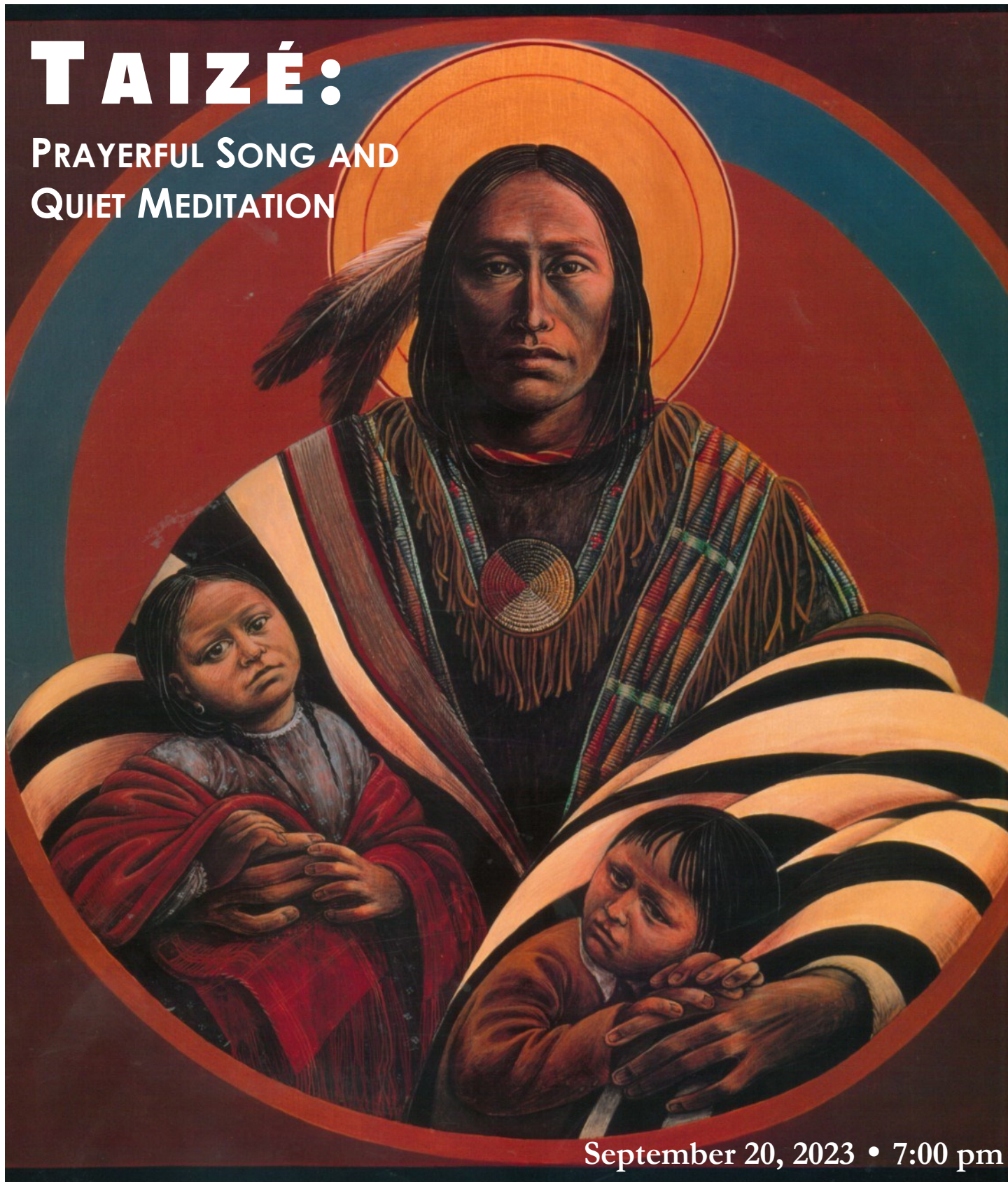


TAIZÉ:

PRAYERFUL SONG AND
QUIET MEDITATION



September 20, 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

48 Sing Praises

$\text{♩} = 63$

p

p

Lau - da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num. Lau -
 Sing prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord. Sing

da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num! Lau -
 prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord! Sing

fine

fine

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30 Lord Of All Goodness

$\text{♩} = 50$

Cm Fm Bb Eb , Cm Fm Bb Eb

Do - mi - ne De - us Fi - li - us Pa - tris, do - na no - bis pa - cem.
 Lord of all good - ness, Son of the Fa - ther, may your peace sur - round us.
 (hum)

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Psalm 145:1-13 (selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: 3 Alleluia 11

♩ = 104

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! (hum)

(Al - le - lu - ia)

D.S.

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My soul yearns for you, eternal Flame of Love,
Longing to reconnect to the Great Mystery!
Every day I will bless you
As I follow the Voice of Truth.
Great are you, who call us to childlike wonder,
To the healing balm of forgiveness.

ALLELUIA

Each generation must learn anew
The efficacy of silence,
The wisdom of turning inward,
That your Light might be their guide to holiness,
And your Love nurture them towards wholeness.
Yet, there are many who turn from you in fear,
Denying their birthright.

ALLELUIA

Lift up your hearts,
All you who choose the path of Life!
My heart is lifted up!
"Do you not know that your whole being is
Encompassed by My Love?
I am the infinite and the eternal within your soul;
O, that I might make myself known to you!
Choose Love that you might overcome
Oppression and blind obedience to false idols!

ALLELUIA

Divine Light shines in those who live in Love.
I shall uphold all who are burdened with fear,
And raise up all who call to Me.
The time is nigh for you to choose,
For great is the new dawn that fast approaches.

ALLELUIA

I call each of you to open your inner ears,
To see with spiritual eyes,
And to trust that even amidst the outward chaos,
All is working toward the wholeness of humanity."

ALLELUIA

O, Heart of my heart, envelop me!
I know you are near to all who call upon you.
Bring to my recollection all that I have denied,
That I might be accepting and free
To help rebuild the soul of the world
With radical trust, love and wonder!

ALLELUIA

When I speak, let it be of blessing and gratitude;
Let your glory within me shine out to the world!

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: Proverbs 14:29; 15:1, 18

Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but one who has a hasty temper exalts folly. A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Those who are hot-tempered stir up strife, but those who are slow to anger calm contention.

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

Words from Saints and Ancestors

When words are both true and kind, they can change the world.

— *Siddhartha Gautama, most often referred to as the Buddha*

28 Come And Fill

♩ = 66

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

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

Sung Response: NB42 Kyrie 6



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Thanks be to you, O God, for the strong arm of those who have given us shelter in our life, who loved us from the womb and carried us as children, who guarded us like watchful angels and wept when we were in pain.

KYRIE

Thanks be to you for the men and women whose passion for the poor is undying, whose prayer for the oppressed is tender, whose defense of the wronged is fierce.

KYRIE

Grant us the strength to cry, and work for justice in our spheres of influence.

KYRIE

Grant us the strength to be patient for peace, and to be angry for love in our spheres of influence.

KYRIE

Grant us the grace of a strong soul, O God, grant us the grace to be strong.

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

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.



Hoping in Season and out of Season

by Brother Alois of Taizé

Humanity is able to move forward because of the multitudes of women and men who give themselves without counting the cost, even in times of upheaval and uncertainty.

People have become more aware of structures of injustice, sometimes inherited from the past. And unfortunately, power has not always been exercised to serve the good of all. In the face of such abuses, frustration and anger are comprehensible. Who will be daring enough to be creators of justice and peace beyond the divisions that are splitting our societies apart?

Yes, in the midst of the difficult realities of the present, we can glimpse reasons to hope, and even at times to hope against all hope. For this, we need to come together with others who have made different choices—with Christians from other denominations, with believers of other religions, and with people who are agnostic or atheist and who are also committed to solidarity and sharing.

Joy is renewed when we live as brothers and sisters, when we remain alongside the most deprived: the homeless, men and women who are elderly, ill or lonely, children in difficulty, people living with disabilities, migrants.... Life's circumstances can make us all vulnerable. And the pandemic is exposing the weak spots of our humanity.



