## Taizé: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation

## All Saints Day





East Liberty Presbyterian Church October 30, 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.

On this All Saints Day, we give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of God's people in this and every age. At any time tonight you may come forward to light a candle in remembrance of anyone who has died in the past year, anyone who has inspired your life of faith, living or dead, or pray to signify your own desire to be counted among the company of God's faithful.



**Prelude by the Taizé Musicians** 

Welcome and Opening Centering by The Rev. BJ Woodworth

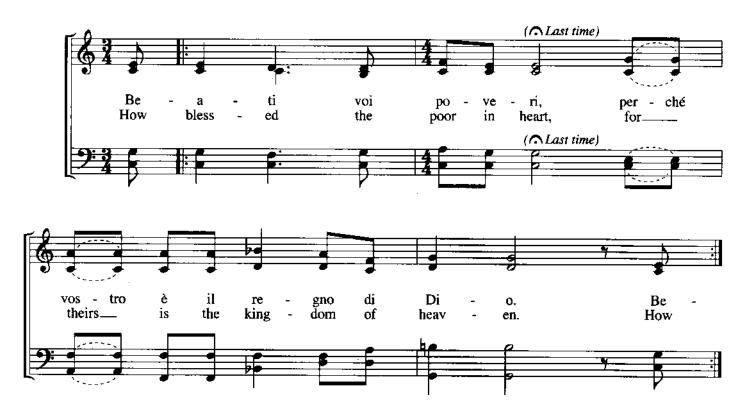
#### \* For All The Saints (verses 1-3 only)



Text: 10 10 10 with alleluias; William W. How, 1823–1897, alt. Music: English Hymnal, 1906; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958.



#### **CLM6** How Blessed Are The Poor In Heart





#### Psalm 24 (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

#### Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 17



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The earth is yours, O Giver of Life, In all its fullness and glory, The world and all those who dwell therein; For you have founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the rivers.

#### **ALLELUIA**

Who shall ascend your hill,
O Gracious One?
And who shall stand in your holy place?
All who have clean hands and pure hearts,
Who do not lift up
Their souls to what is false,
Nor make vows deceitfully.

#### **ALLELUIA**

All these will be blessed By the Heart of Love, And renewed through forgiveness. Such is the promise to those Who seek Love's face.

#### **ALLELUIA**

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the Compassionate One may come in. ALLELUIA Who is the Compassionate One?
The Beloved, strong and steadfast,
The Beloved, firm and sure!
Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors!
That the compassionate One may come in!

**ALLELUIA** 

Who is this Compassionate One? The Beloved, Heart of your heart, Life of your life,
This is the Compassionate One!.

#### **ALLELUIA**



#### **Scripture for Meditation: The Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-5, 9** (from Inclusive Bible translation)

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no affliction will ever touch them. To the eyes of fools, they seem to be dead; their departure will be interpreted as a defeat and their going away will be considered a disaster — but they have found peace! For though, to mortals, they may have suffered punishment, their hope is in the life everlasting, and after a time of trial they will receive great blessings, because God has tested them and found them worthy.

Those who have put their trust in God will find out that this is all true, and those who are faithful will dwell in God's love. These are God's chosen ones, and grace and mercy belong to them.

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



#### **Breath Prayer**

Inhale — Dwelling in God's Love ...

Exhale — With all the saints ...

**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.

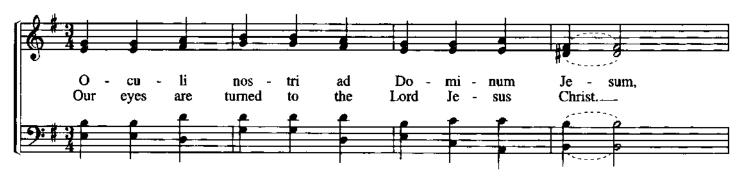


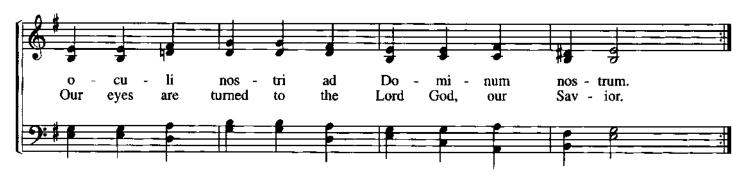
#### **Words from Saints and Ancestors**

Saints are what they are, not because their sanctity makes them admirable to others, but because the gift of sainthood makes it possible for them to admire everyone else. For me to be a saint means to be myself. Therefore, the problem of sanctity and salvation is in fact the problem of finding out who I am and of discovering my true self.

