

TAIZÉ:

PRAYERFUL SONG AND QUIET MEDITATION



September 13, 2023 • 7:00 pm



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

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.

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

NB9 Christ Of Compassion

Two staves of music in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the staves. The first staff has a circled chord of G4 and A4. The second staff has a circled chord of G3 and A3.

O ————— Je - su — Chri - ste in te con - fi - do.
Christ of com - pas - sion, O Lord God, I trust you.

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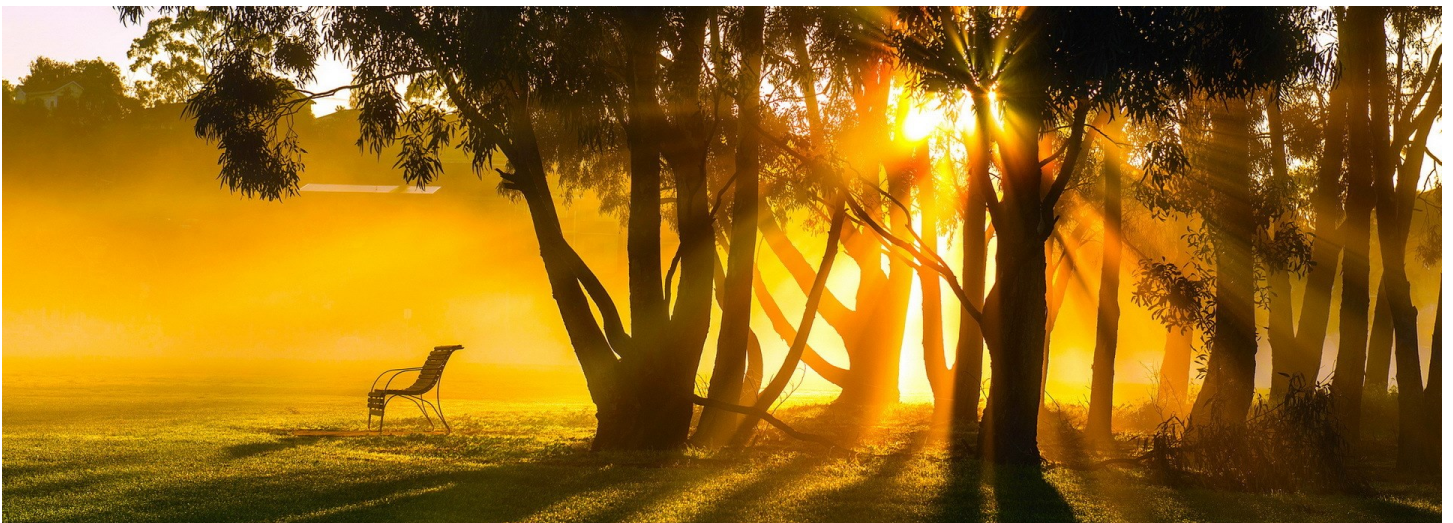
CLM1 I Lift Up My Soul To You

Canon

Two staves of music in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the staves. The first staff has a circled chord of G4 and A4. The second staff has a circled chord of G3 and A3. The score is divided into four measures, each with a number in a box (1, 2, 3, 4) and an asterisk (*).

Ad te lift Je - su Chri - ste le - va - vi a - ni - mam
I lift up my soul to you, Christ Je - sus, my re -
me - am. Sal - va - tor mun - di, in te spe ra - vi. Ad
deem - er. All earth's sal - va - tion, my hope is in you. I

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Psalm 25 (*selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill*)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 8



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To you, O Love, I lift up my soul!
O Heart within my heart,
In you I place my trust.
Let me not feel unworthy;
Let not fear rule over me.
Yes! May all who open their hearts
Savor you and bless the earth!

ALLELUIA

Compel me to know your ways, O Love;
Instruct me upon your paths.
Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
For through you will I know wholeness;
I shall reflect your Light both day and night.

ALLELUIA

I know of your mercy, Blessed One,
And of your unconditional Love;
You have been with me from the beginning.
Forgive the many times
I have walked away from you
Choosing to follow my own will.
I seek your guidance, once again,
I yearn to know your Peace.
Companion me as I open to your will!

ALLELUIA

You are gracious and just, O Spirit of Truth,
Happy to guide those who miss their way;
You enjoy teaching all who are open,
All who choose to live in truth.
Your paths are loving and sure, O Holy One,
And those who give witness to you
Through their lives are blessed beyond measure.

