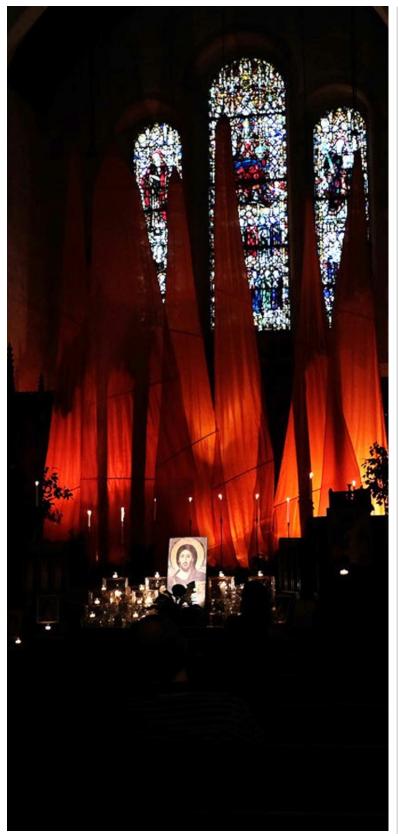
TAIZÉ: PRAVEREILI SONIC &

PRAYERFUL SONG & QUIET MEDITATION

February 7, 2024 • 7:00 pm



116 South Highland AvePittsburgh, PA 15206412.441.3800



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.

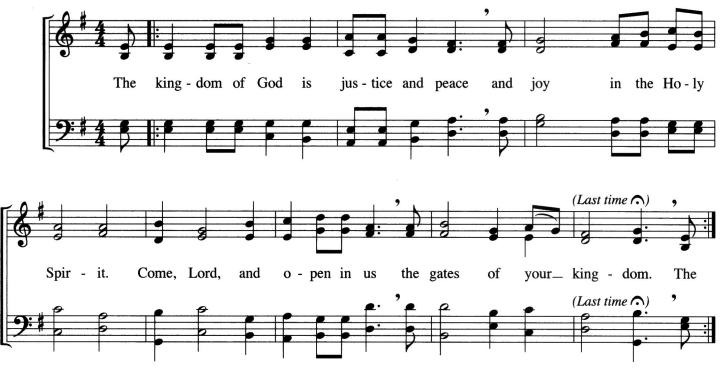
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in 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 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

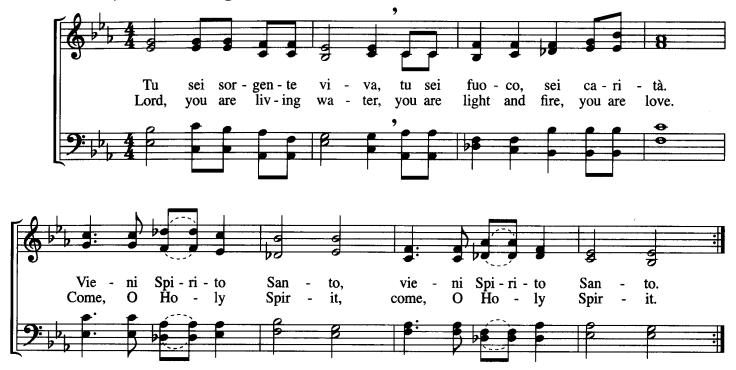
Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth





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CLM36 Lord, You Are Living Water



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Sung Response: 1 Alleluia 4



The Beloved, through the energy of Love, Brought forth the world. From the rising to the setting sun, Love radiates out to all the nations Perfect in beauty.

ALLELUIA

The Beloved has come And will not keep silence; For Divine Love is a consuming fire, Calling forth heaven and earth To the judgment of all peoples: "Gather around, my loyal friends, All who by repentance and recompense Follow the Inner Way." ALLELUIA

The universe forever proclaims justice, and the Beloved's Indwelling Presence guides those who hear with their hearts ear. ALLELUIA

Listen, all people, and I shall speak; I will bear witness against you, O nations: as Divine Presence, Eternal Flame of Love, Shall I not find fault with what you call holy, These offerings of greed and war That are before me always? ALLELUIA Have you forgotten That we are to be One in Love and Truth, That all life is Sacred Gift? I know every creature, every plant, Every mineral; I know you - your every need and your fears; The Earth and all that is in it Belongs to the Whole, To be tended by all in co-operation with Love. ALLELUIA

