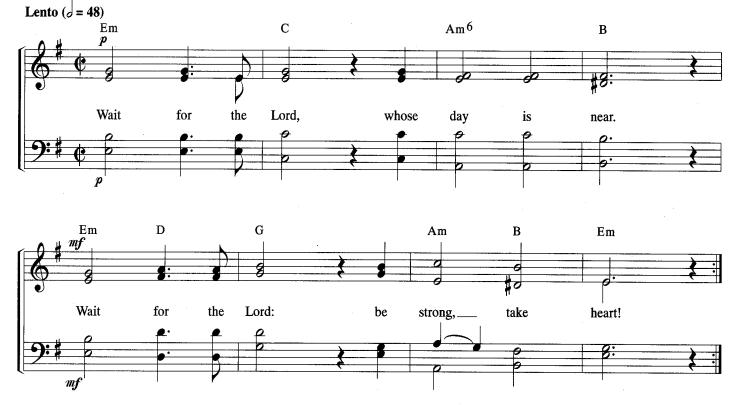
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left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





12 Wait For The Lord

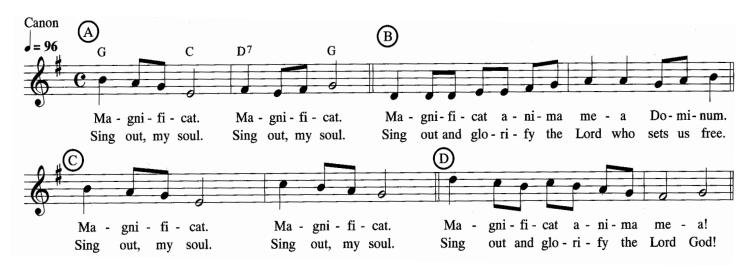


G77 South African Alleluia



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45 Magnificat



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Unison Advent Blessing

May each of us, like Mary, say yes to God's invitations, make room in the sacred womb of our souls, and be the midwives of God in the world.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.



SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

Contemplative Prayer on Mondays

On Mondays from 7:30–8 am, you're invited to a weekly time of quiet contemplation and reflection. The Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead us through a variety of contemplative prayer practices utilizing fixed prayers, scripture, music, silence, art, and our bodies to help us start our day and week in communion with God and one another.

Join us online at www.tiny.cc/contemplative-prayer. Enter meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 and passcorde: bestill. Contact Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net) for more info.

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).

Dec 9 (second Friday) 6:30-7:45 pm

Save the Date: Sabbath Day Workshop - Jan 14

Join us on Saturday, Jan 14 from 9 am-3pm for a day of rest, reflection, and conversation about how to faithfully practice *Sabbath* in our fast paced, production oriented, consumer culture. Our day together will embody a *Sabbath* day of rest. We will collaboratively experiment with a variety of *Sabbath* practices and reflect upon them. There will be time for solitude, being in our body, instruction from Pastor BJ, and personal reflecting with the aim of developing a plan for practicing *Sabbath* in your own life. Whether you are retired, parenting young kids, a single young adult or in height of your career, our time together will aim to help you design a *Sabbath* practice for your season of life. Suggested donation: \$10; lunch included.

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 x241

ELPC EVENTS



César Franck: The Three Chorales Concert — Dec 10

ELPC organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore will perform works by César Franck on Saturday, Dec 10 at 4 pm, commemorating the 200th anniversary of Franck's birth. The concert is free, but a freewill offering will be received. Join us in the Sanctuary or live on YouTube or Facebook.

LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering — Dec 11

All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering on Sunday, Dec 11 at 12:30 pm with the YAMs. For more info or to attend, contact Wil Forrest (Wil@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x218).

Christmas in East Liberty — Dec 16

The highly anticipated Cathedral Concert and East Liberty tradition *Christmas in East Liberty* returns on Friday, Dec 16 at 7:30 pm, and will feature The Brass Roots, the ELPC Chancel Choir, organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore, and conductor Daniel Nesta Curtis. Join us in the Sanctuary or virtually on YouTube or Facebook. The concert is free; a freewill offering will be received.

Ten Thousand Villages Shopping - Dec 17 and 18

Help support the Deacons' holiday outreach ministries by shopping at Ten Thousand Villages on Saturday, Dec 17 and Sunday, Dec 18. You can come to ELPC to shop, or go online to purchase items. Contact Board of Deacons Moderator Dave Cowan (DavidACowan@gmail.com) or Pastor Patrice (PatriceFS@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x230).

