



East Liberty Presbyterian Church September 25, 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.

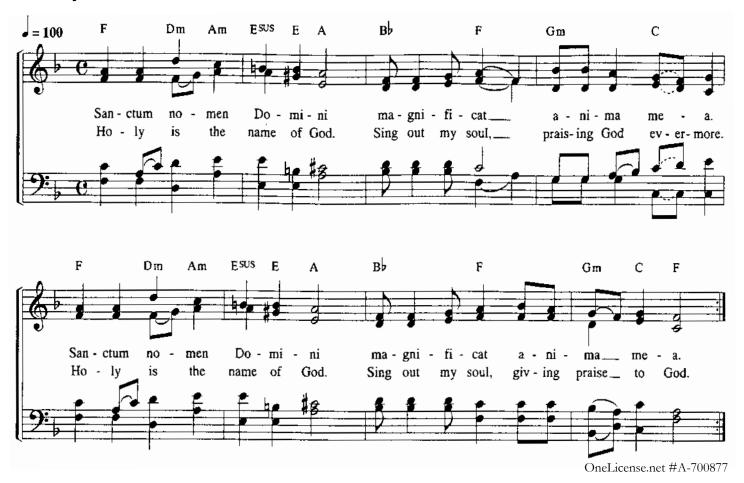
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

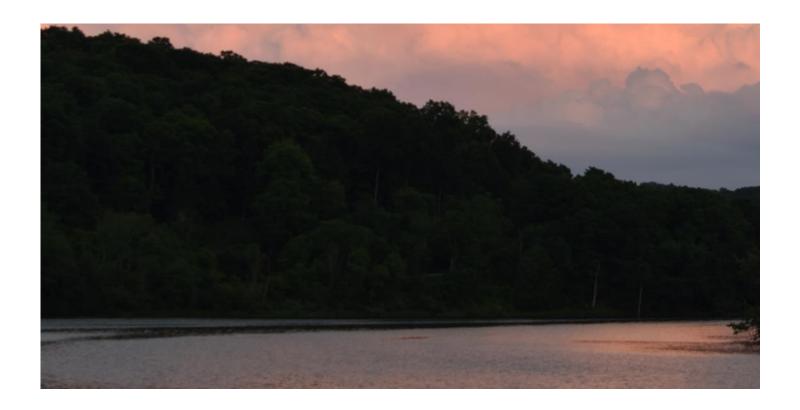
May you awaken to the restful and restorative presence of the Spirit, and may you carry that awareness with you out into the world.

Prelude by the Taizé Musicians

Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth

43 Holy Is The Name Of God





NB15 Jesus, Your Light



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Psalms 124 and 125 (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 17



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If it were not for you, O Beloved, You who make all things new, Fear and chaos would reign in every heart; In you will I trust forever.

ALLELUIA

When doubt threatens to overwhelm
And separate me, when anger makes me blind,
Then you, O Merciful One,
Are ever-ready to awaken the holy,
The sacred within me;
Then do your Living Streams of Grace
Enfold me.

ALLELUIA

Blessed are you, who are a very Presence to us, A comfort to troubled hearts!
Grant us the strength of eagle wings,
The courage to soar to new heights!
Break within us the bonds of fear
That we may live with love!

ALLELUIA

Our guidance comes from you, O Counselor, Blessed are you, O Giver of Love! Beloved of my heart!

ALLELUIA

Those who put their trust in you Are like giant trees
Standing firm and rooted deep.
As the trees grow strong in fertile soil,
So we mature in the garden of Love,
Nourished by the Word of Life.

ALLELUIA

For the weeds of fear,
The tares of ignorance, find no home here;
They are soon cast out.
As each flower in its uniqueness
Blesses the garden,
The interconnectedness of all
Brings it to fulfillment.

ALLELUIA

Those whose lives reflect goodness
And integrity become mirrors to Love's way.
They are like fragrant blossoms
That bring joy to all around them,
Like open invitations for others to come.
Come! Enter the Garden of Love!

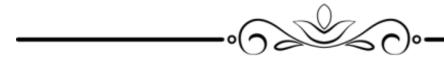
ALLELUIA

Scripture for Meditation: Mark 9:38-41, 50 (from Inclusive Bible translation)

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone using your name to expel demons, and we tried to stop it since this person was not part of our group."

Jesus said in reply, "Do not try to stop it. No one who performs a miracle using my name can speak ill of me soon thereafter! Anyone who is not against us is with us. The truth is, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not go without a reward. Salt is good. But if salt loses its flavor, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and live in peace with one another."

