

TAIZÉ

PRAYERFUL SONG
AND
QUIET
MEDITATION

Dance of the Soul
by artist
Hannah Garrity

Hannah Garrity 2022



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

December 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 Poem “Where I Saw God Last” – The Rev. BJ Woodworth

28 Come And Fill Our Hearts

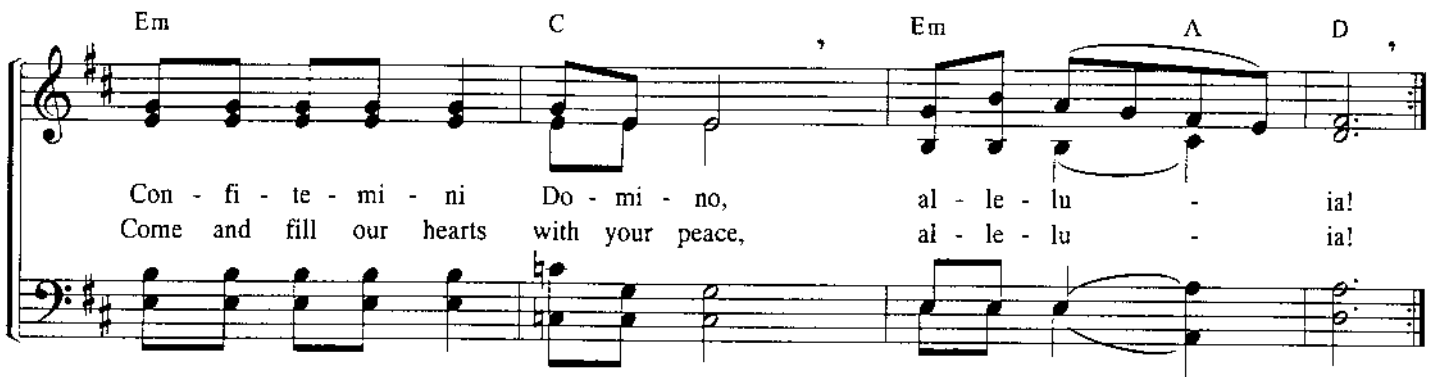
♩ = 66

D Bm D A



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Em C Em A D



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - ia!

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24 Magnificat (Chorale)

F Dm C F Am B♭ F C Dm B♭ C F *fine*



Ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num.
Sing out, my soul, my heart re - joic - es in the Lord!

Free Am ESUS E A Dm Free B♭ CSUS C F D.S.

(Solo verses)



(hum) Ma - gni - fi - cat. Sing out, my soul! (hum) Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - Sing out, my soul! Sing

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Psalm 89:1-13 (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: * Alleluia (Veni Emmanuel)

(VENI EMMANUEL) Stephen Pishner

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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I will sing of your steadfast love
Forever, my Beloved;
With forthright voice I will proclaim
Your goodness to all generations.
For your abiding love rules the universe,
Your faithfulness extends
Throughout the firmament.

ALLELUIA

Your covenant from the beginning of time
Encompasses all who choose to walk
The path of love;
And to all generations that honor
Your way and your truth,
Will love make itself known.

ALLELUIA

Let the heavens praise your wonders,
O Loving Creator,
Your faithfulness in the
Congregation of the holy ones!
For who in the universe is comparable to you?

ALLELUIA

Who among the heavenly beings is like you—
You, who are revered
In the council of the holy ones,
Great in wisdom, gentle of heart,
And one with all around you.

ALLELUIA

O Most High, mighty are you,
Whose grace is poured forth
Throughout all ages.
You have blessed us with oceans,
Rivers, and lakes, to sustain our life on Earth.

ALLELUIA



Scripture for Meditation: Luke 1:46-55 *(from Inclusive Bible translation)*

Mary said:

“My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior. For you have looked with favor upon your lowly servant, and from this day forward all generations will call me blessed. For you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your Name. Your mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear you. You have shown strength with your arm; you have scattered the proud in their conceit; you have deposed the mighty from their thrones and raised the lowly to high places.

You have filled the hungry with good things, while you have sent the rich away empty. You have come to the aid of Israel your servant, mindful of your mercy — the promise you made to our ancestors — to Sarah and Abraham and their descendants forever.”

Silence for Visio Divina

*(lasting approximately
5-7 minutes)*

Breathe deeply as you gaze upon the image of *Dance of the Soul*. Imagine placing yourself in this scene. What do you see? How do you feel? Get quiet and still, letting God pray in you or offering your own silent prayer.



