TAIZÉ:

Prayerful Song & Quiet Meditation

February 15, 2023 • 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.

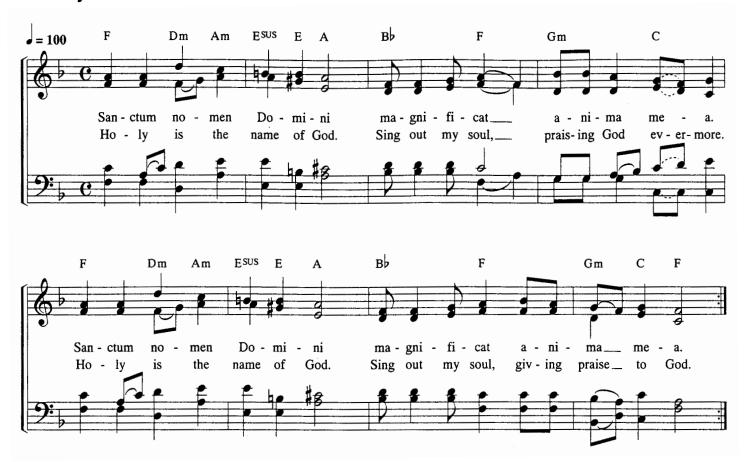
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

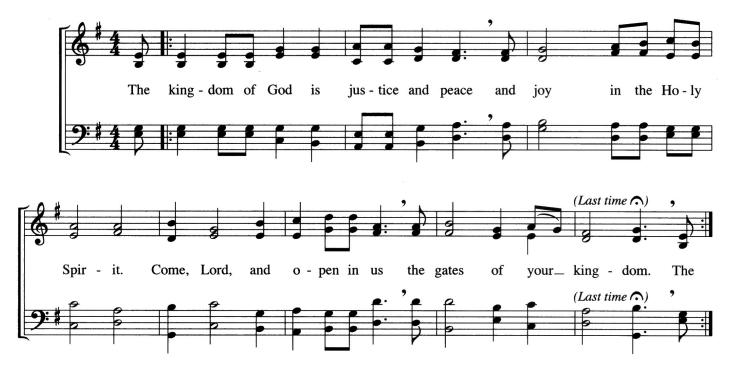
Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth

43 Holy Is The Name Of God



OneLicense.net #A-700877

CLM35 The Kingdom Of God



Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 18



OneLicense.net #A-700877

Awaken, O you people! Entrust your hearts to Love. For the Beloved reigns supreme; Let all the earth give thanks!

ALLELUIA

Your unseen Presence is great in the land; You sit with the leaders of nations. Let them be silent and guided by your Voice.

ALLELUIA

Holy are you!
You are mighty and love justice,
You establish equity;
Out of the Silence,
Your Word can be heard in the land
Inviting the nations to live in peace.

ALLELUIA

Listen, O you people! Open your hearts to the Beloved, That Truth may be born anew!

ALLELUIA

Many who have gone before you
Followed the Beloved's Voice,
The unknown saints of all generations.
They surrendered themselves
Into the Beloved's hands,
And walked with confidence.
They were guided through difficult times,
Keeping to Love's way,
And trusting in Love's promises.

ALLELUIA

O Heart of all hearts, You answered their prayers; With mercy, you forgave them Their wrongdoings, Always inviting them to new life. Sing praises to the Beloved, And aspire to ascend the holy mountain, Holy are you, O Giver of Life!

ALLELUIA



The Word and Meditation: Luke 9:28-36 (The Inclusive Bible translation)

Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up onto a mountain to pray. While Jesus was praying, his face changed in appearance and the clothes he wore became dazzling white. Suddenly two people were there talking with Jesus — Moses and Elijah. They appeared in glory and spoke of the prophecy that Jesus was about to fulfill in Jerusalem.

Peter and the others had already fallen into a deep sleep, but awakening, they saw Jesus' glory—and the two people who were standing next to him. When the two were leaving, Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, how good it is for us to be here! Let's set up three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah!" Peter didn't really know what he was saying.

While Peter was speaking, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and the disciples grew fearful as the others entered it. Then from the cloud came a voice which said, "This is my Own, my Chosen One. Listen to him!"

When the voice finished speaking, they saw no one but Jesus standing there. The disciples kept quiet, telling nothing of what they had seen at that time to anyone.