All who surrender To the love of the Great Mystery, Whose hearts are merciful and kind, Will go in beauty and walk with grace; And all who read Loves Eternal Flame, Will know Love's Companioning Presence. ALLELUIA



The Word/Meditation: 2 Cor. 4 (selected verses)

... the Gospel shows forth the glory of Christ, the image of God... For God, who said, "let light shine out of darkness," has shown in our hearts, so that we might in turn make known the glory of God shining on the face of Christ. But this treasure we possess is in earthen vessels, to make it clear that its surpassing power comes from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way possible, but we are not crushed; we are full of doubts, but we never despair. We are persecuted, but never abandoned; we are struck down, but never destroyed. Continually we carry about in our bodies the death of Jesus, so that in our bodies the life of Jesus may also be revealed.

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — Light and Glory of Christ...

Exhale — shine within me...

Breath Prayer is an ancient practice that connects short phrases with our breathing, help ground us in this moment, focuses us and refreshes us body, mind, and soul.

On your inhale say or be mindful of the first phrase. On your exhale say or be mindful of the second phrase. You may also carry this with you throughout your week, **a**nd let this embodied practice hold you, knowing that many across space and time are breathing and praying with us.

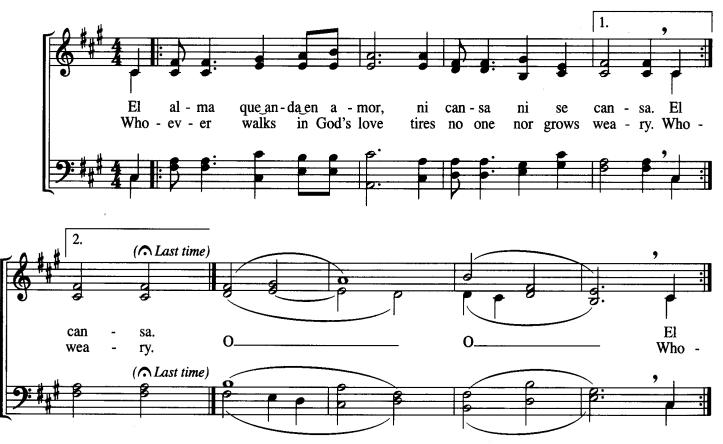


Words from Saints and Ancestors

God places us in the world as fellow workers—agents of transfiguration. We work with God so that injustice is transfigured into justice, so there will be more compassion and caring, that there will be more laughter and joy, that there will be more togetherness in God's world

> — Desmond Tutu (1931-2021), a South African Anglican bishop and theologian, known for his work as an anti-apartheid and human rights activist

CLM16 Whoever Walks In God's Love



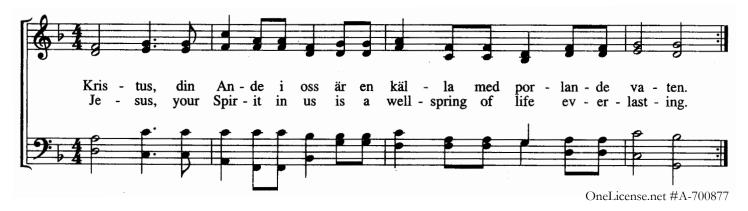
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Prayers of Intercession

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: CLM25 Jesus, Your Spirit (refrain only)



God of brilliance and splendor, we pray for your glorious creation, stamp out fires of destruction, drive away clouds of pollution, and restore the beauty of this world.

JESUS, YOUR SPIRIT

We pray for the body of Christ, open our hearts in faith, enlighten our minds with knowledge, and strengthen us to proclaim the gospel.

JESUS, YOUR SPIRIT

We pray for the people of all nations, show the nations your vision of justice offers the leaders your mantle of wisdom, and give the people your blessing of peace.

JESUS, YOUR SPIRIT

We pray for those who are afflicted, feed those who are starving, comfort those who are suffering, and receive the dying into your arms.

JESUS, YOUR SPIRIT

We pray for those whom we love, our families, friends, and neighbors, help them in times of trouble, and be near when they are afraid.

JESUS, YOUR SPIRIT

God of brilliance and splendor, make us ready for the day when this world is transfigured, transformed, and made new, when all things will shine in the dazzling light of your glory!