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — I Welcome All...

Exhale — Everything Belongs...

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.

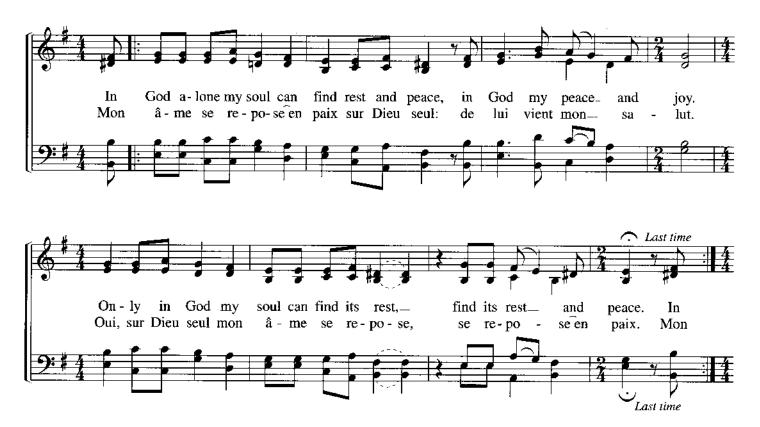


Words from Saints and Ancestors

Love people even in their sin, for that is the semblance of Divine Love and is the highest love on earth. Love all of God's creation, the whole and every grain of sand of it. Love every leaf, every ray of God's light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things. Once you perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it better every day. And you will come at last to love the whole world with an all-embracing love.

— Fyodor Dostoyevsky, (1821-1881) a Russian novelist, short story writer, essayist and journalist

NB8 In God Alone



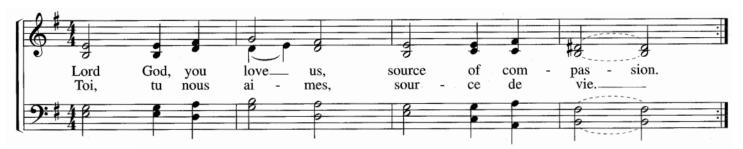
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Prayers of Intercession

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: NB14 Lord God, You Love Us



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Give this world the power to follow Jesus' example; to love as he did, to speak as he spoke, behave as he behaved, so that this world can become more like the world you envisioned.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Give this world the power to act on behalf of your Son, to speak the truth and love, to seek out justice when an injustice arises, to discern your will, and to be living witnesses of Jesus the Christ.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Give this world the power to honor your Son's name, as we are one family whose successes and achievements reflect that we are children of God, siblings of Jesus, and are the joy of the whole body.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Give this world the power of your name, the name that is so powerful it can heal the sick, destroy evil, give freedom to those in bondage and save each and every one of us.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US



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.





NB9 Christ Of Compassion



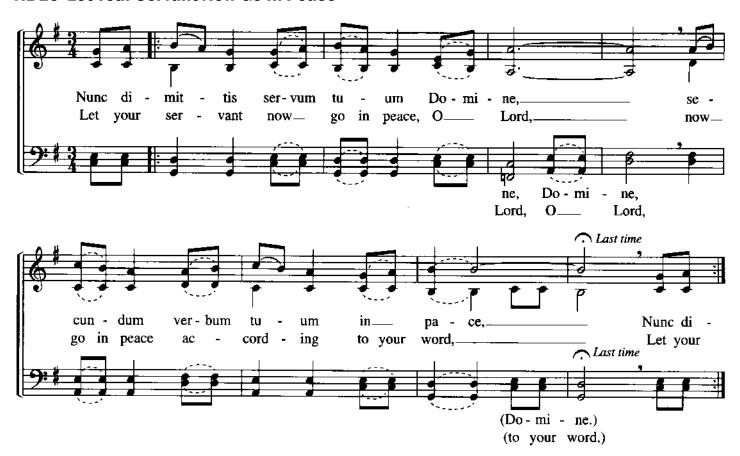
NB31 With You, O Lord



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NB16 Let Your Servant Now Go In Peace



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Closing Unison Prayer

If it had not been for God who was on our side, we would not have been freed or blessed.

Do not be a stumbling block; be salt, have salt in yourselves.

And be at peace with one another, knowing that everything and everyone belongs.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

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

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/yoga-retreat. Contact Yamuna for details (domorgens@gmail.com).

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 received.

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