

# TAIZÉ:

*Prayerful Song & Quiet Meditation*

January 4, 2023 • 7:00 pm



**East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church**

[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.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 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 Gerard Rohlif**

**Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth**

## 18 Raise A Song of Gladness

$\text{♩} = 84$  (A) D G A (B)

Ju - bi - la - te De - o om - nis ter - ra.  
Raise a song of glad - ness, peo - ples of the earth.

Ser - vi - te Do - mi - no in lae - ti - ti - a.  
Christ has come, bring - ing peace, joy to ev - 'ry heart.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - 'ry heart!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - 'ry heart!

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## \* The First Nowell

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor  
 2 They look-ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the  
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men  
 4 Then let us all with one ac-cord sing prais-es

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing  
 east be-yond them far; and to the earth it gave  
 came from coun-try far; to seek for a king was their  
 to our heav-en-ly Lord, that hath made heaven and earth

their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.  
 great light, and so it con-tin-ued both day and night.  
 in-tent, and to fol-low the star wher-ev-er it went.  
 of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.

Now-ell, Now-ell, Now-ell, Now-ell,

born is the King of Is-ra-el.

**Psalm 72** (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

**Sung Response: 3 Alleluia 11**

♩ = 104

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! (hum)

(Al - le - lu - ia)

D.S.

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Bring justice to the peoples, O Beloved,  
And your mercy to all generations!  
May the people be known for mercy,  
Rendering justice to the poor!  
Let their spirits soar as the eagle,  
Let joy abide in every heart!  
May we heed the cry of the poor —  
The young and the old,  
Helping to free all those in need,  
Awakening the souls of oppressors!

**ALLELUIA**

May we know oneness with you  
As long as the sun endures,  
As long as the stars shine,  
Throughout all generations!  
May we acknowledge you  
In the rain falling on the fields,  
Like showers that water the earth!  
In our day may justice flourish,  
And peace abound, throughout all the nations!

**ALLELUIA**

May every heart open  
To your love from sea to sea,  
From the River of Life out to the universe!  
May fears that paralyze the people  
Rise up from the depths into your Light!

**ALLELUIA**

Long may you live in our hearts,  
May praises be sung to you!  
May our prayers rise up before you  
And blessings of love be freely rendered!  
May we be ever grateful  
For the grain of the fields,  
For the fruits of the vine to be shared with all;  
And may the people blossom forth in the cities,  
Diverse like flowers in the meadow!  
May your Name live on forever,  
Your Love endure as long as the sun!

**ALLELUIA**

May the people bless themselves  
In knowing you,  
And all nations call you blessed!  
Blessed be the Beloved,  
The One who dwells in open hearts,  
Who guides us along the way.  
Blessed be you,  
Who comes in the Name of Love;  
May your glory fill the earth!  
Amen and Amen!

**ALLELUIA**

## The Word and Meditation: Matthew 2 *(selected verses)*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, astrologers from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.” ...They set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

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

### Words from Saints and Ancestors

It might have been just someone else’s story, some chosen people get a special king.  
We leave them to their own peculiar glory, we don’t belong, it doesn’t mean a thing.  
But when these three arrive they bring us with them,  
Gentiles like us, their wisdom might be ours;  
A steady step that finds an inner rhythm, a pilgrim’s eye that sees beyond the stars.  
They did not know his name but still they sought him,  
they came from elsewhere but still they found.  
In temples they found those who sold and bought him,  
but in the filthy stable, hallowed ground,  
Their courage gives our questing hearts a voice to seek, to find, to worship, to rejoice.

— Ayodeji Malcolm Guite (1957)

*English poet, singer-songwriter, and Anglican priest*

### CLM14 Christ, You Are Light

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) in 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Christe, lux es mundi, qui sequeris te habebitis lumen vitae, qui sequeris te habebitis lumen vitae.' The score includes a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: Christe, lux es mundi, qui sequeris te habebitis lumen vitae, qui sequeris te habebitis lumen vitae.

Christe, lux es mundi, qui sequeris te habebitis lumen vitae, qui sequeris te habebitis lumen vitae.

## Prayers of Intercession (*"O Star Flinging God" written by Glenn Mitchell*)

### Sung Response: 16 Gloria

$\text{♩} = 80$

(A) Dm Gm C F (B)

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!  
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

(C) (D)

Glo - ri - a. glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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O Star-flinging God,  
whose light dances across eternity,  
dazzle us into your presence  
this new year.