— Thomas Merton (1915-1968) American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist and scholar of comparative religion

#### **NB17 Our Eyes Are Turned**



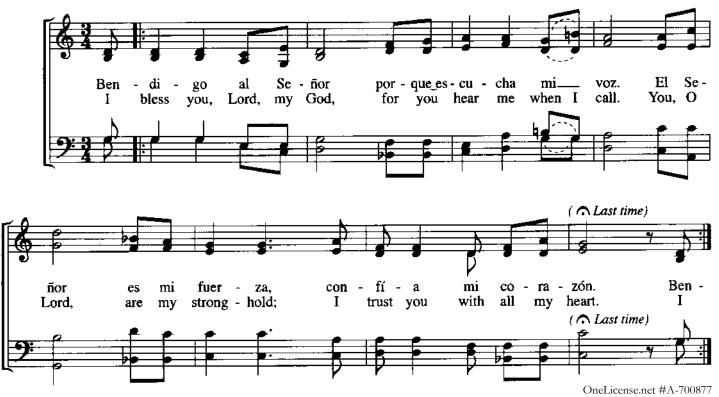




#### **Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession**

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: CLM8 | Bless You, Lord, My God



Watching for a new heaven, waiting for a new earth, we pray to you, O God, saying the Lord our God, have mercy, and wipe away our tears.

#### I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

We pray for the church. Transform this broken body into a communion of Saints, a company of the faithful, working for good in your world.

#### I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

We pray for the world. Destroy the shroud of death that is spread over the nations. Replace the rule of wealth and war with your realm of justice and peace.

#### I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

We pray for this community of Taizé at ELPC. Make your home among us; dwell with us in this place. Let it be a city of heavenly peace, and a place of refuge for all.

#### I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

We pray for loved ones. Soothe those who are suffering; comfort those who mourn. Let us be glad and rejoice in the gift of your salvation.

#### I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

As you have sustained your saints through the centuries of service, keep us faithful, here and now, until your will is done on earth as it is in heaven!

#### I BLESS YOU, LORD, MY GOD

#### **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)

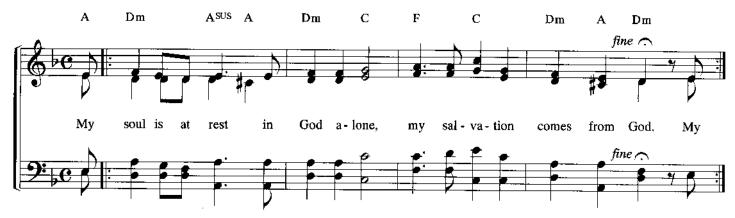
We have an anointing station this evening for those seeking individual prayer to share joys or concerns. Any desiring prayer, and/or anointing with oil, are invited to come forward, waiting in the center aisle if the station is full. To assist in hearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left 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.