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

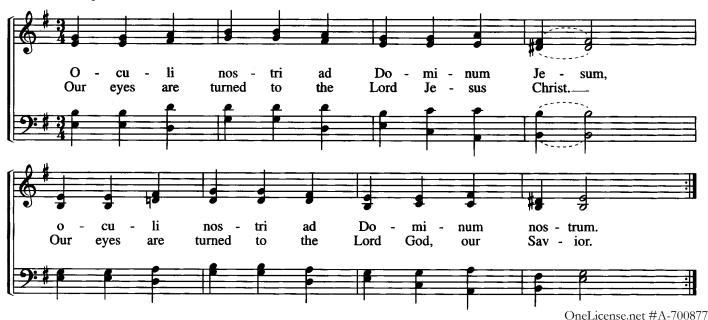
Words from Saints and Ancestors

The glory of God is a living human being; and the life of a human being consists in beholding God.

— Irenaeus of Smyrna, (130-202)

a Greek Bishop noted for his role in guiding and expanding Christian communities in the southern regions of present-day France

NB17 Our Eyes Are Turned



Prayers of Intercession (written by William Loader)

Sung Response: CLM14 Christ, You Are Light



Almighty God, before the passion of your Son, you revealed His glory upon the holy mountain. Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of His countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross. Indeed, O Lord, give us the vision to see beyond the turmoil of our world and to behold Him in all His glory.

CHRIST, YOU ARE LIGHT

O God, at the Holy Mountain we open our eyes, and we see Jesus, the months of ministry transfigured to a beam of light, the light of the world, your light. May your light always shine upon us.

CHRIST, YOU ARE LIGHT

O God, we open our eyes, and we see Moses and Elijah with Jesus, your word, restoring us, showing us the way, telling a story, your story, his story, our story. May your word always speak to us.

CHRIST, YOU ARE LIGHT

O God, we open our eyes, and we see Jesus, not casting us off, but leading us down, leading us out – to ministry, to people. Help us to share his love, your love.

CHRIST, YOU ARE LIGHT

O God, hear our prayers not just for ourselves, but our prayers for one another at this time: our prayer that they who are lost might be found, that they who are lame might walk and they who are sick may be healed, that they who are enslaved may be set free and they that mourn may be comforted.

CHRIST, YOU ARE LIGHT

O God, at your Holy Mountain we open our ears, and we hear your voice saying, 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him!' We give you thanks and we pray in his name that we might always do your will and harken to his voice—both on the mountains and in the valleys of life.

CHRIST, YOU ARE LIGHT

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.

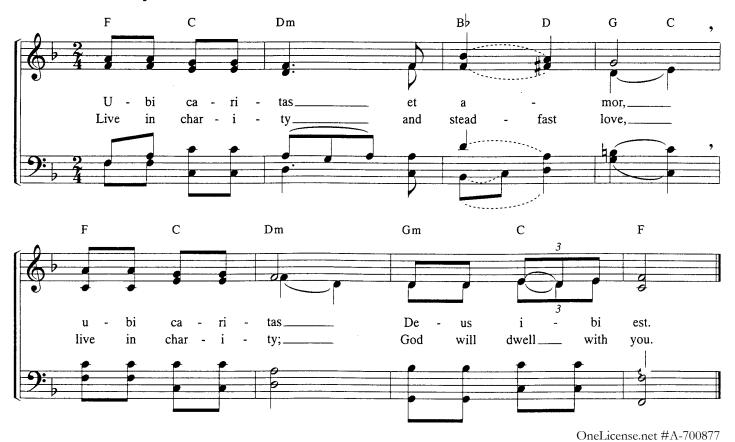
Bless this oil, O Lord, pressed from the fruit of the earth. Let it be a holy ointment for the wounds and worries of those who receive it. May it be a sign to all of us of your constant desire to touch our lives and bring us to health and wholeness. Amen.



