



East Liberty Presbyterian Church

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August 30, 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.

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

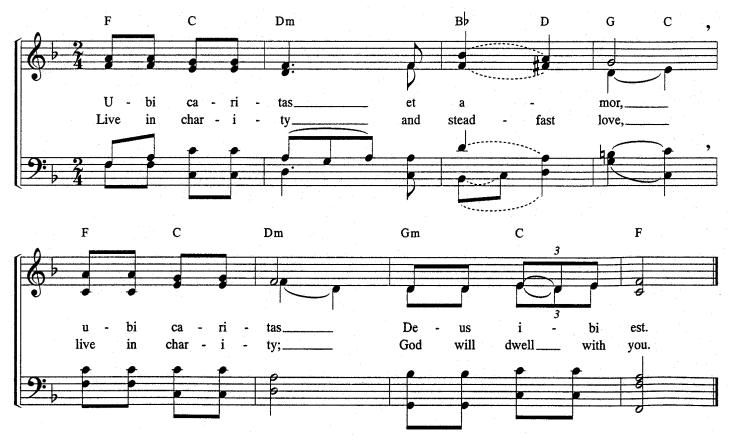
CLM1 I Lift Up My Soul To You



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49 Live In Charity



Psalm 119:161-176 (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: CLM2 Alleluia 20



Abandon yourself to the Beloved, Draw closer and closer to Love. For when you dwell in peace within Love's heart, You become as nothing, Yet all things are yours.

ALLELUIA

As you radiate the healing love Of your inmost being into a suffering, Scarred, yet ever-sacred world, Offer grateful praise from the Chalice of your heart To the One who loves through you.

ALLELUIA

Great peace have those who co-create with You, Who share the living wine of your Spirit. They know that all goodness Comes from your Divine Love, The Source and Foundation of all life.

ALLELUIA

Fill us, O Gracious One, with your loving wisdom, Guide all hearts on paths of peace.
When the journey seems long,
When we become discouraged along the way,
You uphold and sustain us,
You restore us with your blessed grace.

ALLELUIA

When we stumble and stray
Amid the thorns on false paths,
We are ever humbled by your forgiving love.
You welcome us home as honored guests,
Back into the fold of your Heart.
You have prepared a garden for us,
A garden of joy hidden in our hearts.

ALLELUIA

O friends, enter into this eternal garden, Befriend the Guide who awaits you. Enter into the great, resounding Silence, Be still and know true peace. Know the all-embracing life of Love; And raise your voice With grateful acclamations of praise! Amen.

ALLELUÍA

The Word/Meditation: Hebrews 13:1-6 (The Inclusive Bible translation)

Continue to love each other as sisters and brothers. Don't neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some people have entertained angels without knowing it. Keep in mind those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them. And be mindful of those who are being treated badly, since you know what they are enduring.

Let marriage be honored by everyone, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge covenant breakers and adulterers. Put the love of money out of your lives and be content with what you have, for God has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." Thus we may say with confidence, "God is my Helper, and I will not be afraid; what can mere humans do to me?"

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

Words from Saints and Ancestors

A simple prayer is like a soft sighing, like a child's prayer, keeps us alert. Has not God revealed to those who are little, to Christ's poor, what the powerful of this world have so much trouble understanding?

— Brother Roger (1915-2005) founder of Taizé

CLM20 | Am Sure | Shall See



Prayers of Intercession

Sung Response: NB42 Kyrie 5



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God, thank you for being our host and a guest to humanity. May we, likewise, be kind and friendly to strangers, welcome unwanted interruptions in our day and prayers, and be welcomed as guests into spaces of discomfort and risk.

KYRIE

We pray for those who are incarcerated, may those unjustly imprisoned be released; those who are lonely and despairing be comforted; and those on the verge of reentry be strengthened in body, mind and spirit and fully welcomed back in society.

KYRIE

We pray for strength and endurance for all facing trying circumstances and are struggling to persevere amidst their suffering, loneliness, sickness, depression, anxiety, or confusion.

KYRIE

Thank you, God, for those who have covenanted themselves to another person in marriage. Strengthen them in their love and devotion to one another. Be near to those who have lost a partner, are longing for a partner, or have experienced the betrayal of a partner.

KYRIE

May we all experience contentment within our own financial situations. May we look to the birds and the flowers to see your provision of daily bread. May we be generous and open-handed with all we have and give so that it hurts just a little bit.

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.

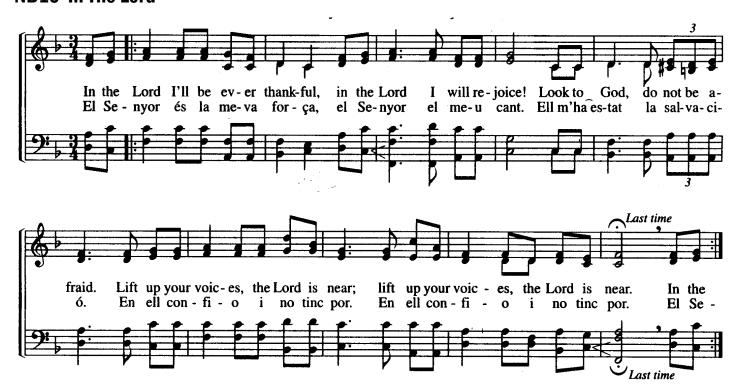
Bless this oil, O Lord, pressed from the fruit of the earth. Let it be a holy ointment for the wounds and worries of those who receive it. May it be a sign to all of us of your constant desire to touch our lives and bring us to health and wholeness. Amen.



