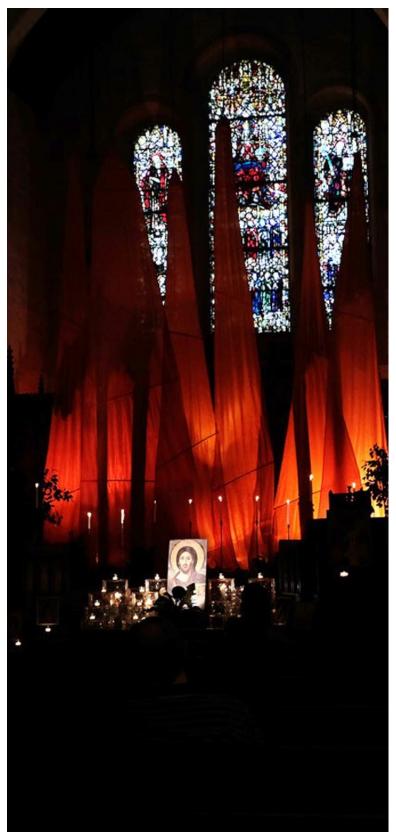




East Liberty Presbyterian Church May 8, 2024 • 7:00 pm

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.

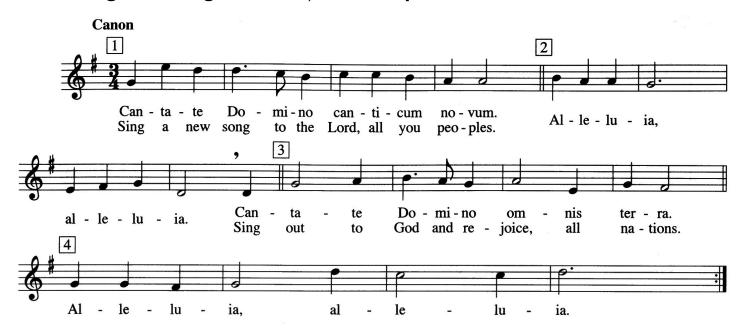
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth

CLM13 Sing A New Song To The Lord, All You Peoples



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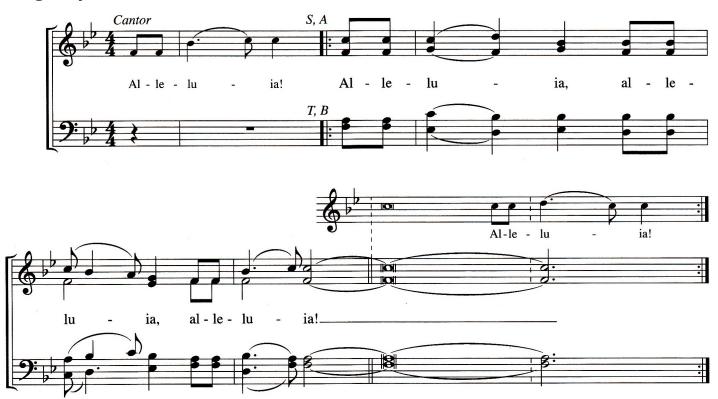
CLM12 I Will Sing To The Lord



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Psalms 98 (excerpts from 'Psalms for Praying' by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: CLM2 Alleluia 20



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O sing to the Beloved a new song, For Love has done marvelous things! By the strength of your Indwelling Presence, We, too, are called to do great things: We are set free

Through Love's forgiveness and truth.

ALLELUIA

Yes, your steadfast Love and faithfulness Are ever-present gifts in our lives. All the ends of the earth have seen The glory of Love's Eternal Flame.

ALLELUIA

Make a joyful noise To the Beloved, all the earth, Break forth into grateful song and sing praises! Yes, sing songs of praise extolling Love's ways; Lift up your hearts with gratitude and joy!

ALLELUIA

Let the voices of all people blend in harmony, In unison let the people magnify the Beloved! Let the sea laugh,

And all that fills it;

The world and those who dwell in it!

ALLELUIA

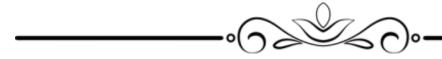
Let the waters clap their hands; Let the hills ring out with joy Before the Beloved. Who radiates Love to all the earth. For Love reigns over the world With truth and justice, Bringing order and balance to all of Creation.

ALLELUIA

Scripture for Meditation: 1 John 5:1-6 (*Inclusive Bible Translation*)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Messiah has been born of God. Everyone who loves God loves the One who has come from God. We can be sure that we love God's children when we love God and do what God has commanded. The love of God consists of this: that we keep God's commandments. And these commandments are not burdensome. Everyone born of God conquers the world, and the power that has conquered the world is our faith. Who then can overcome the world? The one who believes that Jesus is the Only Begotten of God. Jesus Christ came by water and blood — not by water alone, but with water and blood.

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — I am born of God ...

Exhale — living in Love...