CLM32 Look To God And Be Filled

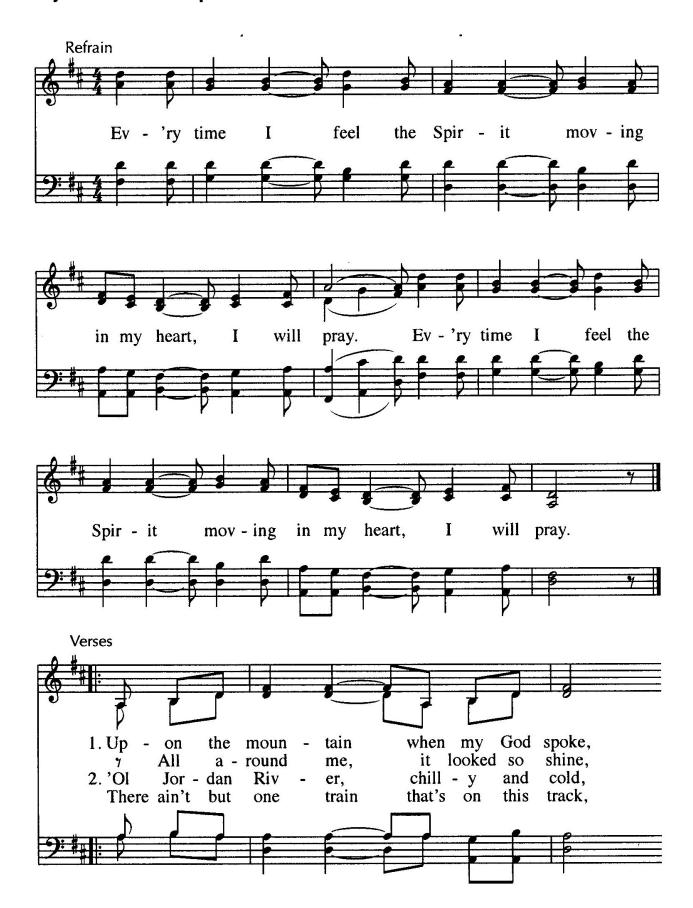


49 Live In Charity





* Every Time I Feel The Spirit





Text: Negro Spiritual Tune: FEEL THE SPIRIT, 98 98 with refrain; Negro Spiritual; arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr., b.1969, € 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

OneLicense.net #A-700877

Blessing (in unison)

Go now, and speak of what you have seen of God's glory.

Do not cling to the holy moments

when heaven overshadows you,

but as the Lord lives, listen to Christ and follow him

from the places of revelation

to the places of mission.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.



SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

A Lenten Journey of Embracing the Wisdom of Our Ancestors, Bodies, and the Earth — Feb 23 to March 30

Decolonizing is a popular buzzword in conversations about spirituality, but what is it? What does it look like? Join other congregants on a Lenten journey focused on understanding the impact of colonization on our spiritual practice.



Together, let's consider ways to deepen our connection to God by learning to embrace the wisdom of our ancestors, our bodies, and the Earth itself.

Each Thursday during Lent (Feb 23– March 30) from 5:30–7 pm, the Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger will lead us as we explore a particular theme and discuss ways to implement new ideas or strengthen our spiritual practice throughout the week.

We cannot change the past, but we can rediscover what we lost and build a fuller, richer sense of the Divine in our midst.

A light dinner will be served. The suggested donation is \$25. RSVP to Norma (412.441.3800 x211) by Sunday, Feb 19.

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 passcode: bestill when prompted. Contact Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net) for more info.

ELPC EVENTS

Connections Group — Feb 18

The Connections Group will go together to see the play *American Menu* at New Horizons Theater at 3 pm (matinee) on Saturday, Feb 18. Please buy your own ticket (\$25) ahead of time on the theater's website. We will meet at the performance space, which is at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-Homewood (7101 Hamilton Ave, 15208). After the performance, we'll go to a nearby restaurant to eat and talk. Please RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com.

Social Hour - Feb 19

Please join us in the McKelvy Room for a *Social Hour* after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service next Sunday, Feb 19, sponsored by the Membership and Outreach Committee. Please join us! All are welcome!

Church Tour — Feb 19

A *Hidden Places Tour* will be held on Sunday, Feb 19 after the 11 am Sanctuary worship service. Please gather at the Highland Lobby to participate. All are welcome!

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger — Feb 26

On Sunday, Feb 26, we're pleased to welcome The Rev. Leeann Shaw Younger as our guest preacher for our Journey and Sanctuary services. Rev. Younger is the lead pastor of Cityview Church in Pittsburgh's East Deutschtown/Spring Garden neighborhood. She cofounded the Evangelical Covenant Church congregation in 2010 with her husband, Wayne. Leeann has a breadth of vocational experiences in her background as a nonprofit executive leader, faith leader, and community leader for justice for marginalized neighbors.

Registration is Now Open for VCS

ELPC's 2023 Vacation Church School program will take place June 26–30 from 9 am–3 pm for children in pre-K (age 4 and potty-trained) through grade 5 (completed). Our theme this summer is *Changemakers Lab*, a place children will learn that everyone can make a difference in the world!

You can register your child, or sign up to volunteer, at http://tiny.cc/elpc-vcs.



Ash Wednesday is Feb 22

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb 22, and ELPC will offer two services, both of which will include the imposition of ashes. At noon, the Rev. Heather Schoenewolf will lead a reflective time of word and prayer. Then at 7 pm, the Rev. BJ Woodworth will commemorate the start of Lent through the music and prayers of Taizé. Please join us for this sacred time of ritual and reflection.