CLM33 O Lord, You Hold And Protect Me



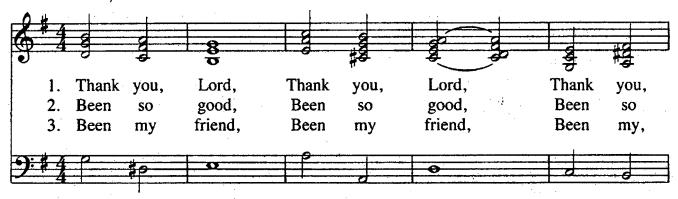
NB10 In The Lord

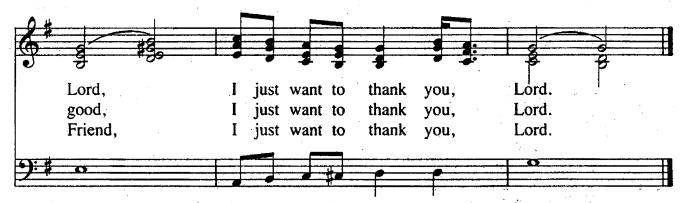


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G65 Thank You, Lord





Text: Traditional

Tune: Traditional; Harm. by J. Jefferson Cleveland, b. 1937, and Verolga Nix, b. 1933, from Songs of Zion © 1981 by Abingdon CCLI #689547

- 4. Been my Light ...
- 5. Been my Peace ...
- 6. Been my Joy ...
- 7. Been my Life ...

Closing Prayer

(from "Seven Sacred Pauses: Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day")

Leader: Now as day comes to an end, gently dance us out of this day into the arms of night.

People: Give us peaceful rest.

Leader: Let the stardust of your love descend on us throughout this night. **People:** O Mysterious Beauty, you are an ancient melody in our lives.

Leader: Your music lingers in our souls, lulling us to sleep peacefully in the shadow of your

wings.

People: O Dancer of the Distant Stars, we are part of your Starlight.

Leader: Renew us and restore us as we sleep.

People: May all your creatures have a good night.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

Meditation Hour

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join John Benedict in the Chapel 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

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).

Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 17 7:00-8:30 pm (note new time)

ELPC Gratitude Retreat at Villa Maria Retreat Center

Mark your calendars now for November 17–19 and plan on joining us for a time of rest, reflection, prayer, conversation, and giving thanks at the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Pulaski, Pennsylvania.

"Everything is a gift. The degree to which we are awake to this truth is a measure of our gratefulness, and gratefulness is a measure of our aliveness." (Brother David Steindl-Rast)



Friday, Oct 27 • 5:30-8:30 pm

The Spiritual Life and Justice Committees invite you to an evening of fellowship, food, and formation around the ancient practice of *Sabbath*.

Join us for a meal, film viewing and conversation.

We will gather for a simple meal together and then view the 2-hour documentary,

SABBATH: An Ancient Practice Meets the Modern World. The film is told as a collection of short stories, exploring the history of one of the world's most important spiritual practices and its timeless relevance for a stressed-out, modern world. From the Biblical accounts of Creation, to the 10 Commandments, to the Puritans landing in the New World, to the contemporary practice of a "techsabbath" — SABBATH ties together our collective history, our health practices, our response to God's invitation and the search for a more sustainable way of life. RSVP to Norma by Oct 22 (412.441.3800 x211).

ELPC EVENTS

The Chapel Market Requests Toiletry Items

The Chapel Market is in need of toiletry items, including bar soap, tooth brushes and paste, lotion, shampoo, toilet paper, etc. Donations can left in the baskets in the Highland Lobby.

CAT Scan Results

The report of ELPC's CAT Scan results will be available electronically and in paper soon, and will also be presented at the next *The More You Know* session on Sept 24. Please watch for more details soon!

ELPC's Choirs Resume Rehearsals — Sept 7 and 12

On Thursday, Sept 7, the *Journey Praise Team* resumes rehearsals from 5:30-6:30 pm in the Social Hall, and the *Chancel Choir* resumes rehearsals from 7-8:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

On Tuesday, Sept 12, the *ELPC Ringers/Handbell Choir* will rehearse from 6-7 pm in Dr. Ed Moore's office on the 3rd floor.

If you are interested in joining the *Journey Praise Team*, please contact director Gerald Savage (soundpill@soundpill.net). If you would like to join the *Chancel Choir* or *Handbell Choir*, contact director Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net).

Rally Day - Sept 10

We will resume our traditional worship schedule and Church School classes for persons of all ages on Sunday, Sept 10.

COMMUNITY EVENT

Patient Service Representative Program — Sept 1 Deadline

The *Innovation District Skills Alliance* (IDSA) is a program that connects area residents to living wages and career advancement opportunities. Their 3-week training course starts on Sept 18, held Monday through Friday, with hybrid, virtual, in-person and self-guided sessions.

The program includes a stipend and gift cards during participation; a laptop; targeted job-readiness training; and an opportunity to interview for a patient service representative position with UPMC.

Eligibility requirements include having a high school diploma or GED; are unemployed or underemployed; and ability to commit to a 3-week training period.

The application deadline is Noon on Sept 1. Apply now by visiting www.pittsburgh-id.com/IDSA.

Contact Oliver Cunningham at JFCS Career Services/IDSA for more info (OCunningham@jfcspgh.org).











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).