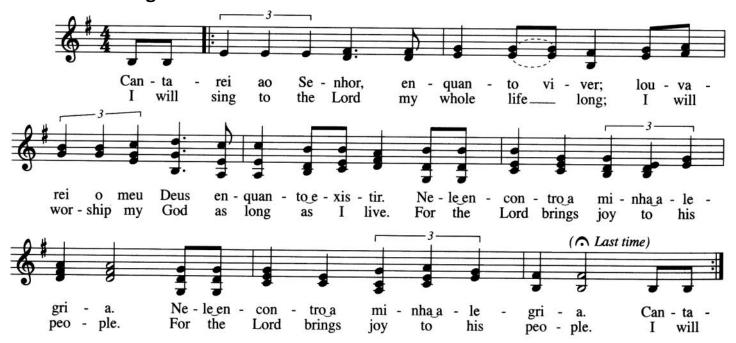




#### 38 My Soul Is At Rest

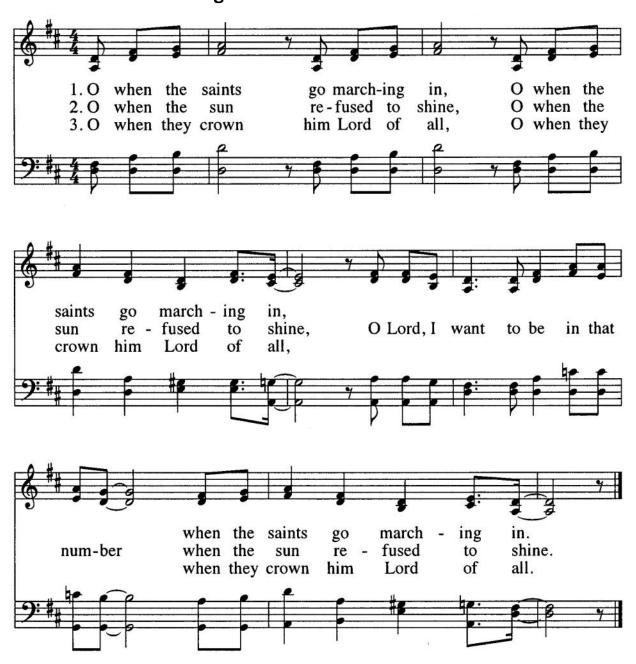


#### **CLM12 I Will Sing To The Lord**





#### \* When The Saints Go Marching In



#### **Closing Unison Prayer**

As we move towards rest this night, may you know that you are a temple of peace, the home for God's holy presence, and a sanctuary of renewal. This we ask in the name of Jesus, the Alpha and Omega.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

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

#### TAIZÉ MUSICIANS:

Charlie Anderson....... flute
James Avant...... vocalist
David Bennett...... cello
Alyssa Creasy...... pianist
Jennifer Gorske...... music director/vocalist
Chris Markwell..... vocalist
Gerard Rohlf..... guitar



## **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.

Mondays, 7:30-8 am

#### **Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Group**

ELPC offers an online prayer group each Tuesday morning from 8-8:20 am, hosted by ELPC member Steve Evrard. These 20-minute sessions feature scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue. All are welcome at this opportunity for fellowship and prayer.

Tuesdays, 8-8:30 am

Meeting ID: 896 9680 6662 • Passcode 116

or you may call in by dialing 929.205.6099

#### **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).

Nov 15, Dec 27 ♦ Fridays, 7-8:30 pm

#### A Day with Cole Arthur Riley — Nov 2

Cole is the creator of *Black Liturgies* and author of *This Here Flesh*. She is a native of Pittsburgh and will be offering her wisdom and sharing from her liturgies at Sixth Presbyterian Church (1688 Murray Ave, 15217) on Saturday, Nov 2 from 9 am—2 pm. The cost is \$20 per person. Cole will be speaking on **Dignity, Justice, Lament, and Solidarity**. What is our story and where does it begin? How can you practice justice and reconciliation in the mundane and in the systemic? What does it mean to exist in solidarity with another? Register online at:

https://www.jotform.com/form/242466134554053.

#### Free Health Clinic - Nov 1 and 2

Mission of Mercy is offering free dental (no dentures or implants), hearing (free hearing aids) and vision (free glasses) health services at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center (downtown) on Friday, Nov 1 and Saturday, Nov 2 for everyone over 2 years old. Doors open at 6 am, and the clinic begins at 7 am. Patients will be seen on a first-come basis. Visit www.mompgh.org.

#### Amen to Action Event — Nov 2

Join with neighbors from local congregations and nonprofits to pack 100,000 meals for the Pittsburgh Community Food Bank during *Amen to Action* at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary on Saturday, Nov 2 from 8 am-Noon. If you want to participate with ELPC's Neighbors Committee, sign up online at: http://Tiny.cc/amen-to-action. You can also donate at www.pts.edu/Amen-to-Action. School aged children can participate with adult family members. Please contact Bob Forloines for info (rforloines@gmail.com).

#### Volunteer for Fall Clean-Up at ELPC - Nov 9

If you would like to help clean up the church grounds for the fall season, please join Don Breitbarth on Saturday, Nov 9 from 9 am—Noon. Work will include removing the annual flowers in the courtyard and at S Highland, planting spring tulip bulbs, and miscellaneous cleanup in the rain garden. Gloves, garden tools, and donuts provided! Contact Don (don.breitbarth@gmail.com).

