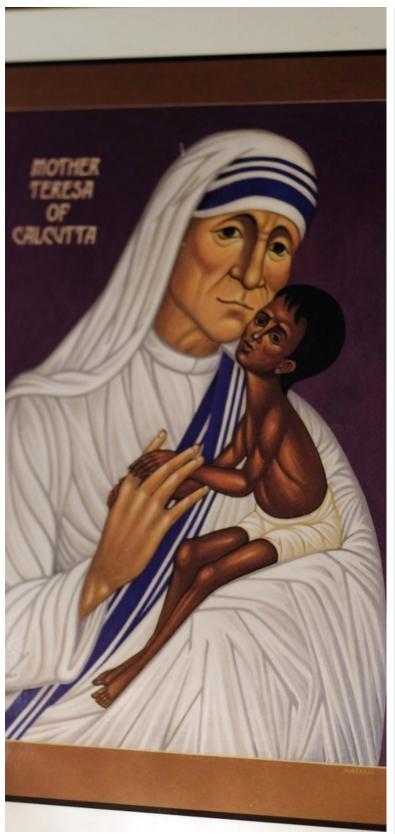




East Liberty Presbyterian Church June 26, 2024 • 7:00 pm

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.

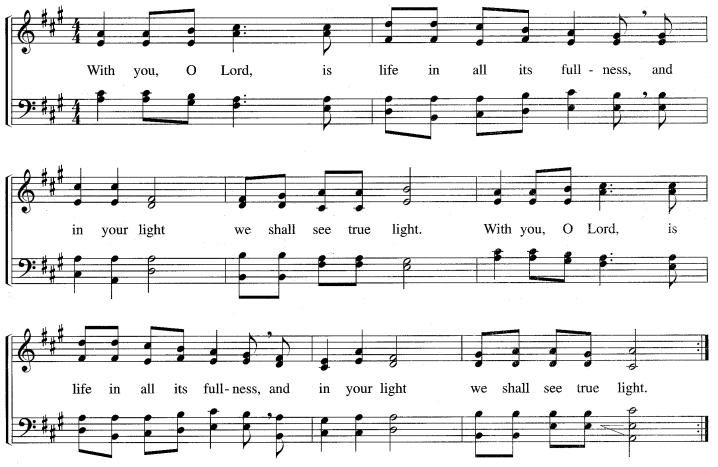
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

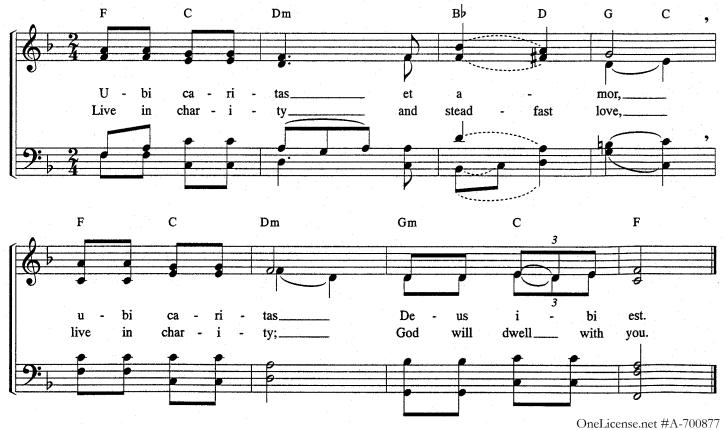
Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. John Titus

# NB31 With You, O Lord



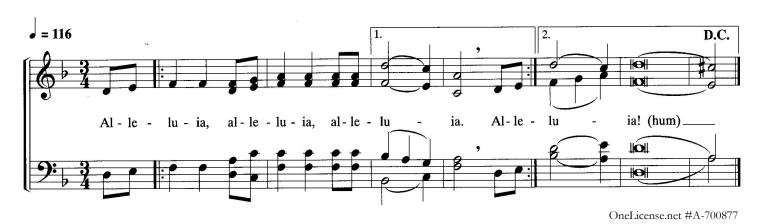
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# **Psalm 30** (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

# Sung Response: 2 Alleluia 7



All praise to you, O Beloved, For you have raised me up, And have not let my fears Overwhelm me.

#### **ALLELUIA**

O Compassionate One, I cried for help, And you comforted me. You, O Love, helped me release My soul from despair; You gave me strength to face my fears; Now love is awakening in me.

#### ALLELUIA

Sing praises to the Beloved, all you saints, Giving thanks to Love's holy Name. Love withdraws when we close our hearts, Yet ever awaits an open door. In the evening we may weep, Yet joy comes with the morning.

#### **ALLELUIA**

In my prosperity, I had lost sight of Love, I found power in my wealth.
In your mercy, O Beloved,
My foundations you shook,
And in recognizing my separation from you, I was dismayed.

#### **ALLELUIA**

I cried to you for help;
To you, I pleaded for forgiveness:
"What profit in my riches
If I am separated from Love?
Will emptiness praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
Hear me, O Beloved, and be gracious to me!
O Love, hasten to my assistance!"