ALLELUIA

Turn to me, O Holy One,
And envelop me with your love,
For I am lonely and oppressed.
Relieve the blocks in my heart
That keep me separated from you;
See all the darkness within me;
Fill it with your healing Light.
Look at my pain and all my fears;
They shut out love and life.

ALLELUIA

Protect me and free me;
Let me not live as unworthy,
For I would return home to you.
May integrity and wholeness fill me
As I dwell with you, O Loving Presence.
May we, together with the angels
And the company of heaven,
Help unfold your plan for planet Earth.

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: Proverbs 3:3-8 *(The Inclusive Bible translation)*

My children, learn from my wisdom, and concentrate on what words I say, don't let them get out of your sight, but keep them deep in your heart. They'll give you life if you live by them, they're good for your body and soul. Most of all, watch over your heart, because it's the wellspring of life.

Keep your eyes focused in front of you, and always look straight ahead. Be confident of the road you take, but stay clear of precarious pathways. Turn neither right nor left, and guard your feet from evil.

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

Words from Saints and Ancestors

Life is a walking, a journey... We can choose to walk forward, or we can choose to walk backward. Forward Walking choices are rewarded with consequences that light the way to peace, happiness, joy, comfort, knowledge, and wisdom. Backward Walking choices bring... consequences of misery, despair, and darkness.

— *From the ANASAZI Foundation, a wilderness therapy program giving young people an opportunity through a primitive living experience. It is a philosophy that invites healing at the hands of nature, to effect a change of heart—a change in one's whole way of walking in the world.*

CLM18 Put Your Trust In God

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Fi - ez - vous en Lui, ne craig - nez pas. La paix de Dieu gar - de -
Put your trust in God, and do not fear. God's peace will dwell deep with -

ra vos cœurs. Fi - ez - vous en Lui. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
in your hearts. Put your trust in God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

(from "Sounds of the Eternal: A Celtic Psalter," by John Philip Newell)

Sung Response: 31 Give To Us Your Peace

♩ = 72 *mp* Am C Dm ES US E

Do - na no - bis pa - cem Do - mi - ne.
Give to us your peace, O Je - sus Christ.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. The voice part is on a single staff with a treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is on a grand staff with both treble and bass clefs. The tempo is marked as 72 beats per minute, and the dynamics are mezzo-piano (mp). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines, with chord symbols (Am, C, Dm, ES US, E) placed above the voice staff. The lyrics are written below the voice staff, aligned with the notes.

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For the wisdom that fashioned the universe and can be read in the earth's dark depths and in the heavens' infinity of lights, thanks be to you, O God.

GIVE TO US YOUR PEACE

For the wisdom of teachers before us and their words and imaginative seeing, for the wisdom of those who have known and their silence and humility of speech, thanks be to you, O God.

GIVE TO US YOUR PEACE

For wisdom's wellspring in our own soul and in the soul of every human being from which ancient truths and new realizations spring forth, thanks be to you, O God.

GIVE TO US YOUR PEACE

Let wisdom unfold in all our hearts and minds and in all people of every nation.

GIVE TO US YOUR PEACE

Let us see the foundations for a new harmony within us and between us; the foundations for a recovered unity with the earth and all its creatures, for the ground of life is in you, O God, the ground of all life is in you.

GIVE TO US YOUR PEACE



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

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.



CLM28 I Lift Up My Eyes

Canon

1

L'a - ju - da em vin - dra eyes del Se - nyor, del Se -
I lift up my eyes to the hills; from -

2

nyor, el nos - tre Déu, que ha fet el cel i la
where shall come my help? My help is in God who cre -

