



East Liberty Presbyterian Church **September 18, 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.

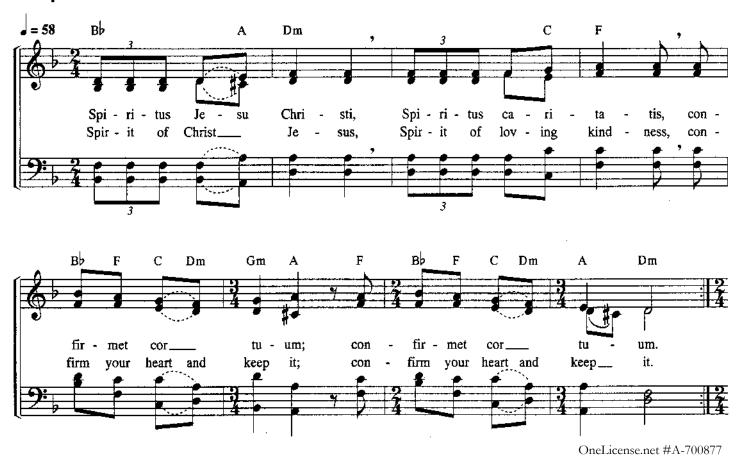
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

Welcome and Opening Centering by Emily Cowser

34 Spirit of Christ Jesus



Writings by Brother Roger of Taizé

(Taken from 'Brother Roger of Taizé, <u>God Is Love</u>: Central themes from Taizé and Stories from the Life of the Author and of the Community")

Do You Recognize the Way of Hope?

I cannot forget an evening in the summer of 1942, when I was still on my own in Taizé. I was writing at a small table. It was wartime. I knew that I was in danger because of the refugees I was sheltering in the house. Some of them were Jews. There was a serious threat that I would be arrested and taken away. Members of the civilian police force had repeatedly come to question me.

That evening, with fear in the pit of my stomach, a prayer of trust took hold of me. I said to God, "Even if I lose my life, I know that you, the living God, will continue what has begun here, the creation of a community."



CLM7 O God, Keep Me Safe



OneLicense.net #A-700877



Psalm 54 (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 18



OneLicense.net #A-700877

Awaken me, O Blessed Healer, With your holy mercy; That I might be free of fear. Hear my prayer, O Holy One; Give ear to the words of my mouth.

ALLELUIA

For nagging doubts assail me, Bringing loneliness and pain; I remember not the Beloved, So overwhelming are my fears.

ALLELUIA

Yet behold, you are my helper, The upholder of my life. With you I have the strength To face my fears; Your faithfulness will help me Transform them into love.

ALLELUIA

With boundless confidence, I abandon myself into your Heart; I give praise to your holy name, O Beloved, With gratitude and joy.

ALLELUIA

For you deliver me from my illusions, And, through Love, My heart opens to Wisdom.

ALLELUIA



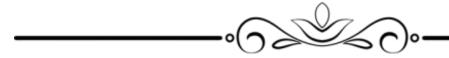
Scripture for Meditation: Mark 9:33-37 (from Inclusive Bible translation)

They returned home to Capernaum. Once they were inside the house, Jesus began to ask them, "What were you discussing on the way home?" At this they fell silent, for on the way they had been arguing about who among them was the most important.

So Jesus sat down and called the twelve over and said, "If any of you wants to be first, you must be the last one of all and at the service of all."

Then Jesus brought a little child into their midst and, putting his arm around the child, said to them, "Whoever welcomes a child such as this for my sake welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the One who sent me."

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — Welcome me...

Exhale — As your child...

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

Children quite naturally see with the heart. The essential is clearly visible to them.... All grown-ups were once children... but only few of them remember it.

— Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900-1944) a French writer, poet, journalist and aviator who received several prestigious literary awards for his novella "The Little Prince"

NB25 Where There Is Charity



OneLicense.net #A-700877



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: NB42 Kyrie Eleison 5



OneLicense.net #A-700877

God, help each of us to become more like children; may your Spirit nurture in us childlike humility, curiosity, simplicity, and trusting You and others.

KYRIE

We pray for the safety of children who are affected by political, gang, or domestic violence. May your peace become a reality for societies and homes in turmoil, so children feel safe, and healing of relationships may happen in these communities and families.

KYRIE

We pray for the children whose lives and educations have been disrupted by war and displacement. Help parents and aid organizations find ways for them to continue their schooling and make up missed lessons. Keep this generation from being lost to poverty and despair.

KYRIE

We pray for children who are lonely, hungry, without adequate housing. Move in and among the Church, government, and families to advocate for and serve children, that they may be protected, live a long, healthy, and prosperous life.

KYRIE

God, help us to be your hands and feet welcoming children into our lives, allowing them to teach us and guide us; may we see You in them. Help us also to advocate for children, for their welfare, protection, and empowerment as full participants in your Church and the world.