#### **ALLELUIA**

And you turned my mourning into dancing; You set me free and clothed me with gladness. My soul rejoices and is glad in you; Songs of gratitude fill my soul, Rising up to you, O Beloved. Amen.

#### **ALLELUIA**

# **Scripture for Meditation: Lamentations 3:22-28** (Inclusive Bible Translation)

Yhwh's favor is not exhausted, nor has God's compassion failed. They rise up anew each morning, so great is God's faithfulness. "Yhwh is all I have," I cry. "So I will wait in patience."

The Most High is good to those who hope in God, to all who seek God's presence. It is good to wait patiently for Yhwh to set us free. It is good for anyone to bear a burden from youth.

Let those who bear such a burden, sit in silence — for Yhwh has laid it on them.

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



# **Breath Prayer**

Inhale — I wait alone ...

Exhale — in silence ...

**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**

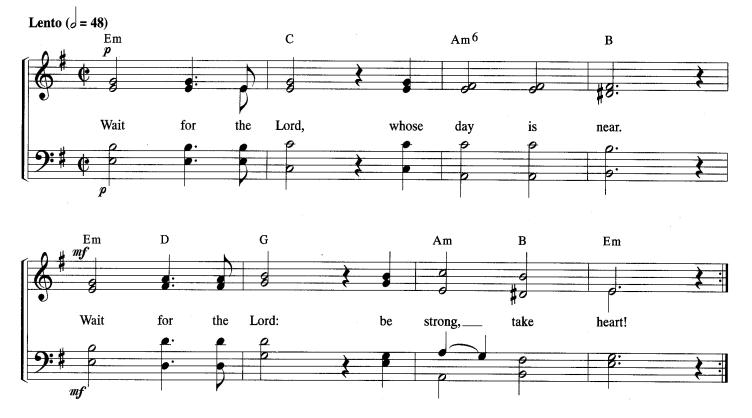
To counteract this age of too many decibels, the way of silence and stillness in prayer speaks to us of a deep human need and a spiritual path that is rooted in the 'inner desert' of the heart where the Spirit is waiting.

— Paul T. Harris

journalist, meditation teacher, and a frequent writer about contemplative prayer and spirituality



#### 12 Wait For The Lord



# **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: 4 Kyrie 1



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Knowing that God hears our prayers, and trusting in the Spirit who intercedes with sighs too deep for words, let us bring our prayers and concerns to God this evening.

#### **KYRIE**

Death seems to be all around us, O God; the world groans with the weight of it. Hear our prayers this evening for this warring world...

#### **KYRIE**

The rulers of nations need your wisdom, O God; oppression and injustice seem to be prevailing. Hear our prayers this evening for the leaders of this world...

#### **KYRIE**

The church seems to be often divided, O God; we fight and splinter. Hear our prayers this evening for the peace and unity of the church...

#### **KYRIE**

Your children suffer, O God; they are hungry and can find no rest. Hear our prayers this evening for those who are poor and unhoused...

#### **KYRIE**

Many are sick among us, O God, and some are dying. Hear our prayers this evening for those who need healing and peace...

#### **KYRIE**

Our hearts are troubled, O God; guide us until we find our rest in you. Hear our secret prayers this evening...

#### **KYRIE**

# **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.

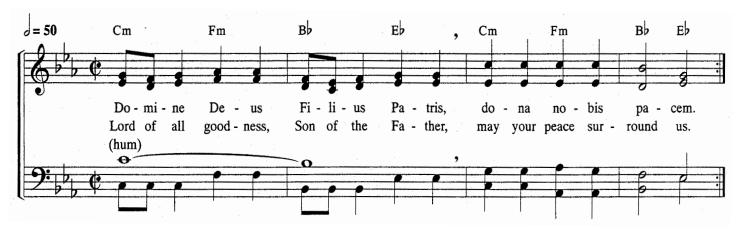


Bless this oil, O Lord, pressed from the fruit of the earth. Let it be a holy ointment for the wounds and worries of those who receive it. May it be a sign to all of us of your constant desire to touch our lives and bring us to health and wholeness. Amen.