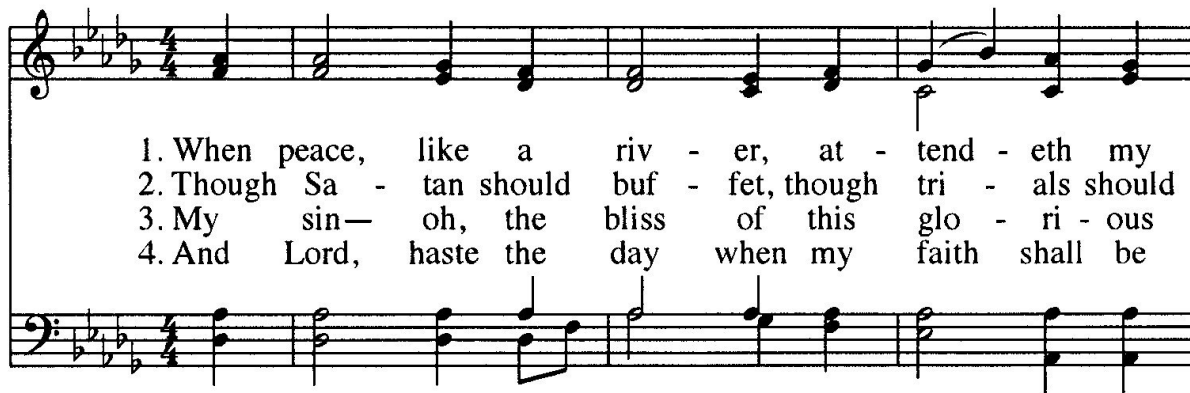
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4

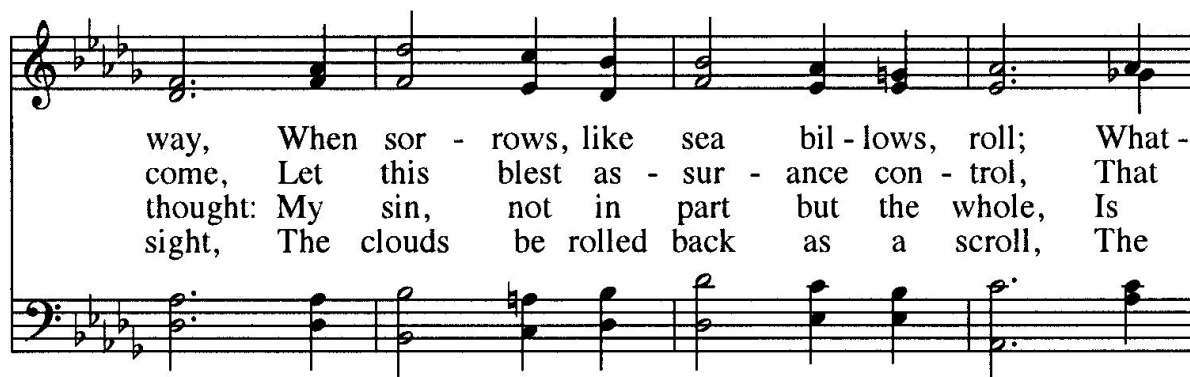
(Last time ♪)

ter - ra, el cel i la ter - ra. L'a -
at - ed the earth and the heav - ens. I

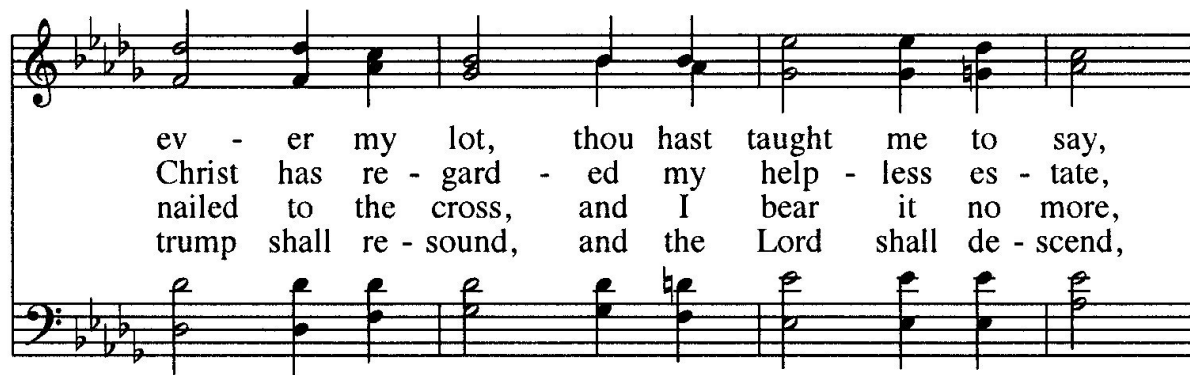
* It Is Well With My Soul



1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my
 2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should
 3. My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
 4. And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be



way, When sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What -
 come, Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That
 thought: My sin, not in part but the whole, Is
 sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The

