

# **TAIZÉ:**

## **PRAYERFUL SONG AND QUIET MEDITATION**



**East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church**

[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)

**December 13, 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.
- Come up onto the altar to sit and contemplate at a prayer station.
- Bring forward and lay on the altar steps, any symbol of your gratitude, prayers or an intentions.

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**

## CLM35 The Kingdom Of God

The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly

Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom. The

(Last time ☺)

(Last time ☺)

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a hymn in 4/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are 'The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly'. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are 'Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom. The'. Both systems end with a repeat sign and a 'Last time' instruction with a smiley face icon.

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## CLM36 Lord, You Are Living Water

Tu sei sor - gen - te vi - va, tu sei fuo - co, sei ca - ri - tà.  
Lord, you are liv - ing wa - ter, you are light and fire, you are love.

Vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to, vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to.  
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, come, O Ho - ly Spir - it.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a hymn in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat, E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are in Italian and English. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are 'Vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to, vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to. Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, come, O Ho - ly Spir - it.' Both systems end with a repeat sign.

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**Psalm 126** (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

**Sung Response: \* Advent Alleluia**

(VENI EMMANUEL) Stephen Pishner



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When the Divine Lover  
Enters the human heart,  
All yearnings are fulfilled!

**ALLELUIA**

Then will our mouths ring forth with laughter,  
And our tongues with shouts of joy;  
Then will we sing our songs of praise,  
To You, O Beloved of all hearts.

**ALLELUIA**

For gladness will radiate out for all to see;  
So great is your Presence among us.  
Restore us to wholeness, O Healer,  
Like newborn babes  
Who have never strayed from you!

**ALLELUIA**

May all who sow in tears  
Reap with shouts of joy!  
May all who go forth  
Weeping tears of repentance,  
Bearing seeds of Love,  
Come home to you  
With shouts of joy, leaving sorrow behind.

**ALLELUIA**



## **The Word/Meditation: John 1:6-8, 19, 23, 25-27** *(Inclusive Bible)*

Then came one named John, sent as an envoy from God, who came as a witness to testify about the Light, so that through his testimony everyone might believe. He himself wasn't the Light; he only came to testify about the Light — the true Light that illumines all humankind.

Now the Temple authorities sent emissaries from Jerusalem — priests and Levites — to talk to John. "What are you?" they asked.

John said, "I am, as Isaiah prophesied, the voice of someone crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight our God's road!' "

They questioned him further: "If you're not the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet, then why are you baptizing people?"

John said, "I baptize with water because among you stands someone whom you don't recognize — the One who is to come after me — the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy even to untie."

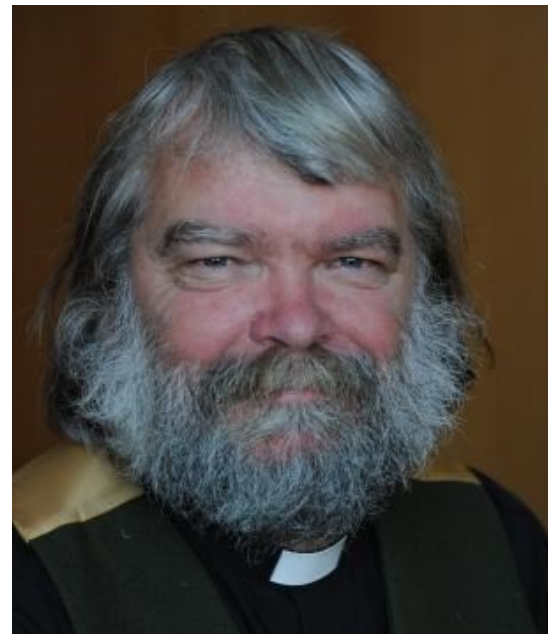
## **Quiet Meditation and Reflection** *(lasting approximately 5-7 minutes)*

### **Words from Saints and Ancestors**

Midsummer night, and bonfires on the hill  
Burn for the man who makes way for the Light:  
'He must increase and I diminish still,  
Until his sun illuminates my night.'  
So John the Baptist pioneers our path,  
Unfolds the essence of the life of prayer,  
Unlatches the last doorway into faith,  
And makes one inner space an everywhere.  
Least of the new and greatest of the old,  
Orpheus on the threshold with his lyre,  
He sets himself aside, and cries "Behold,  
The One who stands amongst you comes with fire!"