# 37 Within Our Darkest Night В = 63

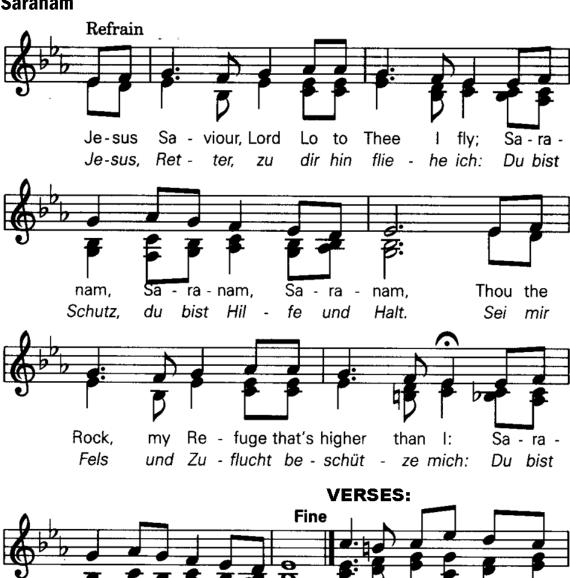


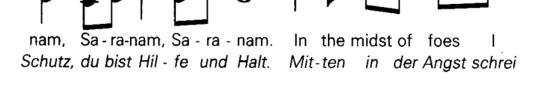
### 30 Lord Of All Goodness



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### **G134 Saranam**







- an swer me: Sa ra nam, Sa ra nam, hilf los fleht: Du bist Schutz, du bist Hil fe und Halt.
- 2. In Thy tent give me a dwelling place, / And beneath Thy wings may I find sheltering grace, / let fall on me the sunshine of Thy face: / Saranam, Saranam, Saranam. / Jesus Saviour, Lord . . .
- 3. O that I my vows to Thee may pay, / And that by Thy faithfulness to me each day: / May live, and on Thy love my burdens lay: / Saranam, Saranam, Saranam. / Jesus Saviour, Lord
- 4. Yesterday, today, for e'er the same, / Lo, the heritage of all who bear His name / To ransom them from sin the Saviour came; / Saranam, Saranam, Saranam, / Jesus . . .
- 2. Laß dein Zelt mir Haus und Wohnung sein, / wo die Gnade deiner Flügel mich bedeckt, / wo mich dein Antlitz gleich der Sonne weckt: / Du bist Schutz, du bist Hilfe und Halt. / Jesus, Retter, . . .
- 3. Hilf, Gelübde, die ich gab, zu tun / und zu sehn, was deine Treue täglich schenkt, / wie Liebe auch an meine Lasten denkt: Du bist Schutz, du bist Hilfe und Halt. / Jesus, . . .
- 4. Gestern, heute und zu aller Zeit / soll, wer seinen Namen trägt, auch Erbe sein, / daß Jesus kam von Sünden zu befrei'n: / Du bist Schutz, du bist Hilfe und Halt. / Jesus, Retter,
- 1 = englisch, 2 = deutsch

# **Closing Unison Prayer**

May the Name of Love be your protection and rise up in your heart as a tower of strength! May all you have given in gratitude and with open hands be returned to you a hundredfold! May your heart's desires and all of Love's plans for you be fulfilled in due season!

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

# **CHURCH EVENTS**

#### **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).

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



#### The Sacrament of Letting Go Retreat — Sept 27 to 29

We glibly advise others and admonish ourselves to "let go" of the patterns that no longer serve us well and the concerns that continue to haunt us, but it doesn't seem to be quite that easy...in fact, if it was, we would! The desire to let go comes from deep within us and what it is that we are being invited to let go of is often obscured. Nature understands and is a ready guide.

Whether you embrace the season of fall or are an autumn struggler, join us at Villa Maria from Sept 27-29 to open yourself up to the bittersweet beauty and the invitations autumn has for you, and receive a liberating measure of divine grace. We will be led by Lynn Holden, a spiritual director, professional counselor, and founder of Cultivating Awareness, where she creates and holds space for individuals and groups as they awaken to a Greater Reality.

Registration will be open soon! Contact Pastor BJ Woodworth (BJW@coh.net).



#### Volunteer and Participate in the People's Pride PGH 2024 March & Festival — June 30

Take to the streets with People's Pride PGH 2024 March and Festival on Sunday, June 30 in Wilkinsburg. March lineup will begin at 10:30 am at Harold Young Sr. Park (739 Penn Ave, 15221) and will end at Turner Elementary (1833 Laketon Rd, 15221) where the Festival will be held. The March will begin at 11 am where we will be met by community members and allies. Please use this link to sign up to volunteer to staff the booth:

www.signupgenius.com/go/ 10C0E48ADAB2DA4FAC25-49884668-pride#/ Both lay and pastoral volunteers are needed.

#### **Donations Requested for Second Avenue Commons**

Second Avenue Commons, the year-round, low-barrier shelter in downtown Pittsburgh, is requesting emergency donations due to a three-alarm fire that broke out on the roof of their building.

Donations will also help Pittsburgh Mercy provide emergency housing, clothing, medical care, hygiene items, and any other necessary items that individuals may need.

Some needed items include snack donations (prepackaged peanut butter and jelly sandwiches; grab-and-go cereal bars and trail mix bars; beef jerky; electrolyte/ sports drinks or packet mix-ins; bottled water); new clothing donations (for both men and women, all sizes); slides or flip flop sandals; backpacks that zip and duffel bags that close. Monetary donations can be made on their website at:

> https://donate.pittsburghmercy.org/ secondavenuecommons

#### RCC PRIDE Concert "Why We Sing!" - June 29 and 30

Join the Renaissance City Choir on Saturday, June 29 and Sunday, June 30 at 4 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary for their PRIDE: Why We Sing concert, featuring a world-première piece written by choir member Amy Vermillion with music by Artistic Director, Dr. Kym Scott. Live streaming will occur on Sunday, June 30, as well as a pay what you can option. Accessibility questions may be emailed to accessibility@rccpittsburgh.com. Visit RCCPittsburgh.com to purchase tickets and for more info.