Open our hearts to the mystery of your love.

**GLORY TO GOD**

Awaken us to your presence,  
knit to the ordinary.  
Reveal to us what is possible, but not yet present.  
Heal us, that we might be healers.

**GLORY TO GOD**

Reconcile us to you and to ourselves,  
that our living might be reconciling.

**GLORY TO GOD**

Stop us often, we pray,  
with news that is good,  
with hope that holds,  
with truth that transforms with a Word,  
tailored to this trail we're on.

**GLORY TO GOD**

May the word of your grace guide our steps  
like the sun by day  
and the north star by night,  
as we travel into the gift of a new year.

**GLORY TO GOD**



## 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 confidentiality.*

*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

The musical score for 'The Lord's Prayer' is presented in five systems, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of the prayer. The second system covers the second line. The third system covers the third line. The fourth system covers the fourth line, which includes a repeat sign and a fermata over the final measure. The fifth system covers the fifth line, which also includes a repeat sign and a fermata over the final measure. The lyrics are: 'Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - lowed be thy name; thy king - dom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread; for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us; lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil. For thine is the King - dom, and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.'

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - lowed be thy name; thy king - dom come;

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread;

for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us;

lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil. For thine is the King - dom,

and the pow - er, and the glo - ry, for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## 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.



## CLM23 Jesus, Redeemer

Canon

1 2

Je - su, re - dem - ptor om - ni - um, tu — lu - men et splen - dor  
Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world, light and splen - dor of God the

Pa - tris, ti - bi sit glo - ri - a, ti - bi Je - su sit glo - ri - a.  
Fa - ther, glo - ry and praise to you, all — glo - ry and praise to you. *div.*

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## CLM13 Sing A New Song To The Lord, All You Peoples

1 2

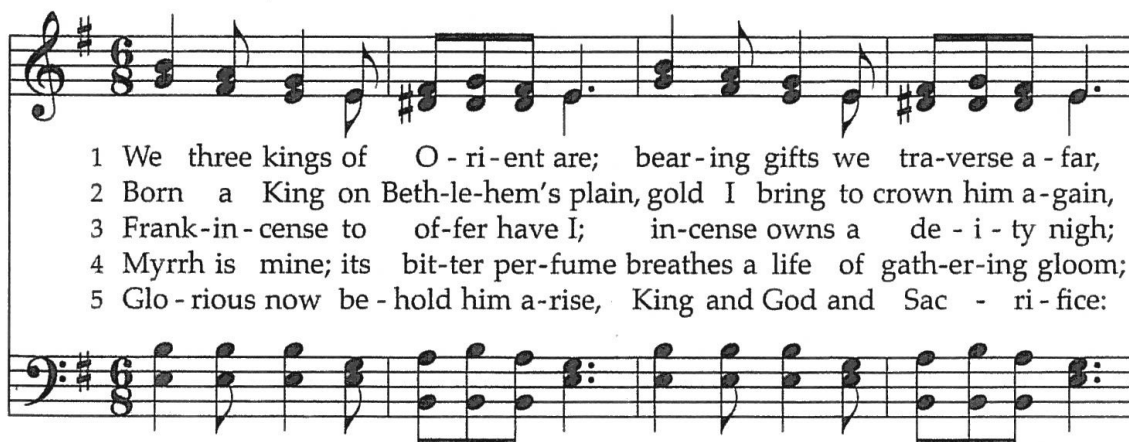
Can - ta - te Do - mi - no can - ti - cum no - vum. Al - le - lu - ia,  
Sing a new song to the Lord, all you peo - ples.

al - le - lu - ia. Can - ta - te Do - mi - no om - nis ter - ra.  
Sing out to God and re - joice, all na - tions.