* Come, Bring Your Burdens To God

Solo:

Come, bring your bur-dens, oh,

Come, bring your bur-dens to God, come, bring your
 Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa-kho, wo - za nom -

come, bring your bur - dens, oh, come, bring your bur-dens,

bur - dens to God, come, bring your bur - dens to God for
 thwa - lo wa - kho, wo - za nom-thwa - lo wa-kho U -

To repeat *Last time*

Je-sus will nev-er say no.

Je-sus will nev-er say no. Come, bring your no.
 ye-s's-ka - so - za-thi hayi. Wo - za nom - hayi.

African phonetics:

Woh-zah nohm-thwah-loh wah-khoh, U-yehs skah-soh-zah-thee hahyee

Text: South African; tr. by Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick, © 2008, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent
 Tune: South African melody; arr. by Welile Sigabi, © 2008, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

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49 Live In Charity

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.
live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

Chords: F, C, Dm, Bb, D, G, C, F, Gm, C, F

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* Amen Siakudumisa

Solo:

Ma-si - thi.
O sing now.

Ma - si - thi.
O sing now.

A-men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa.
A-men sing prais-es to the Lord.

Si - a - ku - du - mi - sa.
Sing prais-es to the Lord.

Ma - si - thi.
O sing now.

A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa.
A - men sing prais-es to the Lord.

si - a - ku - du - mi - sa.
sing prais-es to the Lord.

continued on next page

A-men ba - wo,
A-men sing praise,

A-men ba - wo,
A-men sing praise,

ba - wo, ba - wo,
O praise God's name,

ba - wo, ba -
O praise God's

(Omit last time)

Ma - si - thi.
O sing now.

A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa.
A - men sing prais - es to the Lord.

wo, si - a - ku - du - mi - sa.
name, sing prais - es to the Lord.

African phonetics:

Mah-see-tee

Amen see-ah-koo-doo-mee-sah

Text: Amen. Praise the name of the Lord. South African traditional (Xhosa); English text, Hymnal Version

Tune: Attr. to S. C. Molefe as taught by George Mxadana; arr. by John L. Bell, b.1949, © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Closing Unison Prayer

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

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

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

In all of God's holy names, may each of us 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.

"The More You Know" Session – Sept 24

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 to Kristin Cummings (kristincummings@gmail.com).

ELPC Connections Event – Sept 24

Join the ELPC Connections group at the Pittsburgh Zoo's *Lantern Festival* on Sunday, Sept 24 at 6:30 pm. Buy your own ticket online (\$21 for adults). Meet other ELPC members at the front gate and walk through together. RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com.

OHM Family TeamWorks Dinner – Sept 26

Open Hand Ministries (OHM) is one of our mission partners serving the neighborhoods near ELPC. We will be supplying food for their community dinner on Tuesday, Sept 26. We are asking for volunteers to provide salads, side dishes, or desserts (to serve 6 to 8 people) for this dinner. Look for the sign-up tables at the entrances to the worship spaces, or contact Bob Forloines for more info (rforloines@gmail.com).

World Communion Sunday and East Meets West: Tastes of Nations – Oct 1

The ELPC Board of Deacons will be hosting its annual international meal commemorating World Communion Sunday on Oct 1, following 11 am worship. Please sign up to bring a dish representative of your ethnicity, country of origin, or family favorite. Join us in the McKelvy Room for a sample of global cuisine.

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.