#### **Stewardship Sunday Food Drive — Nov 17**

The Neighbors Committee invites you to participate in a special food drive to help stock the shelves of East End Cooperative Ministries' food pantry with healthy, non-perishable foods to distribute to those in our community who are in need. On *Stewardship Sunday*, Nov 17, please bring your food donations (along with your stewardship pledge cards) to worship. You can also drop off your donations in the Highland Lobby prior to Nov 17. Suggested items: brown rice, whole grain pastas, instant potatoes, boxed mac and cheese, low-sodium soups and broth, low-sugar canned fruits and vegetables, canned tomato paste and sauce, canned tuna, high-fiber breakfast cereals, pancake mix and syrup, brownie mix, peanut butter, jelly, baking soda, bags of dried beans and unsalted nuts and seeds.

#### Online Election Night Prayer Vigil — Nov 5

After casting your ballot on **Tuesday, Nov 5**, join the PC(USA) for an online prayer vigil at 6 pm to help relieve anxiety, create a sense of community, and be unified in Christ. Register online at: zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_YuoOkvwMQVOyzuRGXkcu3Q?utm\_content=310005265&utm\_medium=social&utm\_source=facebook&hss\_channel=fbp-22627435207#/registration











Please visit our website for more information about the ministries of East Liberty Presbyterian Church.



### INFORMATION ABOUT TAIZÉ

**ABOUT TAIZÉ:** Taizé is an international ecumenical prayer community in Taizé, France which was founded in 1940 by a young seminary student, Roger Schultz, as a place of hospitality and reconciliation during World War II. Today, thousands of young people come each week to Taizé to pray with the brothers and discern God's purpose for their lives. Taizé Prayer Pilgrimages and Intercontinental Meetings around the globe bring together thousands more in an effort to become the prayerful, reconciled presence of Christ wherever they live.

Taizé prayers at East Liberty Presbyterian Church were begun in the Spring of 1992 in preparation for an intercontinental meeting in Dayton. The experience proved to be so meaningful that we have continued to pray every Wednesday evening since then, inviting people of all backgrounds to join with us.

Taizé is located in eastern France, southeast of Paris, north of Lyons, due west of Geneva, Switzerland, between the towns of Chalon-sur-Saône and Macon. Here are the ways to get Taizé information:

Address: Taizé Community, 71250 TAIZE, France

To contact Taizé: community@taize.fr
To visit Taizé: meetings@taize.fr
List of useful info: info@taize.fr

Web site: www.taize.fr

**Telephone:** 011-33 385 50 30 02 Fax: 011-33 385 50 30 16

**YOU ARE WELCOME AT EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:** Our congregation seeks to promote peace, justice and human dignity; to reflect a spirit of openness, sharing and learning in our ministry and mission; to build a richly diverse faith community that witnesses to our oneness in Christ across all boundaries of race, social class, ability, culture, age, gender and sexual identity. (From our Strategic Plan.)

ELPC Web site: www.ELPC.church
E-mail: BJW@coh.net

You are welcome at any of our programs and worship services. It is possible to have more than one church home. Perhaps you would be interested in becoming a member or friend of this Church. If so, please speak to The Rev. BJ Woodworth, Minister of Taizé Prayer (BJW@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x241).

# All Saints Day

In early Christian tradition, saints' days began to mark the anniversary of a martyr's death — his or her "birthday" as a saint. By the middle of the church's first millennium, there were so many martyrs (particularly due to the persecution of Diocletian) that it was hard to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, known and unknown.

All Saints' Day also enables us to give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past and the ongoing sanctification of the *whole* people of God. We give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. This is an appropriate time to give thanks to members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

All Saints' Day has been celebrated on November 1 since the year 835. Previously it had been connected with the Easter season as a feast of all martyrs.

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the "glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs" (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God's justice and peace in every nation.

To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time.

# NAMES of FACES on COVER

1st row: St. Pier Gorgio Frassati, Homeless Christ, Marsha P. Johnson, Fyodor

Dostoevsky, St. Joseph with Baby Jesus, St. Francis

2nd row: Desmond Tutu, St. Seraphim, Our Lady of the Journey, James

Baldwin, Mary with Baby Jesus (Keep Watch), Dorothy Kazel

3rd row: "Pops" Roebuck Staples, Dorothy Day, Pauli Murray, John Lewis,

Fannie Lou Hamer, Henri Nouwen

4th row: Thomas Merton, Mahalia Jackson, St. Dulce of the Poor, St. Mark,

Mary Oliver, Nicholas Black Elk

5th row: James Cone, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, Fred Rogers, Frederick Douglass,

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., St. Patrick

6th row: Ruth and Naomi, Deitrich Bonhoeffer, Etty Hillesum, Madonna and

Child, St. Hildegard of Bingen, Maya Angelou