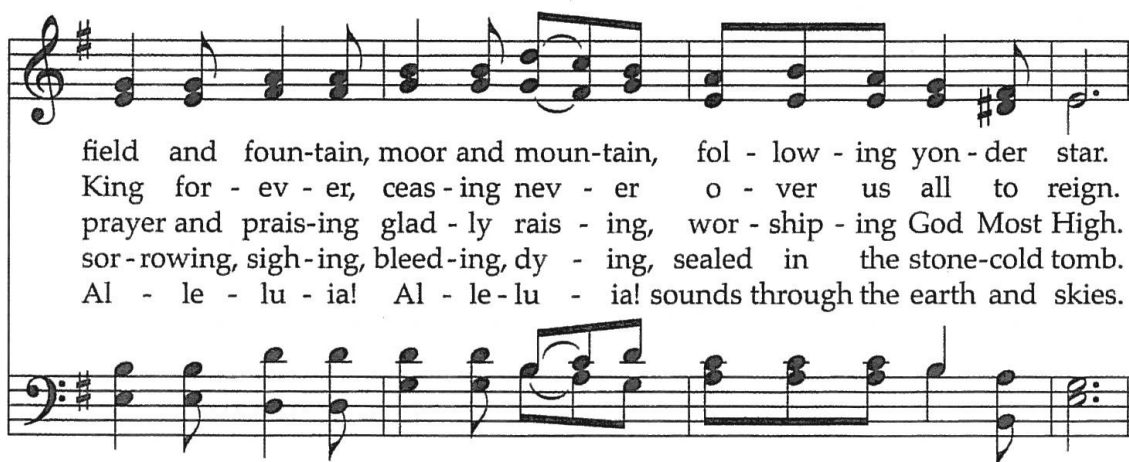
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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## \* We Three Kings



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,  
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice:

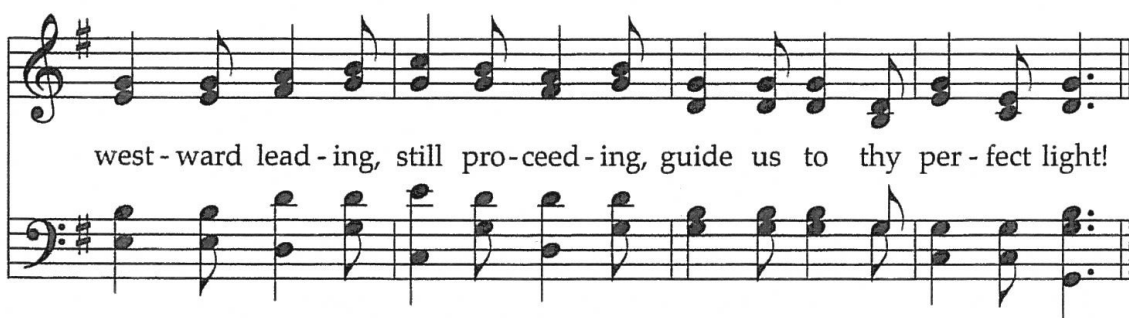


field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
 prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

### Refrain



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1-12) as "kings," perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.

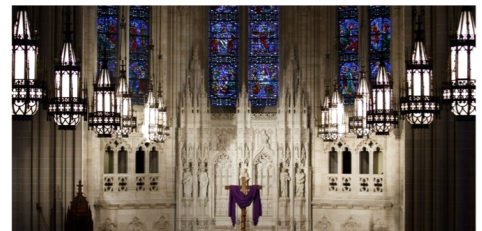
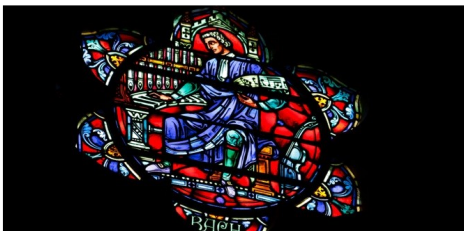
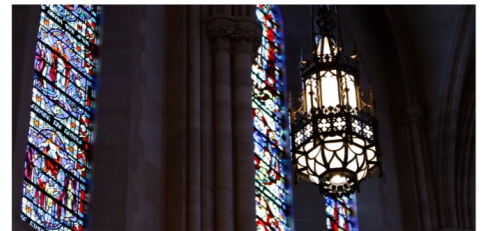
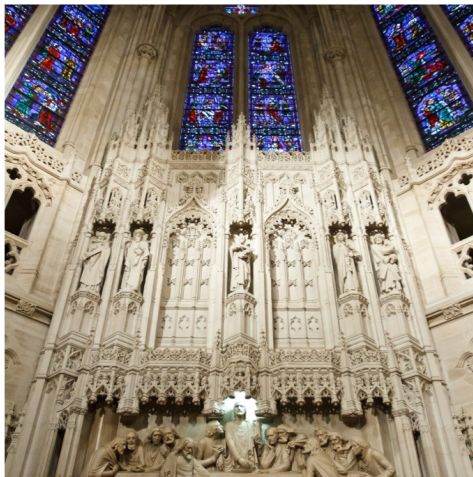
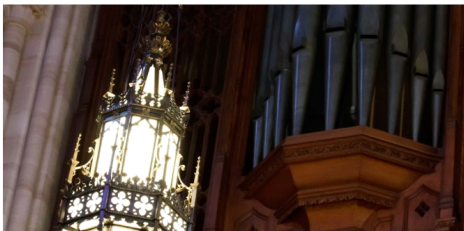
## Pilgrim's Blessing *(in unison)*