— *Malcom Guite (1957)*

*English poet, singer-songwriter, Anglican priest*



# G105 Jesus Christ, Inner Light

Text suggested by  
Brother Roger, Taizé Community

Suzanne Toolan, RSM

## OSTINATO REFRAIN: All

Je - sus Christ, in - ner light, let not our own

The first system of the musical score is for the ostinato refrain. It consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is a simple, repetitive pattern of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

dark - ness con - quer us. Je - sus Christ,

The second system continues the ostinato refrain. It also consists of two staves in the same key and time signature. The melody continues with the same repetitive pattern. The lyrics are written below the notes.

in - ner light, en - a - ble us to wel - come your love. *Fine*

The third system concludes the ostinato refrain. It consists of two staves in the same key and time signature. The melody continues with the same repetitive pattern. The lyrics are written below the notes. The system ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine" written above the treble staff.

## Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

*If you would like to read aloud one of our prayers, please see our greeter in the back to volunteer before we begin.*

### Sung Response: NB45 Come, Lord, Light Of Our Hearts

The image shows a musical score for a three-part setting of the prayer. The top part is a vocal line in treble clef, 4/4 time, with lyrics: 'Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus! Come, Lord, light of our hearts!'. The middle part is a vocal line in treble clef, 4/4 time, with lyrics: 'Ve - ni lu - men cor - di - um! Come, Lord, light of our hearts!'. The bottom part is a vocal line in bass clef, 4/4 time, with lyrics: 'O'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

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God, who restores, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice! So often you have filled us with laughter, even turning tears of sadness into shouts of joy. You send prophets, who point the way to justice and show the way to you. We thank you for sending good news to us and repairing so much that has been devastated.

### COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

In this season of light, we lift up in prayer so many who wait in darkness: people oppressed by poverty and discrimination, by political upheaval or dangerous rulers; people imprisoned wrongly and also those imprisoned justly.

### COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Make the broken-hearted whole again; comfort those who mourn; repair our ruined cities. Right what is wrong among us and in us and restore us to you, to others, to ourselves.

### COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

In all the jostling and jingling of these days, do not let us lose sight of you or those whom you especially came to serve: people in need of healing, people who are overlooked and underserved, the ones who are lost, and the ones we have made to feel little and least.

### COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Light of the world, live among us always, full of grace and truth.

### COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

## 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.**



## 36 The Lord Is My Light

Calmly (♩ = 66)      (A1) Dm      G      (A2)      (B1)      (B2)      fine

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

(A1)      (A2)      (B1)      (B2)      fine

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

## NB32 Your Word, O Lord

Your word, O Lord, is a light. My God, en - light - en my  
C'est toi ma lam - pe, Sei - gneur. Mon Dieu é - clai - re ma té -

dark - ness. O Lord, my — God, en - light - en my dark - ness. O  
nè - bre. Sei - gneur, mon — Dieu, é - clai - re ma té - nè - bre. Sei -

Lord, my — God, en - light - en my dark - ness. Your  
gneur, mon — Dieu, é - clai - re ma té - nè - bre. C'est

*Last time*

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\* When God Is A Child

*Unison*

1. Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
 2. Peace is a ribbon that cir - cles the earth,  
 3. Joy is a song that wel - comes the dawn,  
 4. Love is a flame that burns in our heart.

lead - ing us on till the morn - ing is bright.  
 giv - ing a prom - ise of safe - ty and worth.  
 tell - ing the world that the Sav - ior is born.  
 Je - sus has come and will nev - er de - part.

*Refrain*

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be

first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a - fraid.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1985  
 MUSIC: Joan Collier Fogg, 1987

MOON BEAMS  
 Irr. w. refrain

## Closing Unison Prayer for Advent

Beware. Keep alert. Keep awake. God is doing awesome things we do not expect. And Christ is coming near with great power and glory, and with tenderness.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

## Postlude by the Taizé Musicians (*depart as you so desire*)

## 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.

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).

Dec 22

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



## ELPC EVENTS

### Christmas in East Liberty Concert



Friday, Dec 15 • 7:30 pm

This highly anticipated free concert and East Liberty tradition will feature holiday favorites performed by The Brass Roots, ELPC Chancel Choir, organists Dr. Edward Alan Moore and Ethan LaPlaca, and conductor Daniel Nesta Curtis.

### Christmas Eve Services

(in-person and virtual)



**11 AM**

Sunday Sanctuary Worship  
Pastor BJ

**4 PM**

Family Service

Pastor Heather

COMMUNION

**10 PM**

Candlelight  
Music at 9:30 pm

Pastor Patrice

COMMUNION