



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 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

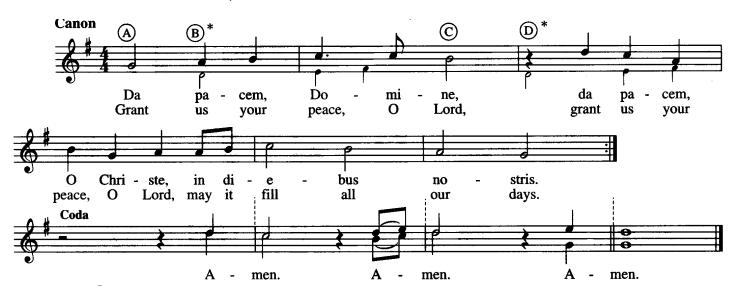
Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth

CLM 37 O Come and Let Us Sing to God



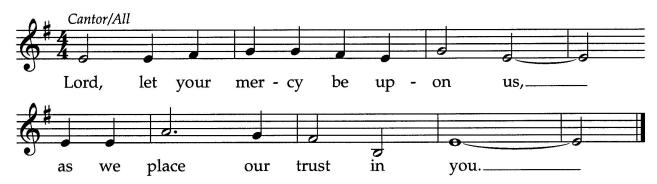
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NB 33 Grant Us Your Peace, O Lord



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Sung Response: * Lord, Let Your Mercy



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In you, Beloved, I would make my home; Though I be humiliated with guilt, Your mercy and forgiveness will deliver me! Hear me and hasten to my assistance! For you are my strength And have the power to raise me up!

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

Yes, you are strength and truth in me; You are my teacher, my guide; The fire of your abiding love cleanses my heart; Loosen the webs that entangle me, That veil my love for you. Into your heart I commend my soul. You have redeemed me, O love, O ever Faithful One.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

O how abundant is your goodness, Which is ever-present
To those who reverence you,
And available to all
Who make your heart their home,
Openly for all to see!
Like a mother hen, you shelter them
From temptations of the world;
You hold them safe under your wings
From the enemy...fear.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

Blessed be the Eternal Beloved,
Who wondrously showered me
With steadfast love,
When I was overwhelmed by fear.
I had cried out, "Where are you?
Have you left me alone forever?"
You heard my fear-filled pleas
And enveloped me in love.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

Listen in the silence, all you saints!
For wisdom makes her home there.
The Beloved upholds the faith-filled,
Those who embrace goodness
And walk in the Light.
Those who choose to remain in illusion
Separate themselves from truth
And know not love.
Be strong, let your heart take courage
And be encouraged,
All you who would serve with Love
In the Oneness of Light.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

The Word/Meditation: John 14:1-7 (The Inclusive Bible translation)

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith in me as well. In God's house there are many dwelling places; otherwise, how could I have told you that I was going to prepare a place for you? I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, and then I will come back to take you with me, that where I am there you may be as well. You know the way that leads to where I am going." Thomas replied, "But we don't know where you're going. How can we know the way?"

Jesus told him, "I myself am the Way — I am Truth, and I am Life. No one comes to Abba God but through me. If you really knew me, you would know Abba God also. From this point on, you know Abba God and you have seen God."

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

Words from Saints and Ancestors

Who are you, sweet Light, that fills me, and that illumines the darkness of my heart? You lead me like a mother's hand, and should you let go of me, I would not know how to take another step. You are the space that embraces my being and buries it in yourself. You are nearer to me than me to myself and more interior than my most interior, and still impalpable and intangible and beyond any name, Holy Spirit eternal love!

— Edith Stein (1891-1942), a German Jewish philosopher who converted to Christianity and became a Carmelite nun

CLM19 Peace I Leave You



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Prayers of Intercession

Sung Response: NB42 Kyrie 12



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God, like the disciples, our hearts our troubled for sometimes it seems that you have left us alone, to walk this journey of life by ourselves, we don't know where we are going, and we don't know where you are. We ask for a clearer sense of your presence, guidance, and wisdom.

KYRIE

As we walk this journey of life, help us to trust that you are the Way. When we feel lost and confused remind us you are the path, and make known to us your voice, your wisdom and guidance as we seek to follow you, may we hear your voice guiding us in the way we should go.

KYRIE

As we navigate this life often filled with deception, lies and embellished reality, help us to know you as the Truth, the underpinning reality of all that was, is and is to come. Give us discerning and wise minds to perceive your will and your ways in our homes, work, church, and the world.