JESUS, YOUR SPIRIT



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)

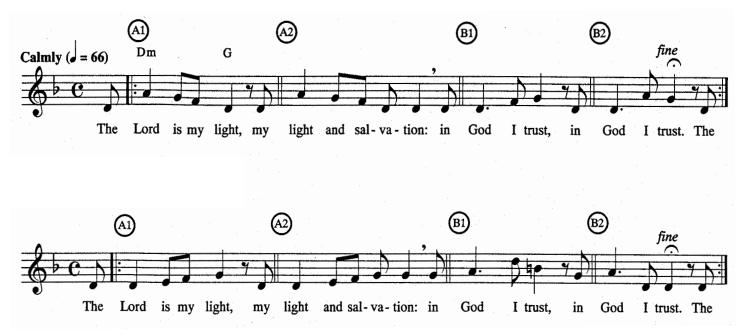
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left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



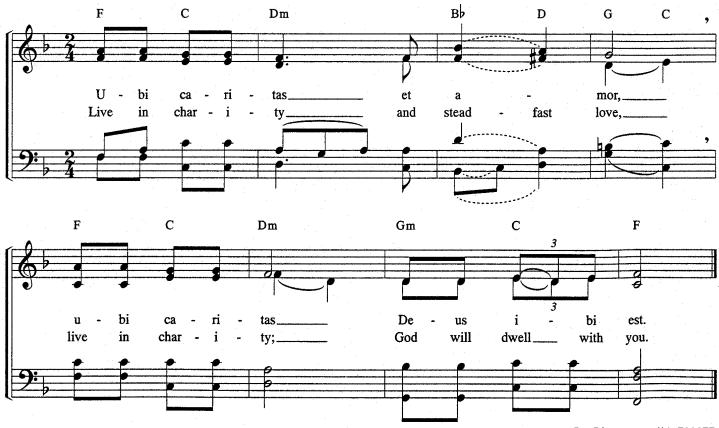


36 The Lord Is My Light



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49 Live In Charity



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* O How I Love Jesus



Epiphany Prayer (in unison)

Loving God, in the journey of life, guide us by the star that leads to Jesus, the Christ, that we may return to you transformed by his love.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen. **People: Amen.**

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

SPIRITUAL LIFE & CHURCH 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).

Feb 16, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21 7:00-8:30 pm

LABYRINTH available in LENT

You are invited to come and walk the labyrinth on the stage in the Social Hall, beginning Feb 15 to March 26.



The Rev. BJ Woodworth is Minister of Taizé Prayer here 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

Environmental Book Study – Feb 8

For their next book study, the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee has selected two books written by two important women scientists: *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times* by Jane Goodall; and *The Sea Around Us* (1951) by Rachel Carson. Read one or both and join the discussion on Zoom on Thursday, Feb 8 at 7 pm. For more info and the zoom link, contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Ash Wednesday – Feb 14

On Ash Wednesday, Feb 14, we will hold three worship services in which there will be the imposition of ashes.



- 12 pm Pastor Heather will lead our noontime service in the Chapel.
- 5:15 pm Pastor Heather and Sara Hackett will lead an interactive, intergenerational time of worship, which will be followed by a light meal for all participants.
- 7 pm Pastor BJ will lead our Taizé service

Soup & Sustenance – Begins Feb 15

Beginning Feb 15, join us from 5:30– 6:45 pm any Thursdays (through March 28) in the McKelvy Room for soup, bread and fellowship. Soup



and bread are provided; if you want to volunteer to bring a soup one week, contact Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net).

Food Drive

Please bring canned goods to worship throughout the season of Lent for the EECM Food Pantry so that we might share God's love by feeding our siblings in need.

Baking Valentine Cookies for Dogs – Feb 11

Children, youth, and families are baking and decorating dog treats for *Ellie's Pet Pantry* on Sunday, Feb 11 from Noon–2 pm in the Good Samaritan Rm. This event is open to children of all ages with a parent/adult, and youth in grades 4-12 may come on their own. Lunch will be provided. Contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Sunday Social Hour – Feb 18

Join us after 11 am worship on Sunday, Feb 18 for a *Social Hour* hosted by the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee. Hear about recent climate news and share your thoughts about environmental issues—along with your priorities for ELPC. Your contribution is important to help the Environmental Team focus its efforts. Enjoy good food, warm drinks, and lively conversation.