

PRAYERFUL SONG AND QUIET MEDITATION



April 26, 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.

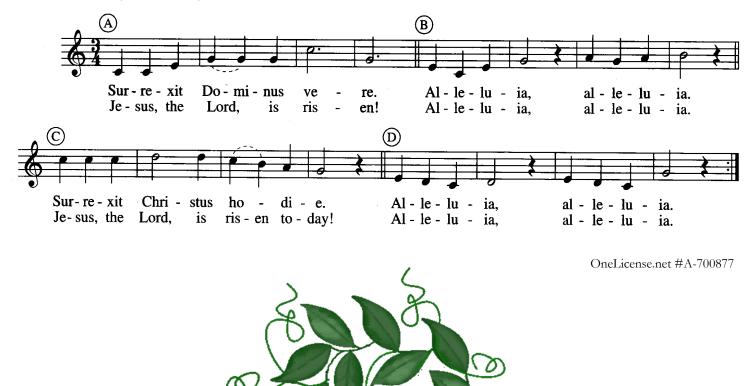
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

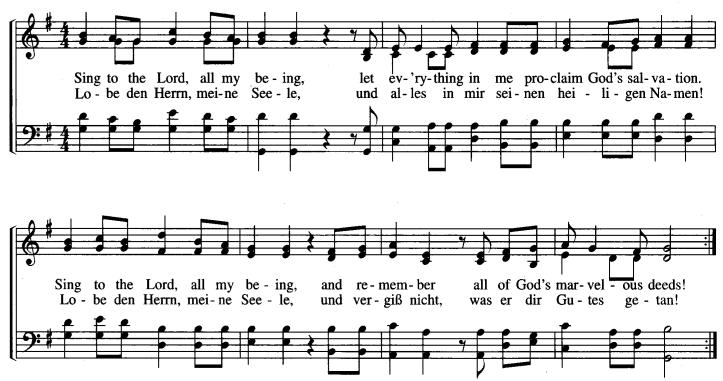
Prelude by Gerard Rohlf

Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth

NB36 Jesus, The Lord, Is Risen



NB22 Sing To The Lord



Sung Response: 2 Alleluia 7





O my Beloved, you are my shepherd, I shall not want; You bring me to green pastures for rest And lead me beside still waters renewing my spirit, You restore my soul. You lead me in the path of goodness To follow Love's way.

ALLELUIA

Even though I walk through the valley Of the shadow and of death, I am not afraid; For you are ever with me; Your rod and your staff they guide me, They give me strength and comfort.

ALLELUIA

You prepare a table before me In the presence of all my fears; You bless me with oil, My cup overflows.

ALLELUIA

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me All the days of my life; And I shall dwell in the heart Of the Beloved forever. Amen.

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: Acts 2:42-47 (The Inclusive Bible translation)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' instructions and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. A reverent fear overtook them all, for many wonders and signs were being performed by the apostles. Those who believed lived together, shared all things in common; they would sell their property and goods, sharing the proceeds with one another as each had need. They met in the Temple and they broke bread together in their homes every day. With joyful and sincere hearts they took their meals in common, praising God and winning the approval of all the people. Day by day, God added to their number those who were being saved.

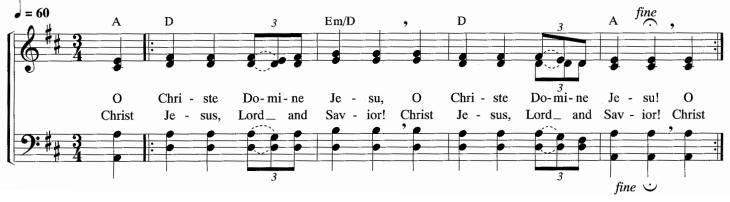
Quiet Meditation and Reflection (lasting approximately 5-7 minutes)

Words from Saints and Ancestors

A life of community can be a sign that God is love, and love alone.

— Brother Roger, founder of the Taizé community that is a living witness of a community of monastic and ecumenical of over a hundred brothers from around the world



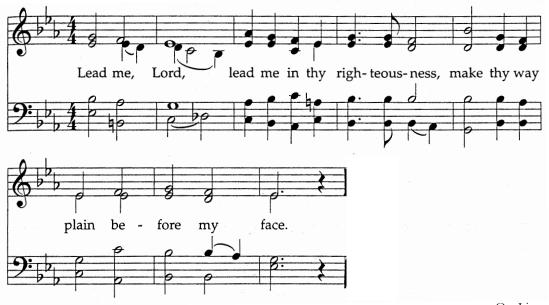


32 Christ Jesus

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Prayers of Intercession

Sung Response: G91 Lead Me, Lord



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God, we thank you for this picture of your early church community. By the grace of your Holy Spirit, stir in us a growing devotion to your word and teaching. May it be a lamp to our feet, guiding us, directing us, and challenging us.