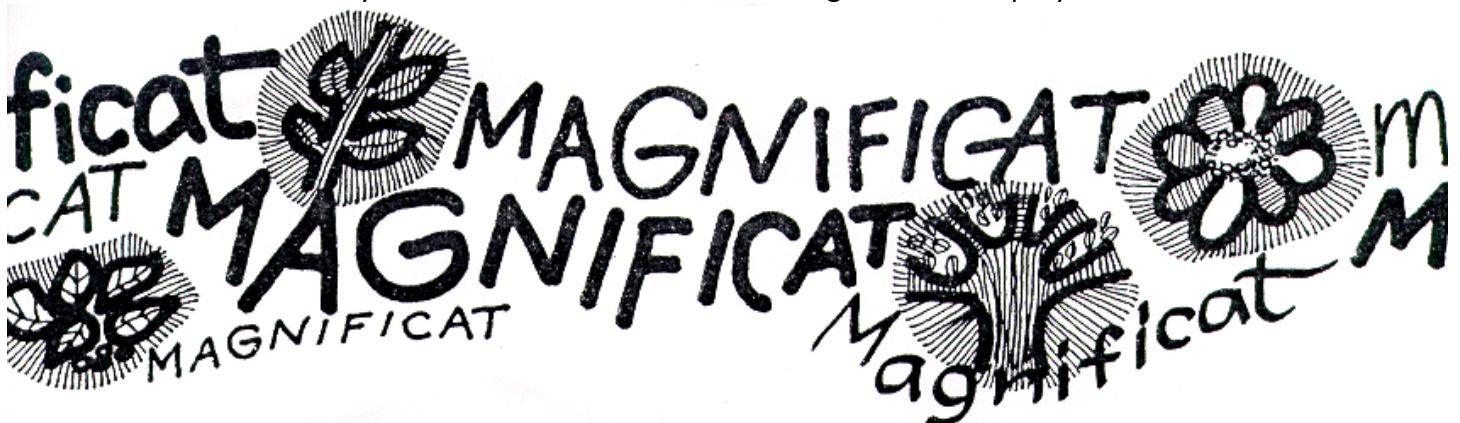
Prayer is a serene force at work within human beings, stirring them up, transforming them, never allowing them to close their eyes in the face of evil, of wars, of all that threatens the weak of this world. From it we draw the energy to wage other struggles—to enable our loved ones to survive, to transform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

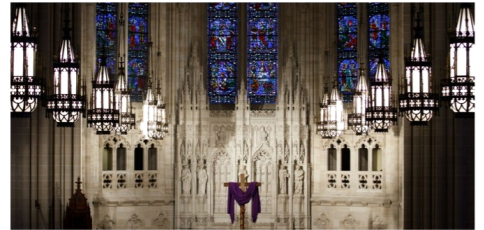
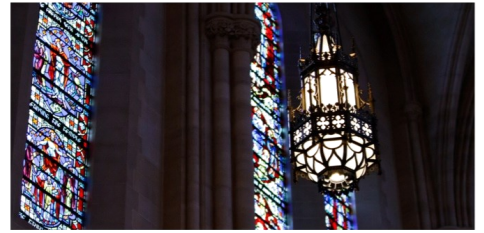
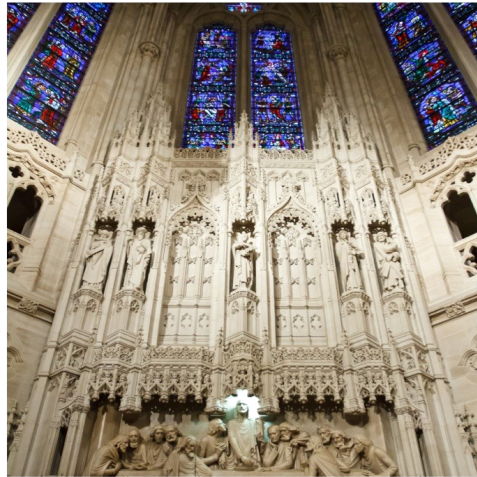
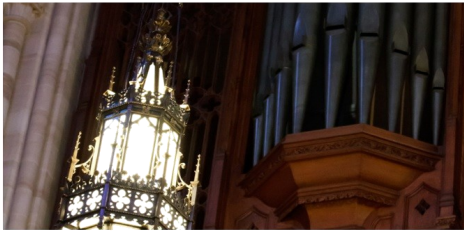
ON SINGING

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).



The Rev. BJ Woodworth
is Minister of Taizé Prayer 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

BJW@coh.net