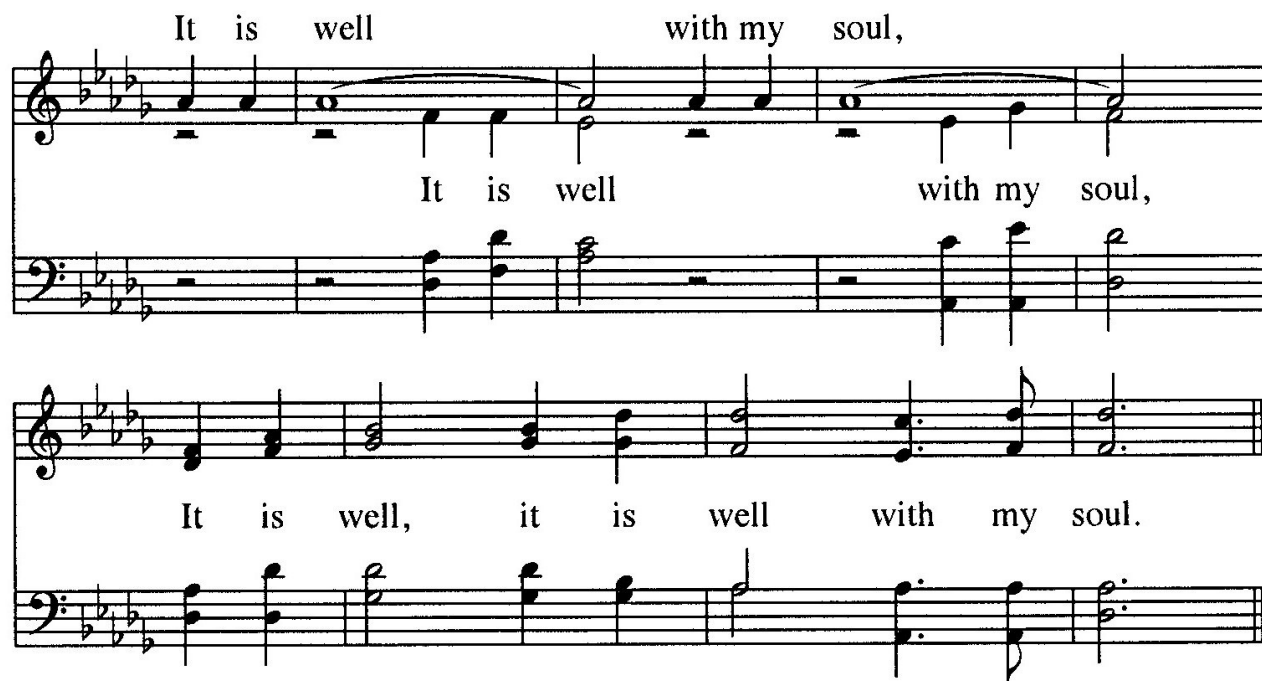


ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
 Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate,
 nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
 trump shall re - sound, and the Lord shall de - scend,



It is well, it is well with my soul.
 And hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 "E - ven so," it is well with my soul.

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Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888

Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE, 11 8 11 9 with refrain; Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876



**Christ Jesus, in your Gospel we find
a hope for all human beings.**

**The Kingdom, the Life of God in
fullness, is already present among
us and within us.**

**Even if we sense hardly anything of
your presence, we place our trust in
you. And your love and your joy can
blossom in our lives.**

(Brother Alois of Taizé)

* Standing On The Promises

B \flat

1 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my King,
 2 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,
 3 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,
 4 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fall,

E \flat B \flat

through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;
 when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,
 bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,
 lis - t'ning ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,

B \flat

glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,
 by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,
 o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,
 rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,

B \flat E \flat F7 B \flat

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Words and Music: R. Kelso Carter, 1849-1928

U.S.A.
 11.11.11.9. and refrain
 PROMISES

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Refrain

B \flat Eb Gm

Stand - ing, stand - ing,
Stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

F B \flat Eb B \flat

stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;

B \flat Eb

stand - ing, stand - ing,
stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es,

E \flat B \flat /F F7 B \flat

I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Closing Unison Prayer

May the Creator who brings order out of chaos, give you peace.

May the Redeemer who stills the raging storms, give you peace.

May the Sustainer who hovers over the deep, give you peace.

In all of God's holy names, may you go in peace this night and forevermore!

