# TAIZÉ

# PRAYERFUL SONG AND QUIET MEDITATION



November 20, 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.

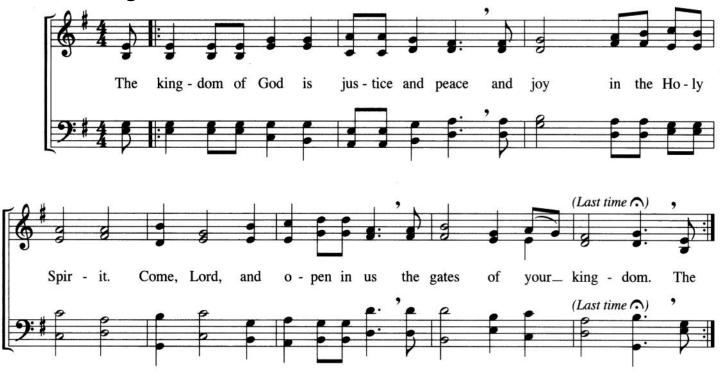
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

# **CLM35** The Kingdom Of God



# **NB6 Dona Nobis Pacem**



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# **Psalm 93** (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

# Sung Response: 2 Alleluia 7



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The Almighty reigns adorned in majesty;
The Creator is robed and girded with strength.
Yes, the world is established
And given into our care;
Our stewardship of the earth
Reflects our love for you,
You, who are and ever shall be.

### ALLELUIA

The cosmos celebrates your goodness, O Beloved, the waters lift up their voice, The winds speak through their roaring.

### **ALLELUIA**

Mightier than the thunder of many storms, Mightier than the waves of the sea, Is the Heart of Love!

### **ALLELUIA**

That which you ordain is certain; Holiness befits your house, Our hearts, your dwelling place, O Beloved, for evermore.

### **ALLELUIA**

# Scripture for Meditation: John 18:33-37 (from Inclusive Bible translation)

So Pilate reentered the Praetorium and summoned Jesus. "Are you the King of the Jews?" asked Pilate. Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or have others told you about me?"

Pilate replied, "Am I Jewish? It is your own people and the chief priests who hand you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My realm is not of this world; if it belonged to this world, my people would have fought to keep me out of the hands of the Temple authorities. No, my realm is not of this world." Pilate said, "So you're a King?"

Jesus replied, "You say I'm a King. I was born and came into the world for one purpose — to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who seeks the truth hears my voice."

# **Quiet Meditation and Reflection**

(lasting approximately 5-7 minutes)



# **Breath Prayer**

Inhale — Dwell with us...

Exhale — within and without...

**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**

Christians were never meant to be normal. We've always been holy troublemakers, we've always been creators of uncertainty, agents of a dimension that's incompatible with the status quo; we do not accept the world as it is, but we insist on the world becoming the way that God wants it to be. And the Realm of God is different from the patterns of this world.

— Jacques Ellul (1912-1994), a French philosopher, sociologist, lay theologian, and professor.

Noted as a Christian anarchist, a longtime Professor of History and the Sociology of
Institutions on the Faculty of Law and Economic Sciences at the University of Bordeaux

# 37 Within Our Darkest Night



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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: 6 Kyrie Eleison 13



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Holy God, we do not know how to pray, but Jesus invites us into the life he shares with you, and so we keep coming, because we want to live. Receive us now in our frailty, our complacency, and our desires.

### **KYRIE**

We pray for your Church all over the world. May the life we discover in you bind us to each other and to the world you love, for no need is beyond the strength of your call, and no child of yours is expendable. Merciful God, give us wisdom and courage beyond our imagining.

### **KYRIE**

We pray for all leaders, that they may be an instrument of peace in the troubled lands they serve, including ours. By the movement of your reconciling Spirit, bless your people with the courage to reach past old wounds and persistent fears. God of resurrection, bring life where hope has died.

### **KYRIE**

We pray for our unsettled economy and those whose needs are overlooked in the choices of the powerful. May all, who know so much privilege, bear their responsibilities with open eyes and open hands.

### **KYRIE**

We give thanks for new faces to love, ideas to ponder, work to do, and we marvel at the sturdy friendships and persistent memories that sustain us when the way is hard. May we each be a reminder of your love and provision to others.

### **KYRIE**

Holy One, keep calling us into your world as salt and light. Equip each of us for the challenges we face until we learn to worship in the most unlikely places, for you are the source of our song and the well from which we pray, wherever we are planted.

### **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.



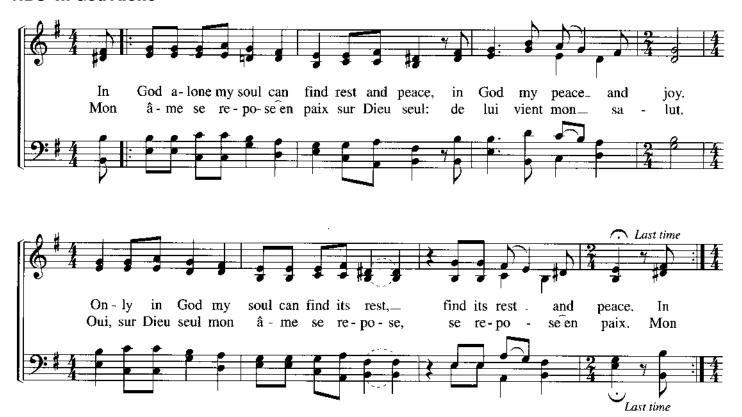


### **G60 Salvator Mundi**



Savior of the world, save us, free us.