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, and let this embodied practice hold you, knowing that many across space and time are breathing and praying with us.

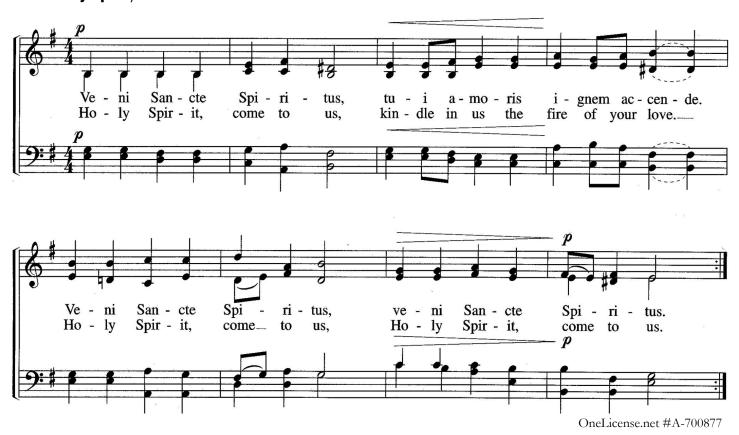


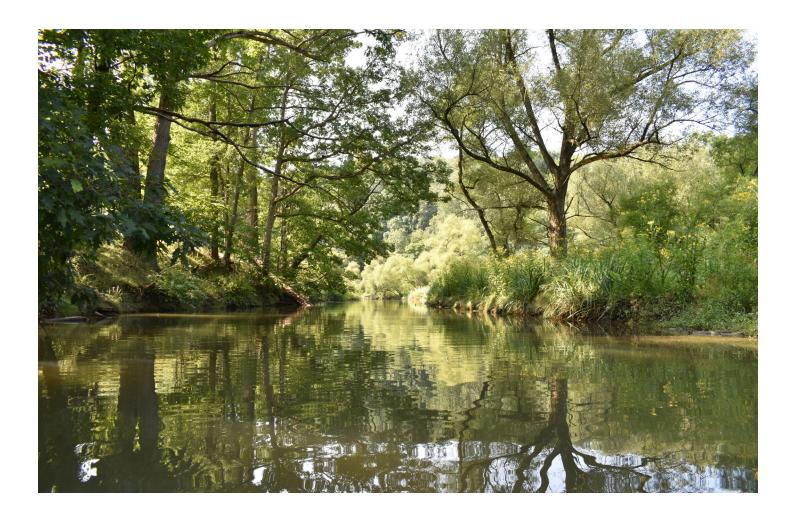
Words from Saints and Ancestors

God of love, by the Holy Spirit you are always present. Your presence is invisible, but you live at the center of our soul, even when we are unaware of it.

— Brother Roger, founder of the Taizé community

NB24 Holy Spirit, Come To Us





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: NB57 Psalm 103: God Can Only Give Faithful Love



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We sing for joy, O God, for your coming to judge the world with righteousness and fairness between nations and between people.

GOD CAN ONLY GIVE FAITHFUL LOVE

We pray for the poor and the desperate as well as for those who abused and oppressed them, both here and abroad. Comfort those who suffer and chasten those who cause their suffering, so your justice may be known in all the earth.

GOD CAN ONLY GIVE FAITHFUL LOVE

We pray for families, communities, and nations torn apart by violence, especially Gaza. Heal the broken places and imbue your earth with peace.

GOD CAN ONLY GIVE FAITHFUL LOVE

We pray for the sick and the dying, for those who are friendless and lonely, for those living with grief or depression. Bring them your friendship and renew their joy.

GOD CAN ONLY GIVE FAITHFUL LOVE

We pray for ourselves, and our church, that we may bear the fruit of peace, hope, and love, fruit that will last into eternity.

GOD CAN ONLY GIVE FAITHFUL LOVE



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



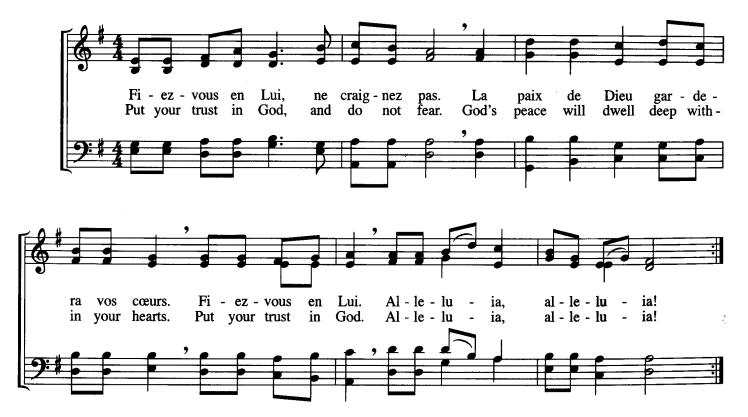
Prayer over the Anointing Oil (in unison)

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.