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

SPIRITUAL LIFE EVENTS

Contemplative Prayer

Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead a time on Zoom of 30 minutes of communal silence and guided meditation on scripture. We will meditate on the Psalms, using the translation *Psalms for Praying* by Nan C. Merrill.

Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am

Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992

Passcode: bestill

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

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.



The Spiritual Life and Justice Committees invite you to an evening of fellowship, food, and formation around the ancient practice of *Sabbath*. We will gather for a simple meal and view the 2-hour documentary, *SABBATH: An Ancient Practice Meets the Modern World*. RSVP by Oct 22 (Norma, 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 be left in the baskets in the Highland Lobby.

CAT Scan Results Available

The report of ELPC's CAT Scan results is now available at <http://tiny.cc/elpc-cat-scan>, or by scanning this QR code. Paper copies are on the info tables, and will also be presented at the next *The More You Know* session on Sept 24 in the Social Hall. Submit questions prior to the meeting by contacting Kristin Cummings (kristincummings@gmail.com).



Fall Solstice Forest Bathing – Sept 16

Join Sandi Miller on Saturday, Sept 16 from 5:30-7:30 pm to treat yourself to peace and quiet in the forest. Meet at the fountain at the Frick Environmental Center. Please contact Sandi for info (samellaannmiller@gmail.com).

Church Extravaganza – Sept 17

On Sunday, Sept 17 after the 11 am service, the Membership & Outreach Committee is partnering with the Faith Formation Board to host a church-wide celebration and picnic on S Whitfield St. Hot dogs (including vegan), fried chicken, and ice cream will be provided – please bring a side dish to share and/or sign up to volunteer! We need help setting up, serving lunch, and cleaning up. There will be music, a church tour, balloon art, face painting, and games for kids. Come and learn more about ELPC's exciting ministries! Use this QR code to sign up to volunteer, or contact Sara (SaraH@coh.net).

Tour the Sanctuary and Chapel – Sept 17

Jo Ellen Aleshire will lead a tour of the Sanctuary and Chapel on Sunday, Sept 17 after the 11 am worship service. Please gather in the Highland Lobby to participate.

Brother Roger

founder of Taizé

ON PRAYER

From the depths of the human condition, a secret aspiration rises up. Caught up in the anonymous rhythms of schedules and timetables, men and women of today are implicitly thirsting for the one essential reality: an inner life, signs of the invisible.

Nothing is more conducive to a communion with the living God than a meditative common prayer with, as its high point, singing that never ends and that continues in the silence of one's heart when one is alone again.

In a technological society, there is a clear separation between prayer and work. When inner life and human solidarity appear to be in competition with one another, as if people had to choose between them, that opposition tears apart the very depths of the soul.

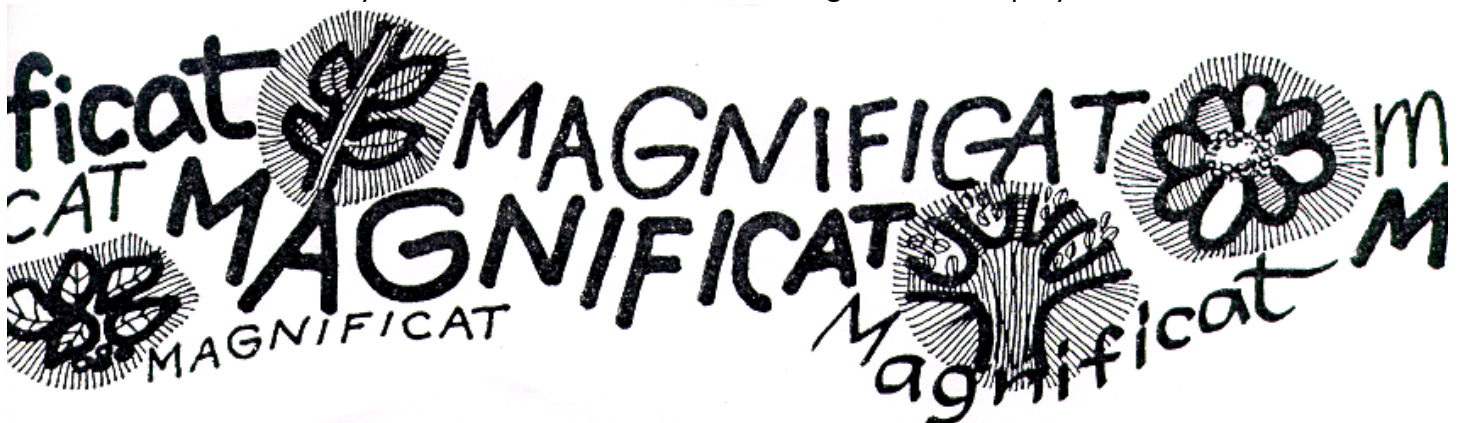
Prayer is a serene force at work within human beings, stirring them up, transforming them, never allowing them to close their eyes in the face of evil, of wars, of all that threatens the weak of this world. From it we draw the energy to wage other struggles—to enable our loved ones to survive, to transform the human condition, to make the earth a place fit to live in.