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



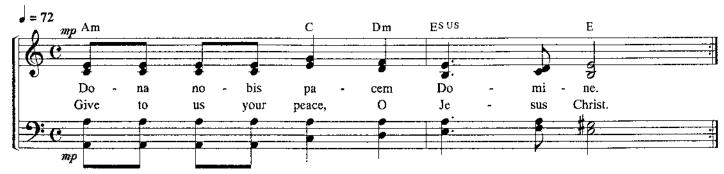
Prayer over the Anointing Oil (in unison)

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.



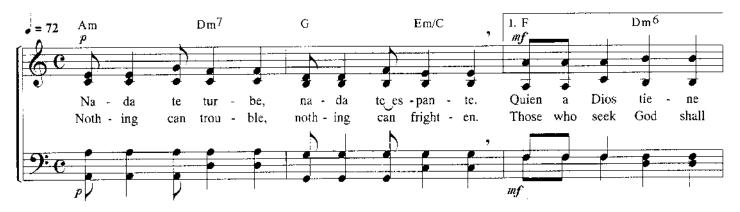
Bless this oil, O Lord, pressed from the fruit of the earth. Let it be a holy ointment for the wounds and worries of those who receive it. May it be a sign to all of us of your constant desire to touch our lives and bring us to health and wholeness. Amen.

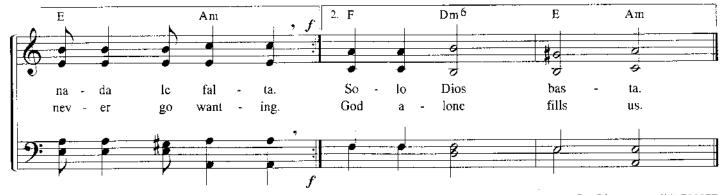
31 Give To Us Your Peace



OneLicense.net #A-700877

29 Nothing Can Trouble





OneLicense.net #A-700877

* Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying



Closing Unison Prayer

Go out into the world endeavoring to be the last of all and servant of all. Welcome the children, for in doing so you're welcoming Jesus.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

SPIRITUAL LIFE & CHURCH EVENTS

Contemplative Prayer

Monday morning *Contemplative Prayer* will restart tomorrow, Sept 9 from 7:30-8 am. Please join Pastor BJ Woodworth on Zoom (Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992; Passcode: bestill) for 30 minutes of communal silence and guided meditation on scripture. This fall we will be drawing our guided mediations from the book *Becoming Rooted: 100 Days of Reconnecting with Sacred Earth* by Randy Woodley, an activist, scholar, author, teacher, wisdom-keeper and Cherokee descendant, recognized by the Keetoowah Band.

Mondays, 7:30-8 am

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, 6-7 pm

JourneyDance

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

Sept 20, Oct18, Nov 15, Dec 27 Fridays, 7-8:30 pm

Yoga Retreat: Celebrating the Beauty of You — Oct 5

Join us on Saturday, Oct 5 from 9 am—3 pm for a Yoga Retreat. This retreat is all about embracing yourself as you are, relaxation, and inner peace through yoga, movement and meditation in community. Yamuna Morgenstern will lead our yoga, movement and reflections. Special guest Jessica Rosario will offer the sound bath with her crystal bowls and mesmerizing voice. The cost is a suggested donation of \$60 (or pay what you can). Please register online at tiny.cc/yogaretreat. Contact Yamuna for details (domorgens@gmail.com).



Celebration Honoring Pastor Heather

Join us in the Whitfield Lobby on the ground floor after the 11 am worship service to celebrate Pastor Heather's service to our worship community. Pastor Heather will begin serving as the solo pastor of the Community

Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon on Oct 1.

Art Show: Abolitionist Expressions

ELPC's Justice and Worship, Music & Arts Committees invite you to attend an art show that runs from Sept 22 through Oct 20 in the Highland Room and Trustees Room, 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. Artwork can be viewed on Sundays from Noon-2 pm, and Wednesdays from 5:30-7 pm.

Church Tour - Sept 29

All are welcome to join guide Tom Morton for a tour of the stained glass after the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Sept 29. Please gather at the Highland Lobby to participate.

Voter Event / Social Hour - Sept 29

Join us in the Fellowship Room on Sunday, Sept 29 when members of the ad hoc *Voting Team* (under the Justice Committee) will be available to do voter registrations, mail-in ballot requests, check status, and receive a voter pledge card with an issue checklist. This event will be a *Social Hour* too, so come enjoy food and conversation. Contact Nancy Heastings if you can volunteer (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Cathedral Concert: Back to Broadway



Our new season of Cathedral Concerts kicks off on

Sunday, Sept 29 at 3 pm with Back to Broadway. Join us in the Sanctuary for an afternoon of show tunes from past and present, featuring ELPC's own section leaders. The concert is free, and a freewill offering will be

Contact Dr. Ed Moore for more info (EdM@coh.net).