LEAD ME, LORD

May we experience the gift and joy of breaking bread together with friends and strangers and be awakened to your presence among us, at the table, and grace us with an everwidening sense of hospitality to welcome others to our table fellowship.

LEAD ME, LORD

God, stir in us a desire to pray to you, not just in the formal settings of church but as we walk, work, rest, serve, think, and play, may we be in constant communication with your ever-present Presence.

LEAD ME, LORD

God, grow in us a desire and willingness to share all things in common, knowing that all we have is yours. May we share our money, time, homes, possessions and all our resources, so that no one may be in need.

LEAD ME, LORD

God, we pray for the unity of the church, that our life together may be a living witness of the mutual love and humble submission of you, in your Triune life -- Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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.



28 Come And Fill



NB7 Jesus Christ, Bread Of Life



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* He's Done So Much For Me



Text: Theodore R. Frye and Lillian Bowles, c.1884–1949 Tune: DONE SO MUCH, 12 12 12 6; Theodore R. Frye and Lillian Bowles, c.1884–1949; arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr., b.1969, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

Closing Easter Blessing (in unison)

- May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to you and those you hold most dear.
- And may Christ, our Risen Savior, always be there by your side to bless you most abundantly and be your loving guide.

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/contemplativeprayer. Enter meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 and passcode: bestill when prompted. 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).

May 12 (second Friday) 7:00-8:30 pm (note new time for 2023)

Meditation Hour – Tuesdays

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join John Benedict in the Prayer Room each Tuesday 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!

Tuesdays, 6-7 pm

Due to the route of the Pittsburgh Marathon, ELPC will not hold worship services on Sunday, May 7.



ELPC EVENTS

Chapel Market: Expanded Hours and Donation Request

The Chapel Market has expanded its hours of operation! It is now open on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 5-7 pm, in addition being open every Thursday from 10 am—Noon.

The Chapel Market is also seeking donations of spring and summer clothing, especially children's clothes. Donations can be left at the Highland Lobby, or dropped off at the Chapel Market during hours of operation.

ELPC Matters...The More You Know about Times, Cycles and Seasons of Transition — April 30

As we journey through this time of transition at ELPC, it is important to know that the changes and transitions we are going through are normal and even good and healthy. It is our hope and belief that this transition can propel us to revitalize, renew and redevelop for the hopeful and vibrant future at ELPC. Join Pastor BJ Woodworth on Sunday, April 30 from 9:45-10:45 am in the Social Hall for a time of teaching, reflection and conversation as we seek to navigate this time at ELPC together.

Be a Part of the Future of ELPC

The *Congregational Assessment Tool* (CAT), an on-line survey, is open to the congregation between now and May 31. Your responses will help the Pastor Nominating Committee in the search for new church leadership and will provide information as we work together in setting a course for the future of our congregation. All members, friends, and active participants in the life of our congregation are asked to take the survey. Your responses are anonymous to allow for candid feedback.

During Sundays in May, laptops and technical support will be available at the church for individuals who do not have ready access to a computer, have questions, or need assistance in the process. Access the survey online:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/EASTLIBERTYPCPA



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

ELPC.CHURCH

INFORMATION ABOUT TAIZÉ

ABOUT TAIZÉ: Taizé is an international ecumenical prayer community in Taizé, France which was founded in 1940 by a young seminary student, Roger Schultz, as a place of hospitality and reconciliation during World War II. Today, thousands of young people come each week to Taizé to pray with the brothers and discern God's purpose for their lives. Taizé Prayer Pilgrimages and Intercontinental Meetings around the globe bring together thousands more in an effort to become the prayerful, reconciled presence of Christ wherever they live.

Taizé prayers at East Liberty Presbyterian Church were begun in the Spring of 1992 in preparation for an intercontinental meeting in Dayton. The experience proved to be so meaningful that we have continued to pray every Wednesday evening since then, inviting people of all backgrounds to join with us.

Taizé is located in eastern France, southeast of Paris, north of Lyons, due west of Geneva, Switzerland, between the towns of Chalon-sur-Saône and Macon. Here are the ways to get Taizé information:

> Address: To contact Taizé: To visit Taizé: List of useful info: Web site: Telephone:

Taizé Community, 71250 TAIZE, France community@taize.fr meetings@taize.fr info@taize.fr www.taize.fr 011-33 385 50 30 02 Fax: 011-33 385 50 30 16

YOU ARE WELCOME AT EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Our congregation seeks to promote peace, justice and human dignity; to reflect a spirit of openness, sharing and learning in our ministry and mission; to build a richly diverse faith community that witnesses to our oneness in Christ across all boundaries of race, social class, ability, culture, age, gender and sexual identity. *(From our Strategic Plan.)*

ELPC Web site:www.ELPC.churchE-mail:BJW@coh.net

You are welcome at any of our programs and worship services. It is possible to have more than one church home. Perhaps you would be interested in becoming a member or friend of this Church. If so, please speak to The Rev. BJ Woodworth, Minister of Taizé Prayer (BJW@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x141).