PRAYERFUL SONG AND

QUIET MEDITATION



October 25, 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

CLM7 0 God, Keep Me Safe



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46 By Night



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Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 14



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As a hart longs for flowing streams, So longs my soul for you, O Beloved. My soul thirsts for the Beloved, For the Living Water. When may I come and behold your face? Tears have been my only nourishment Day and night. While friends ask continually, "Why do you seem so lost and forlorn?" ALLELUIA

All this I remembered, As I poured out my soul: How I knew your Presence within me As I went out among the throng, Proceeding to the House of Prayer; With loud voice we gave you praise And acclamation, a multitude Proclaiming gratitude and joy. ALLELUIA

Why are you cast down, O my soul, And why are you disquieted within me? My hope is in the Beloved, My strength and my joy, O my soul, open the door to Love! ALLELUIA

My soul is cast down within me, Yet I remember you, From my mother's womb to maturity, Through all the days of my life. ALLELUIA Deep calls to deep At the thunder of your waterfalls; All your waves and your billows Have washed over me. By day you lead me in steadfast love; At night your song is within me, Prayer from the Heart of my heart. ALLELUIA

I say to the Beloved, the Blessed One, "Why have you forgotten me? Why go I mourning Because of the oppression of fear?" As with a deadly wound in my body, I feel the pain of war and injustice; While the powerful seem to destroy, The innocent seem of no account.

ALLELUIA

O my soul, let not the quagmire of war Keep me from radiating your peace, Your love and light to the world. My hope is in you, O Spirit of Truth; Be my strength and my guide. O my soul, let us celebrate The Oneness of all Creation! ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: The Wisdom of Ecclesiastes (4:9-12)

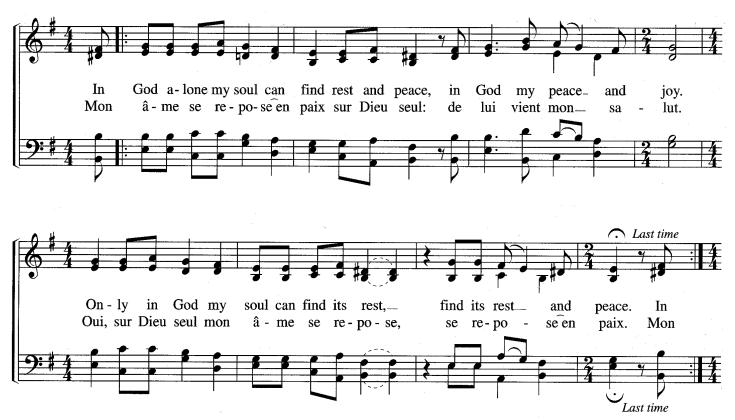
Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other, but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

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

Words from Saints and Ancestors

Since my youth, I think that I have never lost the intuition that community life could be a sign that God is love and love alone. Gradually the conviction took shape in me that it was essential to create a community determined to give their whole life and who would always try to understand one another and be reconciled, a community where kindness of heart and simplicity would be at the center of everything.

— Brother Roger Founder of Taizé



NB8 In God Alone, My Soul

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Prayers of Intercession for the Holy Land (*written by Rev. Leyla Kamalick King, Palestinian-American priest*) **Sung Response:** NB6 Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace)



God of Righteousness, who demands that our worldly governors take up their responsibility to protect those in their charge and uphold the dignity of all human beings, pour your wisdom into the leaders of this world, especially Benjamin Netanyahu, the leaders of Hamas, and Joe Biden.

DONA NOBIS PACEM (Grant Us Peace)

God of Compassion, who even in the darkest times shows us your path: we give you thanks for all those, who in the face of crisis wrought by evil-doers, work to help the helpless, to hold out hope to the desolate, to speak for the voiceless and to bring understanding and knowledge to a world darkened by ignorance and hate.

DONA NOBIS PACEM (Grant Us Peace)

God of Mercy, who binds up the wounds of those who suffer, bless the victims of the consequences of fear and hate in the last few weeks and over the past 75 years of conflict in the Holy Land: those injured and traumatized, those bereaved and grieving, those held as captives and prisoners, those who face deprivation and desperation because of systems of violence and oppression, so that they may move forward in this life standing firm in your truth and avoiding the temptation of vengeance.