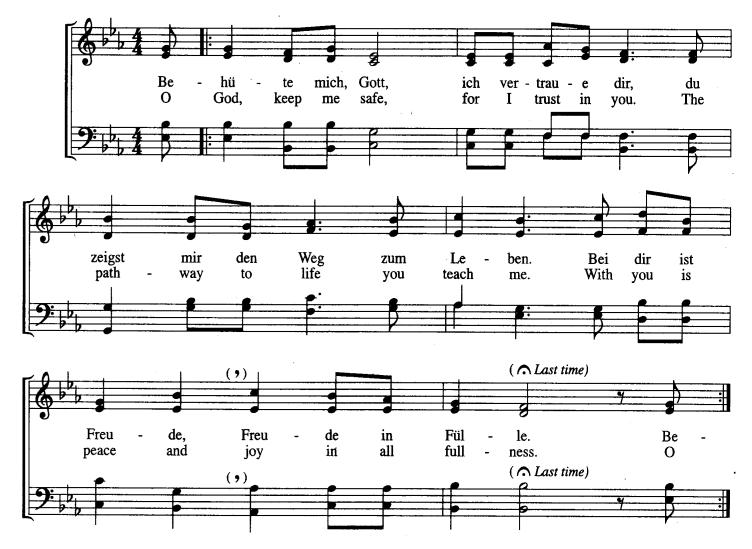
Bless this oil, O Lord, pressed from the fruit of the earth. Let it be a holy ointment for the wounds and worries of those who receive it. May it be a sign to all of us of your constant desire to touch our lives and bring us to health and wholeness. Amen.



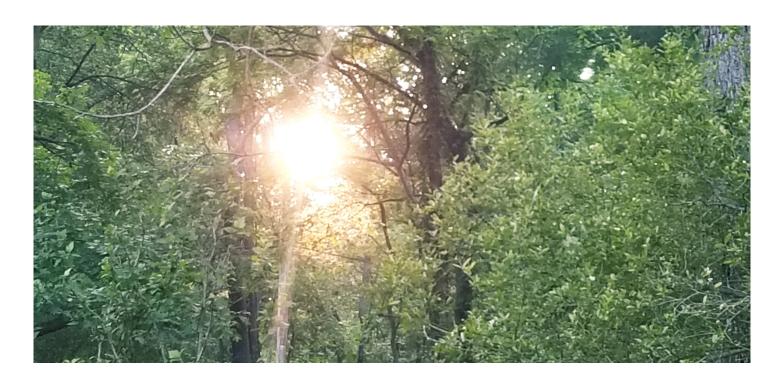
CLM18 Put Your Trust In God



CLM7 O God, Keep Me Safe



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G74 Masithi



Closing Unison Blessing

Be with us, risen Christ, at the end of this day. Enter our hearts and fill them with your peace so that we may rejoice and rest in your presence.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

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

SPIRITUAL LIFE & CHURCH EVENTS

There wil be NO CATHEDRAL YOGA or TAIZÉ SERVICE

next week, MAY 15 due to ELPC hosting the National Festival of Homiletics Conference May 13-16.

Contemplative Prayer

Pastor BJ will be practicing *Centering Prayer*, "a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than consciousness itself." (from Contemplative Outreach).

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 (not held on May 15)

JourneyDance

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

June 21, July 19, Aug 16, Sept 20, Oct18, Nov 15, Dec 27 7:00-8:30 pm



Attending to Wilderness: A Day Retreat

Join us for a contemplative retreat on Saturday, June 1 from 9 am-4 pm at Jennings Environmental Center (2951 Prospect Rd, Slippery Rock, PA 16057).

There will be time in groups and in solitude, time for creative expression, prayer, and integrating what we discover within ourselves and our natural environment. We will be led by Megan Shelly, a spiritual director and the founder of bewilderpgh (bewilderpgh.com), where she designs and leads retreats and contemplative backpacking trips. The cost is \$40. Beverages, snacks, and lunch will be provided. RSVP to Norma by Sunday, May 19 (412.441.3800 x211).

Pride Informational Fellowship Time — May 12

Stop by the Fellowship Room after the 11 am service on Sunday, May 12 to get a snack and all the info you need to know to participate in *Pittsburgh Pride* this summer.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry Gathering – May 12

You are invited to attend our LGBTQIA+ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering on Sunday, May 12 at 1 pm. Contact Wil Forrest for more info or to attend (Wil@coh.net).

A Brass and Organ Spectacular Friday, May 24 at 7:30 pm

The 13th season of ELPC's *Cathedral Concerts* series wraps up with a special concert featuring The Brass Roots, organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore, and conductor Daniel Nesta Curtis.



The concert will feature the premiere of a new piece for brass ensemble and organ by Pittsburgh composer Nancy Galbraith in honor of the 10-year anniversary of Dr. Ed Moore and The Brass Roots at ELPC called *East Liberty Overture*.

The concert is free, but a free will offering will be received. Contact Dr. Moore for more info (EdM@coh.net).

