



Taizé:

Prayerful Song
& Quiet
Meditation

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East Liberty
Presbyterian Church

www.ELPC.church

August 21, 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 Rohlif

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

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in 4/4 time and G major. The lyrics are: "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 ☺)

This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in 4/4 time and G major. The lyrics are: "Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your - king - dom. The". The system ends with a repeat sign and the instruction "(Last time ☺)".

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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.

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The lyrics are: "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.

This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in 4/4 time and B-flat major. 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." The system ends with a repeat sign.

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Psalm 84 (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 10

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a sung response. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!". The first system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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How glorious is your dwelling place,
O Blessed Architect of the universe!
My soul longs, yes, aches
For the abode of the Beloved;
All that is within me sings for joy
To the living Heart of Love!

ALLELUIA

Even as the sparrow finds a home,
And the swallow a nesting place,
Where its young are raised
Within your majestic creation,
You invite us to dwell within your Heart.
Blessed are they whose hearts
Are filled with love, who sing
Praises to you with grateful hearts!

ALLELUIA

Blessed are they who put their strength in you,
Who choose to share
The joy and sorrows of the world.
They do not give way to fear or doubt;
They are quickened by Divine Light and Power;
They dwell within the peace of the Most High.
They go from strength to strength
And live with integrity.

ALLELUIA

O Eternal Lover, hear my prayer;
Give ear, O Divine Comforter!
Forgive what is unholy within me;
Free me from my illusions!
For a day within the Heart of Love
Is more to be desired
Than a thousand elsewhere.

ALLELUIA

I would rather be a servant
In your dwelling place,
Than live in riches
Among those who know not Love.
For the Beloved is as radiant as the sun,
As strong as a steel shield,
And invites each one to come,
To partake of the Banquet.

ALLELUIA

Who will accept the goodness of Love?
Who will seek for spiritual treasure?
O Loving Creator of the universe,
Blessed are all who put their trust in you!
They bless the world.

ALLELUIA

Scripture for Meditation: John 6:53-56, 60, 66-69 *(from Inclusive Bible translation)*

Jesus replied, “The truth of the matter is, if you don’t eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Chosen One, you won’t have life in you. Those who do eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Everyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I live in them.”

Many of his disciples remarked, “We can’t put up with this kind of talk! How can anyone take it seriously?”

From this time on, many of the disciples broke away and wouldn’t remain in the company of Jesus. Jesus then said to the Twelve, “Are you going to leave me, too?”

Simon Peter answered, “Rabbi, where would we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe; we’re convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — I hunger...

Exhale — I thirst...

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 live Eternal Life in the full and final sense is to be with God as Christ is with him, and with each other as Christ is with us.

— Friedrich Beuchner (1926-2022)
an American author, Presbyterian minister, preacher, and theologian

NB7 Eat This Bread

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef staff with a melody and a bass clef staff with accompaniment. The second system also has a treble clef staff with a melody and a bass clef staff with accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include piano (p), forte (f), and mezzo-forte (mf). The lyrics are printed below the treble clef staves.

p Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and nev - er be hun - gry.
Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

f

p

mf

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.
Je - sus Christ, Ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

mf

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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: NB40 Lord, Hear Our Prayer

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Ex - au - di nos. Ex - au - di nos. Lord, hear our prayer, Lord, hear our prayer." The words "Ex - au - di nos." are written above the notes, and "Lord, hear our prayer," is written below. There are two instances of the phrase. The first instance ends with a dotted line, and the second instance ends with a solid line. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

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Faithful God, there is no one like you in heaven or on earth. The highest heaven cannot contain you, yet you dwell in our midst and regard our prayers with favor. So, we lift our hearts in your house, praying by the power of your Spirit and persevering in supplication for the church, the creation, and those in need.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Believing, O God, you have the words of life, we pray that your church will stand firm in the strength of your power, overcoming evil and proclaiming the gospel of peace.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Believing, O God, you have the words of life, we pray for the protection and caretaking of your creation, the sanctuary you have provided to nourish, sustain and shelter humankind and all living things.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Believing, O God, you have the words of life, we pray for all who govern and hold authority and all cosmic powers of this world, that they may yield to your reign of love, peace, justice, and goodness for all.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Believing, O God, you have the words of life, we pray that you will protect and comfort the weak and the young and hear the cry of the stranger and the forgotten.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Believing, O God, you have the words of life, we pray that you would strengthen our faith, deepen our love, and empower our witness in the world.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

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 bearing 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.