### **NB8 In God Alone**



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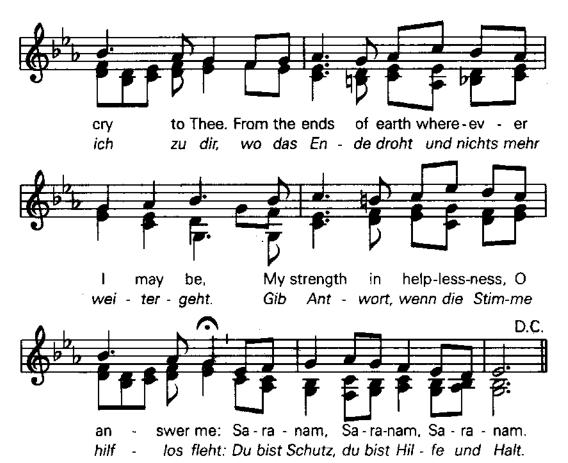


### **G134 Saranam**



Lied zu Psalm 61 aus dem Punjab und Sri Lanka. Satz: Hartmut Bietz. 1: D. T. Niles, 2: Dieter Trautwein. © E.A.C.C. Hymnal 1972. © 2: Strube, München

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- 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 . . .

<sup>2.</sup> 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, . . .

<sup>3.</sup> 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, . . .

<sup>4.</sup> 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, . . .

<sup>1 =</sup> englisch, 2 = deutsch

# **Closing Unison Prayer**

God of the seen and unseen realms, as we recollect this day, thank you for your showing us yourself, speaking truth that challenged our conveniences, in decisions that stretched our hearts, and forgiveness freely offered.

Teach us to trust the sound of your voice, to follow where you lead, that we may serve in the shelter of your realm.

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.

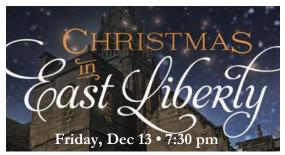
Wednesdays, 6-7 pm

### **JourneyDance**

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

Dec 27 ♦ Fridays, 7-8:30 pm





This highly anticipated free concert and East
Liberty tradition will feature holiday
favorites performed by The Brass Roots,
ELPC Chancel Choir, and
organist Dr. Edward Alan Moore.

Join us in the Sanctuary or virtually on YouTube or Facebook.

### Fall Pie Festival - Nov 24

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to the third annual Fall Pie Festival following Sanctuary worship on Sunday, Nov 24 in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms. Bring your favorite fall pie (or cake or cookies) to share! Whipped cream and drinks will be provided. Let us know what you'd like to bring. Look for sign-up sheets at the



church soon or call Norma (412.441.3800 x211).

### **Volunteers Needed to Decorate Sanctuary – Nov 24**

ELPC is seeking volunteers to decorate our Sanctuary following 11 am worship on Sunday, Nov 24 from Noon -2:30 pm. Single persons, families, couples are all welcome. Children and youth under 12 years old must be supervised by their parent/guardian. Grab some pie after worship, then come to the Sanctuary to help decorate!

### Welcome Dr. Diaz to ELPC - Nov 24

Please join us next Sunday, Nov 24 to welcome ELPC's newly elected pastor, The Rev. Dr. Michael A. Diaz! He will be preaching at both Sunday services.

# **BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

The ELPC Board of Deacons invites you to the Blue

Christmas service on Friday, Dec 6 at 7 pm in the Chapel. The service is designed as a source of strength during what is a difficult season for many.



# Brother Roger

founder of Taizé

# ON PRAYER

From the depths of the human condition, a secret aspiration rises up. Caught up in the anonymous rhythms of schedules and timetables, men and women of today are implicitly thirsting for the one essential reality: an inner life, signs of the invisible.

Nothing is more conducive to a communion with the living God than a meditative common prayer with, as its high point, singing that never ends and that continues in the silence of one's heart when one is alone again.

In a technological society, there is a clear separation between prayer and work. When inner life and human solidarity appear to be in competition with one another, as if people had to choose between them, that opposition tears apart the very depths of the soul.

Prayer is a serene force at work within human beings, stirring them up, transforming them, never allowing them to close their eyes in the face of evil, of wars, of all that threatens the weak of this world. From it we draw the energy to wage other struggles-to enable our loved ones to survive, to transform the human condition, to make the earth a place fit to live in.

# ON SINGING

Singing is one of the most important forms of prayer. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of the prayer. They express a basic reality of faith that can quickly be grasped by the intellect, and that gradually penetrates the heart and the whole being. These simple chants also provide a way of praying when one is alone, during the day or at night, or even in the silence of one's heart while one is working.

# ON SILENCE

When we try to express communion with God in words, we rapidly reach the end of our capacities. But in the depths of our being Christ is praying, far more than we imagine. Compared to the immensity of that hidden prayer of Christ in us, our explicit praying dwindles to almost nothing. That is why silence is so essential in discovering the heart of prayer.













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).