DONA NOBIS PACEM (Grant Us Peace)

God of Life, whose faithfulness to us is never-ending, we remember before you those who have died by the violence that has become shockingly routine in your Holy Land; receive them into your heart where they may know the peace and joy of eternal life in you.

DONA NOBIS PACEM (Grant Us Peace)

God of Justice, who calls us to uphold the dignity of every human being, every child of this earth, beloved of you: empower your Church to help you heal this terrible cycle of violence and revenge; give us courage to rise above our fear that nothing can be done in the face of the conflict and chaos of our own creating; grant us the conviction to advocate for change and to work for the establishment of your peace, your shalom, you salaam, in this broken world.

DONA NOBIS PACEM (Grant Us 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



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Prayer over the Anointing Oil (in unison)

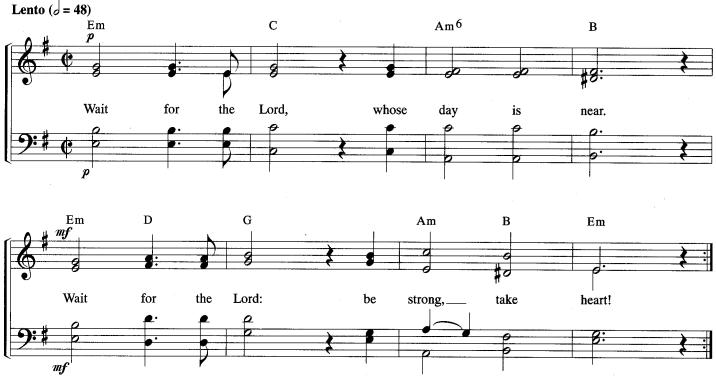
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left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





12 Wait For The Lord



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CLM33 O Lord, You Hold And Protect Me



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* Come, Bring Your Burdens To God



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 OneLicense.net #A-700877

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 EVENTS

Thomas Ospital to Perform at ELPC - Oct 27

ELPC's *Cathedral Concerts* series will kick off its 13th season on Friday, Oct 27 at 7:30 pm with a performance by organist Thomas Ospital from the Church of Saint-Eustache in Paris. The concert will be co-presented with the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh. Tickets are free for ELPC. Contact Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net). Download the brochure for the 13th season of *Cathedral Concerts* at http://tiny.cc/elpcconcerts.

Worshiping with Rev. Ross-Allam - Oct 29

We are pleased to welcome The Rev. Jermaine Ross-Allam as our guest preacher on Sunday, Oct 29. He is director of the Center for the Repair of Historic Harms at the Presbyterian Mission Agency PC(USA) and was ordained as minister of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of the



Twin Cities in 2013, where he began ordained ministry as executive director of 21st Century Academy at Kwanzaa Community Church PC(USA).

ELPC Gratitude Retreat – Nov 17 to 19

As we approach Thanksgiving, look towards Advent, and ponder the end of 2023, it is a great time to take a weekend in community with others and slow down, reflect, pause, pray and forget not all of God's benefits at a *Gratitude Retreat* at Villa Maria Retreat Center in Pulaski, PA from 6 pm on Friday, Nov 17 to 11 am on Sunday, Nov 19.

The retreat will flow in the simple rhythm of **Stop...Look...Go...** We will gather in prayer and reflection and then scatter for time alone and quiet, in the morning, at noon, and in the evening. Friday night we will STOP, get quiet, be still, and build stop signs in our lives. Saturday we will LOOK, listen, smell, taste, and hear the richness, notice the connections, drink in the beauty, smell the goodness and savor what is being graciously given to us in this moment or season of our life. Then Sunday we will GO! We will ponder what gratitude practices we want to incorporate into our lives so we may stay awake to God's goodness in our everyday ordinary lives.

RSVP to Norma by Sunday, Nov 5 (412.441.3800 x211). Cost options are:

- 1. Friday-Saturday | Shared Bath | \$70
- 2. Friday-Saturday | Private Bath | \$110
- 3. Friday-Sunday | Shared Bath | \$85
- 4. Friday-Sunday | Private Bath | \$135