CLM33 O Lord, You Hold And Protect Me

Sei - gneur, tu gar - des mon â - me; Ô Dieu, tu con - nais mon
O Lord, you hold and pro - tect me; you know all my heart's de -

cœur. Con - duis - moi sur le che - min d'é - ter - ni - té, con - duis -
sire. Guide my steps a - long the ev - er - last - ing way, guide my

moi sur le che - min d'é - ter - ni - té. Sei -
steps a - long the ev - er - last - ing way. O

(♩) Last time

(♩) Last time

NB33 Grant Us Your Peace, O Lord

(A) (B)* (C) (D)*
 Da pa - cem, Do - mi - ne, da pa - cem,
 Grant us your peace, O Lord, grant us your
 O Chri - ste, in di - e - bus no - stris.
 peace, O Lord, may it fill all our days.
 Coda
 A - men. A - men. A - men.

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* Know That God Is Good

Know that God is good. Know that
 Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le,
 Mun - gu ni mwe - ma. Mun - gu
 God is good. Know that God is good,
 hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah,
 ni mwe - ma. Mun - gu ni mwe - ma,
 God is good, God is good.
 hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.
 ni mwe - ma, ni mwe - ma.

African phonetics: Moon-goo nee mway-mah.

Text: Anonymous
 Tune: Anonymous; arr. by John L. Bell, b.1949, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

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Closing Unison Prayer

The living God give you strength!
The Lord Jesus Christ feed you
with the bread of life!
The Holy Spirit fill you with the words of life!
The blessing of the Holy Trinity
abide with you this night and forever

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.



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



We live in a world of division and conflict. Yet, as followers of Christ, we are called to be peacemakers and bridges of unity. Here in Taizé, we are inspired by the example of reconciliation and fraternal community. Your commitment to praying together, living together and serving together is a model for the whole world. Let us remember the words of the apostle Paul to the Ephesians: “Strive to maintain the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” (*Ephesians 4:3*) It is a task that requires our daily dedication and our faith in God’s transforming love.

(by His Eminence, Metropolitan Dimitrios of France, Exarch for Europe of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, addressing the brothers of the Taizé community and to young people taking part)

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).

Aug 16, Sept 20,

Oct 18, 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.

RSVP to Norma by Sunday, Sept 15 (412.441.3800 x211). Cost options are:

1. One Night (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun) Shared Bath | \$70
2. One Night (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun) Private Bath | \$110
3. Two Nights (Friday-Sunday) Shared Bath | \$85
4. Two Nights (Friday-Sunday) Private Bath | \$135



Let's Get Free Art Show:

Abolitionist Expressions
Sept 22 to Oct 20

ELPC's Justice and Worship, Music & Arts Committees invite you to attend an art show from Sept 22 - Oct 20 featuring selected works from the permanent collection of *Let's Get Free: The Women and Trans Prisoner Defense Committee*. The show, *Abolitionist Expressions*, includes paintings, collages, and other artwork created by people who are or have been incarcerated.

The mission of *Let's Get Free* is working to “...end perpetual punishment, build a pathway out of the prisons back to our communities through commutation reform, support successful possibilities for people formerly and currently incarcerated, and shift to a culture of transformative justice.” The organization's efforts are in line with the goals of both ELPC Committees and we are thrilled to partner with them on this initiative.

A panel presentation on the societal impact of the death penalty, mass incarceration, and inequities in our legal system is being planned for Sunday, Oct 13 after the 11 am sanctuary worship service.

We're in need of volunteer “gallery sitters” willing to be onsite during the times when the show will be open to the public. Contact Vivienne Selia (vselia@comcast.net).



The artwork will be displayed in the Highland and Trustees Rooms, and will be available for the public to view on Sundays from Noon – 2 pm, and Wednesdays from 5:30 – 7 pm.

INQUIRERS' CLASS — SEPT 1

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on Sunday, Sept 1 after the 10 am worship service in the Fellowship Room to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided.

For more info or to register, please contact Jen King (JenniferK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