In this season of Epiphany...  
be faithful to the next step;  
rely on more than the map;  
heed the signposts of intuition and dream;  
follow the star that only you will recognize;  
keep an open eye for the wonders that attend the path;  
press on beyond distractions,  
    beyond fatigue,  
    beyond what would tempt you from the way...  
that will take you to the place  
where at last you will kneel to offer the gift  
most needed — the gift that only you can give —  
before turning to go home by another way.

*(adapted from "For Those Who Have Far to Travel" by Jan Richardson)*

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.



*Please visit our website for more  
information about the ministries of  
East Liberty Presbyterian Church.*

**www.ELPC.CHURCH**

# 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](http://www.tiny.cc/contemplative-prayer). Enter meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 and passcode: bestill when prompted. Contact Pastor BJ ([BJW@coh.net](mailto: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).

Jan 20, Feb 17, March 17, April 21

May 12 (*second Friday*)

7:00-8:30 pm (*note new time for 2023*)

## Study the Enneagram – Jan 16 (3rd Monday of the Month)

Join us on the third Monday of each month from 12:15–1:30 pm, at [www.tiny.cc/enneagram](http://www.tiny.cc/enneagram). Enter Meeting ID: 966 6904 5127; and Passcode: 9types. Participants will need a copy of *The Sacred Enneagram: Finding Your Path to Spiritual Growth* by Christopher L. Heuertz. Our group will be led by Lynn Holden, a licensed professional counselor, trained spiritual director, and certified Enneagram practitioner. *Note the group will meet on Jan 16, Feb 20 and March 20.*

## Sabbath Day Workshop – Jan 14

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to 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 your body, instruction from Pastor BJ, and personal reflection with the aim of developing a plan for practicing *Sabbath* in your own life. So whether you are retired, parenting young kids, a single young adult or at the height of your career, our time together will aim to help you design a *Sabbath* practice for your season of life. Join us on Saturday, Jan 14 from 9 am-3 pm at ELPC. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch. Please RSVP to Norma by Jan 10 (412.441.3800 x211).

# ELPC EVENTS

## PW Bible Study – Jan 9

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study on Monday, Jan 9 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only). For more info and the Zoom link, please email [PW.ELPC@gmail.com](mailto:PW.ELPC@gmail.com).

## Connections Group Gathering – Jan 7

The ELPC Connections Group will be visiting *Phipps' Holiday Magic! Winter Flower Show and Light Garden* on Saturday, Jan 7 at 3:30 pm. Please buy your ticket in advance and gather at the front entrance at 3:30 pm. Tickets can be purchased online starting Monday, Dec 12 (\$24 for adults, \$14 for children, \$22 for seniors and students, and free if a member). We have a few free tickets available. RSVP to [connectelc@gmail.com](mailto:connectelc@gmail.com).

## Club One Sixteen – Resumes Jan 11

Kids in grade 1–12 are invited to club one sixteen, ELPC's mid-week program for youth. We gather each Wednesday, 4:30–6:30 pm, for Bible Study, recreation, relaxation, and dinner together. We will resume on Wednesday, Jan 11. To register a child or update a registration, please visit [ELPC.church](http://ELPC.church).

## LGBTQ Ministry Spiritual Gathering – Jan 15

All allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike are invited to the next monthly spiritual gathering on Sunday, Jan 15 at 12:30 pm. For more info or to attend, please contact Wil Forrest ([Wil@coh.net](mailto:Wil@coh.net); 412.441.3800 x218).

## Meditation Hour – Begins Jan 17

Meditation is the practice of “looking deeply.” In silence and withdrawal from the world of everyday concerns, we turn our attention inward and calm our bodies and minds. In this emptiness we may see the world as if for the first time. We may see others as they are and we may find that the Kingdom of Heaven is truly within us; that we are living in God and God in us.

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join John Benedict in the Prayer Room each Tuesday, starting Jan 17, from 6-7 pm for an hour devoted to meditation. The session will include an opening reading, silent sitting, and walking. John is a retired psychologist and a long time student and practitioner of insight meditation. No experience is necessary, and all are welcome!