KYRIE

As we live our everyday ordinary lives, help us to know that you are our Life Source. Assist us in noticing and naming the fleeting promises of fulfillment, nourishment, and refreshment and give us courage to turn to you as the source of full and everlasting Life.

KYRIE

We pray for all those who are lost and are seeking to find their way; for those who are deceived and seeking to know the truth, and for those who are depleted and needing their life renewed. May they find their home in you, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

KYRIE

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)

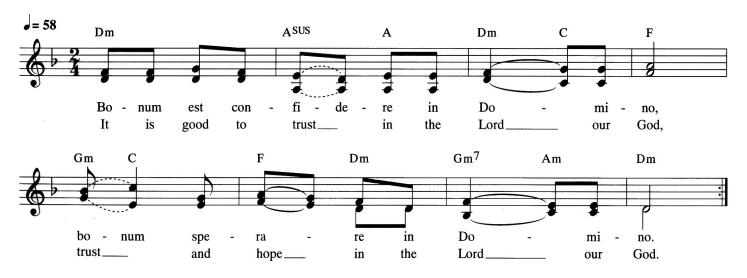
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left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

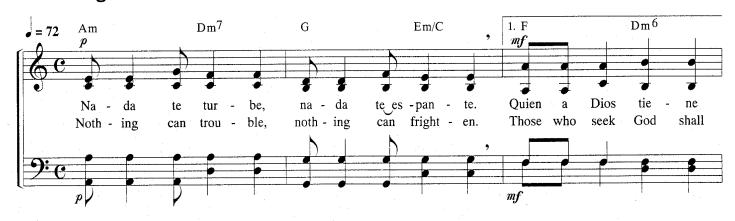


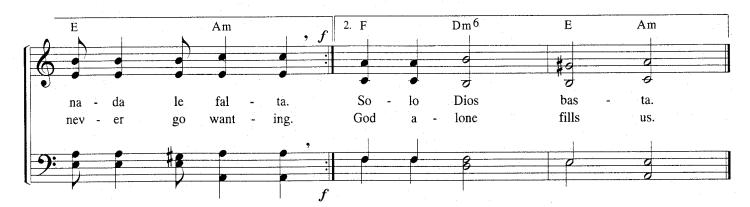


11 It Is Good To Trust



29 Nothing Can Trouble

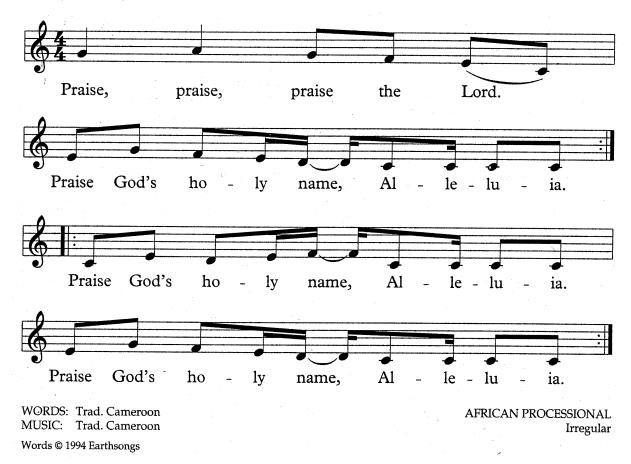




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G86 Praise, Praise The Lord



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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/contemplative-prayer. 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

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

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.

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

PW Bible Study - May 1 and 2

Join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study Sabbath and Community on Monday, May 1 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only), and on Tuesday, May 2 from 10 am-Noon (hybrid). For more information and the Zoom link, please email PW.ELPC@gmail.com. Those attending the Tuesday Bible Study can bring a brown bag lunch (beverages provided).

Sanctuary Worship in May

- On May 14, those who were elected to serve as ELPC Elders and Deacons will be ordained and/or installed to ministry.
- On May 21, we will celebrate Youth Sunday—a service that will be planned and led by the youth of ELPC, and in which we will hear messages from our graduating Seniors.
- On May 28, we will celebrate Pentecost—when Christ sent the Holy Spirit to guide and equip the Church universal for our ministry in Christ's name. Wear red!

Fridays in the Garden — May 12

On Friday, May 12 from 9 am-Noon, the Environmental Team and Gardening Crew will meet for a workday in the rain garden. Join as you are able for a morning of weeding, mulching, and fellowship. The group plans to meet every second Friday from May-September.











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: Taizé Community, 71250 TAIZE, France

To contact Taizé: community@taize.fr
To visit Taizé: meetings@taize.fr
List of useful info: info@taize.fr

Web site: www.taize.fr

Telephone: 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.church
E-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 x241).