



Greek icon of saints and angels around Christ's throne (c. 1700)

TAIZÉ:

Prayerful Song &
Quiet Meditation

Wednesday
NOV 1, 2023
7:00 pm

On this *All Saints Day*, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of God's people in this and every age.

At any time tonight you may come forward to light a candle in remembrance of anyone has died in the past year, anyone who has inspired your life of faith, living or dead, or pray to signify your own desire to be counted among the company of God's faithful.

 **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.



In early Christian tradition, saints' days began to mark the anniversary of a martyr's death — his or her "birthday" as a saint.

By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs (*particularly due to the persecution of Diocletian*) that it was hard to give them all their due. *All Saints' Day* was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, known and unknown.

All Saints' Day also enables us to give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past and the ongoing sanctification of the *whole* people of God. We give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks to members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

All Saints' Day has been celebrated on November 1 since the year 835. Previously it had been connected with the Easter season as a feast of all martyrs.

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the "glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs" (*Te Deum*). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God's justice and peace in every nation.

To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time.

Prelude by Taizê Musicians

Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth

* For All The Saints (verses 1-3 only)

SINE NOMINE

1. For all the saints who from their la - bors
2. You were their rock, their for - tress and their
3. O may your sol - diers, faith - ful, true, and

1. rest, All who _____ by faith be - fore the
2. might; _____ You, Lord, their cap - tain in the
3. bold, _____ Fight as the saints who no - bly

1. world con - fessed, Your name, O _____
2. well - fought fight; _____ You, in the
3. fought of old, And win, with _____

1. Je - sus, be for - ev - er, blest.
2. dark - ness drear, their one true light.
3. them, the vic - tor's crown of gold.

1-8. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: 10 10 10 with alleluias; William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: English Hymnal, 1906; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958.



CLM6 How Blessed Are The Poor In Heart

(♩ Last time)

Be - a - ti - voi po - ve - ri, per - ché
How bless - ed the poor in heart, for —

(♩ Last time)

vos - tro è il re - gno di Di - o. Be -
theirs — is the king - dom of heav - en. How

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Psalm 34:1-10; 22 (*selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill*)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 17



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I will bless the Beloved at all times,
A song of praise will I sing.
My soul speaks to the Beloved continually;
Let all who suffer hear and be glad.
O open your hearts, friends,
That your pain and loneliness
Be turned to Love;
And then, we shall rejoice
In the Beloved together!

ALLELUIA

When I searched for Love,
The Beloved answered within my heart,
And all my fears flew away.
Look to the Beloved,
And your emptiness will be filled,
Your face will radiate Love.

ALLELUIA

For when you weep, the Beloved hears,
And comes to companion you;
Your burdens are eased by Love.
The Beloved sends angels when you call
Upon these messengers for guidance and light,
For their gracious inspiration,
One with Love, you are never alone!

ALLELUIA

Happy are all who dwell in the Beloved's heart!
Abandon yourself into Love's hands,
O you holy ones,
For those who give themselves to the Beloved,
Lack no good thing.
Everyone separated from Love is empty
And hungry within.
But those who open their hearts
To the Beloved, are filled to overflowing!

ALLELUIA

Though we are beset with many fears
That cause illness and troubles,
The Beloved is ever ready
To comfort us in our sorrows,
To strengthen us
On our world's journey to wholeness.
The Beloved renews the life of all
Who surrender to Love.

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: Revelation 7:9-14 *(Inclusive Bible translation)*

After that, I saw before me an immense crowd without number, from every nation, tribe, people and language. They stood in front of the throne and the Lamb, dressed in long white robes and holding palm branches. And they cried out in a loud voice, “Salvation is of our God, who sits on the throne, and of the Lamb!”

All the angels who were encircling the throne, as well as the elders and the four living creatures, prostrated themselves before the throne. They worshiped God with these words:

“Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor
and power and strength be to our God forever and ever! Amen!”

Then one of the elders asked me, “These people in white robes—who are they, and where do they come from?” I answered, “You are the one who knows.” Then the elder said to me, “These are the ones who survived the great period of testing; they have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white.”

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

Words from Saints and Ancestors

No person is an island, entire of itself. Each is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. Each person's death diminishes me, for I am involved in humankind.

Therefore, ask not for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for you.

One short sleep past, we wake eternally, and death shall be no more; death, you will die.

— John Donne (1572-1631)

*English poet, scholar, soldier, and secretary,
who later became a priest in the Church of England*

NB17 Our Eyes Are Turned

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are in Latin and English. The first system of music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second system continues the melody and lyrics.

O - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num Je - sum,
Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ.—

o - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num nos - trum.
Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sav - ior.

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession *(adapted from the World Council of Churches)*

Sung Response: CLM8 I Bless You, Lord, My God

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics in Spanish and English. The first system covers the first line of the response, and the second system covers the second line. Both systems end with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The lyrics are:
Ben - di - go al Se - ñor por - que es - cu - cha mi voz. El Se -
I bless you, Lord, my God, for you hear me when I call. You, O
ñor es mi fuer - za, con - fí - a mi co - ra - zón. Ben -
Lord, are my strong - hold; I trust you with all my heart. I

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God of Ancestors, we thank you for the many people who have followed your way of life joyfully: for the many saints and martyrs who have offered up their lives so that your life abundant may be realized and your kingdom experienced. We thank you for the faithfulness of all of them; give us courage to follow their way of life.

I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

We pray for the millions in our world who must go hungry today, all who are exploited and marginalized because of their caste or class, race or ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, that they may not lose their hope, and may find the strength to struggle for their dignity.

I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

We call upon you for those who are persecuted, imprisoned, tortured, or threatened with death because of their witness to justice and peace. For those who have “disappeared” because they dared to speak, that their spirits may not be broken by their bodies’ pain.

I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

We remember those who live in regions torn by tension and war, by disaster, famine, and poverty. We pray for the millions of refugees around the world, especially Palestinians, that amid tears, loss and bitterness they may discern signs of hope.

I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

Strengthen our own will for peace and justice; increase our faith in your kingdom where love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will embrace, and may your will be done here on earth as it is in heaven.

I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

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 confidentiality.

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.



38 My Soul Is At Rest

A Dm ASUS A Dm C F C Dm A Dm

fine

My soul is at rest in God a-lone, my sal-va-tion comes from God. My

fine

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CLM12 I Will Sing To The Lord

Can - ta - rei ao Se - nhor, en - quan - to vi - ver; lou - va -
I will sing to the Lord my whole life long; I will

rei o meu Deus en - quan - to e - xis - tir. Ne - le en - con - tro a mi - nha a - le -
wor - ship my God as long as I live. For the Lord brings joy to his

gri - a. Ne - le en - con - tro a mi - nha a - le - gri - a. Can - ta -
peo - ple. For the Lord brings joy to his peo - ple. I will

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* When The Saints Go Marching In

1. O when the saints go march-ing in, O when the
 2. O when the sun re-fused to shine, O when the
 3. O when they crown him Lord of all, O when they

saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
 sun re - fused to shine, crown him Lord of all,

num-ber when the saints go march - ing in.
 when the sun re - fused to shine.
 when they crown him Lord of all.

Text: Negro Spiritual

Tune: WHEN THE SAINTS, 88 10 7; Negro Spiritual; arr. by Stephen Key, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc. OneLicense.net #A-700877

Closing Unison Prayer (*in unison*)

Friends, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
 let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,
 and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
 looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

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

JourneyDance

Enjoy an evening of healthy, energizing, funky and divine dancing on the 3rd Friday of every month (with a few exceptions).

Nov 17, 7:00-8:30 pm (*note new time*)

ELPC EVENTS

ELPC Officer Nominations for 2024

The congregation is invited to nominate members of ELPC for the office of Elder, Deacon, and next year's Nominating Committee. The Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) will prayerfully consider all recommendations submitted by the congregation as they prepare a slate for terms starting in 2024. Guidelines and nomination forms are available in the church's mailroom and on the church website. *Committee members include: Damon Bethea, Michele Bossers, Andrea DeVries, Jessica Gianotta, Bill Johnson, Josh Mattila, Jill Millard, and Drew Simpson.*

Donations for The Chapel Market

The *Chapel Market* is in need of toiletry items and cold weather clothes. Donations can be dropped off in the boxes at the South Highland Ave entrance.

Remembrance of Those Who Have Passed Away – Nov 5

As part of our *All Saints' Day* service at 11 am next Sunday, Nov 5, we will remember those in our congregation and larger church family who have passed away since November 2022. Send your images and names to Norma in the church office (412.441.3800 x211) by Thursday, Nov 2.

PW Bible Study: Sacred Encounters – Nov 6 and 7

Please join Presbyterian Women for their Bible Study on Monday, Nov 6 from 7-8:30 pm (Zoom only), or on Tuesday, Nov 7 from 10 am-Noon (hybrid). Those attending Tuesday morning are invited to bring a bagged lunch and stay for fellowship after the lesson. For more info and the Zoom link, email PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

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