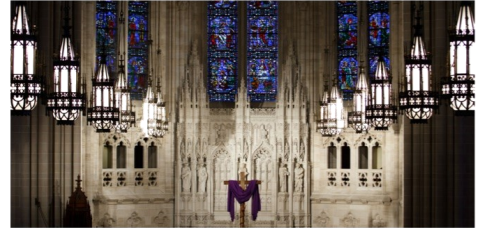
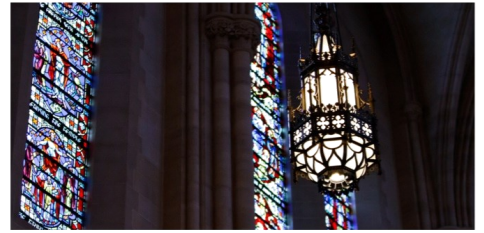
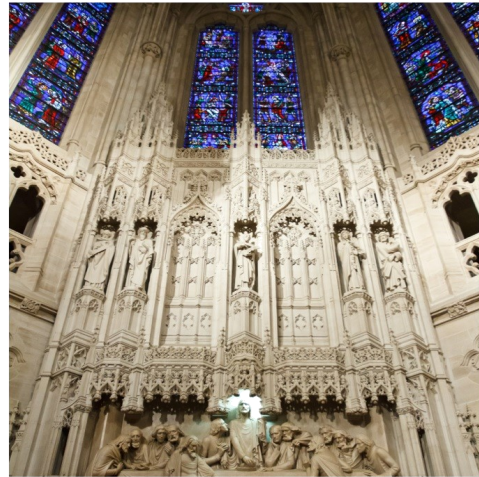
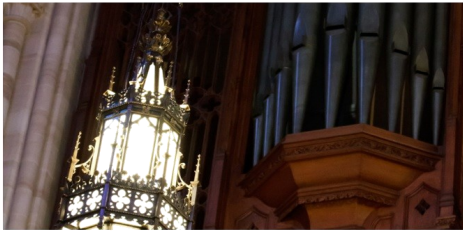
ON SINGING

Singing is one of the most important forms of prayer. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of the prayer. They express a basic reality of faith that can quickly be grasped by the intellect, and that gradually penetrates the heart and the whole being. These simple chants also provide a way of praying when one is alone, during the day or at night, or even in the silence of one's heart while one is working.

ON SILENCE

When we try to express communion with God in words, we rapidly reach the end of our capacities. But in the depths of our being Christ is praying, far more than we imagine. Compared to the immensity of that hidden prayer of Christ in us, our explicit praying dwindles to almost nothing. That is why silence is so essential in discovering the heart of prayer.





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

WWW.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).



SEEKING RENEWAL IN PRAYER

In order to view our lives, other people and the world in a new way, a personal step is needed. This takes place in the depths of our being, when we welcome into our existence the kindly presence of God. It involves an inner change of direction, which the Gospel calls conversion and which leads us to welcome God's consolation and to love more and more.

We can all look for times and places to find an inner silence, to open a space of listening, and to discover a communion with God. Jesus already invited his friends to do this: "When you pray, go into your room and close the door, to pray to your Father who is there in secret" (Matthew 6:6).

Today, this invitation seems to go somewhat against the stream. We are going through a time when things are becoming much more polarized and when divisions are growing in our societies, sometimes even in Churches and in families. In this context, noise and lies seem to drown out the silent inner developments that require time.

That is why prayer is all the more essential: it is a source of hope, a road to serenity; it makes us able to keep the doors of dialogue open, even with those who are opposed to us or who come from other horizons than we do.

— Brother Alois of Taizé