Words from the artist Hannah Garrity

* Through The Ages / Away In A Manger

Text: Anna Strickland (2022)

Music: James R. Murray (1887)



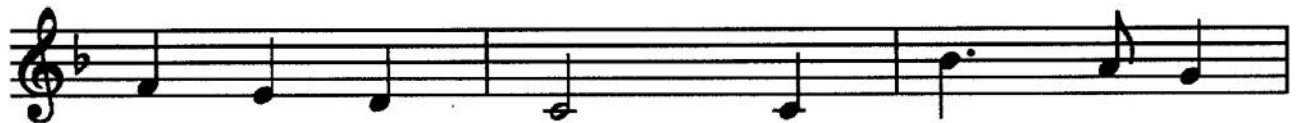
Oh down through the a - ges and gen - er - a -
From A - bra - ham, Is -aac, and Is - ra - el's
And still through the a - ges our sto - ries will



- tions line From God in the gar - den to
find How Ra - hab and Ruth and Bath -
Be - long - ing in God's sto - ry



Je - sus the son Each sto - ry was wo - ven, each
- she - ba sur - vived From ex - ile in E - gypt to
of hu - man - kind From God in the gar - den to



one has a place With - in the great
Bab - y - lon far Christ's lin - e - age
e - ter - ni - ty We're wo - ven to -



tap - es - try tell - ing God's grace
shows how com - plex sto - ries are
- geth - er as one tap - es - try

Intercessory Advent Prayers *(adapted from Howard Thurman and Pierre Teilhard de Chardin)*

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: * **Come, Lord, Light of Our Hearts**

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features three staves: a vocal line at the top, a piano accompaniment in the middle, and a bass line at the bottom. The lyrics are: 'Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus! / Come, Lord, light - of our hearts!'. The piano accompaniment includes a prominent bass line with a descending eighth-note pattern in the first measure.

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May the sounds of Advent stir in your people a deep longing and a patient trust in your slow work, O God. Come again to set us free from the dullness of routine and the poverty of our imaginations.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

As this new spirit gradually forms within us, may we give you the benefit of believing that your hand is in fact leading us, and accept the anxiety of feeling ourselves in suspense and incomplete.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Break the patterns which bind us to small commitments and to the stale answers we have given to questions of no importance.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Let the Advent trumpet blow, let the walls of our defenses crumble, and make a place in our lives for the freshness of your love, well-lived in the Spirit, and still given to all who know their need and dare receive it.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

Watching and waiting, we pray for this the world, longing for a light to dawn amidst deep darkness: for nations at war... for the creation groaning in travail... for leaders needing wisdom and guidance... and for all who live in worry and fear.

COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS

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.

Jesus' Prayer for the Disciples / Life Giver (Tune: TALLIS CANNON)

1. Life-giv-er, Lov-er of us all, up-on your ho-ly name we call;
2. We pray this day for bread to live, for-give our sins as we for-give,
3. For all the cos-mos is your own, your pow'r of love which we have known,
your new day come, your will be done, on earth as in all realms be-yond.
and give us strength in time of test. Grant us re-lease from e-vil's death.
the splen-dor, ra-diant, with-out end. To God be praise! A-men. A-men.

Written by Laurie Y. J. Aleona, 1988



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.



11 It Is Good To Trust

♩ = 58

Dm ASUS A Dm C F

Bo - num est con - fi - de - re in Do - mi - no,
It is good to trust in the Lord our God,

Gm C F Dm Gm7 Am Dm

bo - num spe - ra - re in Do - mi - no.
trust and hope in the Lord our God.

45 Sing Out My Soul (Magnificat)

Canon
♩ = 96

(A) G C D7 G (B)

Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num.
Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free.

(C) (D)

Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat. Ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a!
Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

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Henry Ossawa Tanner,
MARY, ca. 1914

* **Soon And Very Soon**

1 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 2 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 3 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 4 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Hal - le - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're going to see the King!

This spirited African American gospel hymn draws on John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth in Revelation 21:3-4, with its wonderful promise that God will wipe away the tears from all eyes, that death will be no longer, and that there will be no more mourning or pain.

Closing Unison Prayer *(adapted from Rumi)*

May we all see our bodies like Mary; each of us with a Jesus inside.

May we see, beyond our doubts and trust, God is really there within,
so innocently drawing life from us
with her umbilical universe – infinite existence ...
though also needing to be born.

May we say, “Yes,” God also needs to be born in us - breathing life into this world.

The body is like Mary, and each of us, each of us has a Christ within.

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

Please Note:

**There will be
NO Taizé Service and
NO Cathedral Yoga on
Wednesday, Dec 25 and
Wednesday, Jan 1**



PASTOR PATRICE'S Retirement Celebration

Join us for worship on
Sunday, Dec 22

to celebrate The Rev. Dr. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy's 28 years of ministry at ELPC. Pastor Patrice will preach at the 8:45 am Journey service and at the 11 am Sanctuary service. We will also be lighting the Advent candle representing love, so please show Pastor Patrice your love for all that God has done through her in our community. Bring your gifts, prayers, and well-wishes as we collectively bless Pastor Patrice in her retirement.

*At a special meeting on Sunday, Dec 8, Session approved a motion to call a **Congregational Meeting following 11 am worship on Sunday, Dec 22** to act on Pastor Patrice's request to retire and dissolve her call as ELPC's Acting Co-Pastor and Associate Pastor for Mission, effective Dec 31.*

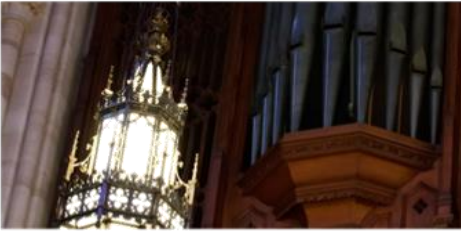


CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

5 PM FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE

10 PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Both services will be held in the Sanctuary, feature the celebration of the Lord's Supper and candle lighting, and will be led by Pastor Michael Diaz.



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

WWW.ELPC.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).

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.



MERRY
Christmas

