



TAIZÉ

*Prayerful Song and
Quiet Meditation*



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

January 8, 2025 • 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 Rev. BJ Woodworth

NB31 With You, O Lord

With you, O Lord, is life in all its full - ness, and

in your light we shall see true light. With you, O Lord, is

life in all its full-ness, and in your light we shall see true light.

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NB27 Veni Lumen

O Ve - ni Cre - a - tor Spi - ri - tus.
Come Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er.

O Ve - ni lu - men cor - di - um,
Come Cre - a - tor Spir - it! Come!

ve - ni lu - men cor - di - um.
Come and lead us with your light!

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Psalm 72 (selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 1

Soprano ad lib.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Cantor

Al - le - lu - ia.

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Bring justice to the peoples, O Beloved,
And your mercy to all generations!
May the people be known for mercy,
Rendering justice to the poor!
Let their spirits soar as the eagle,
Let joy abide in every heart!
May we heed the cry of the poor —
The young and the old,
Helping to free all those in need,
Awakening the souls of oppressors!

ALLELUIA

May we know oneness with you
As long as the sun endures,
As long as the stars shine,
Throughout all generations!
May we acknowledge you
In the rain falling on the fields,
Like showers that water the earth!
In our day may justice flourish,
And peace abound, throughout all the nations!

ALLELUIA

May every heart open
To your love from sea to sea,
From the River of Life out to the universe!
May fears that paralyze the people
Rise up from the depths into your Light!

ALLELUIA

Long may you live in our hearts,
May praises be sung to you!
May our prayers rise up before you
And blessings of love be freely rendered!
May we be ever grateful
For the grain of the fields,
For the fruits of the vine to be shared with all;
And may the people blossom forth in the cities,
Diverse like flowers in the meadow!
May your Name live on forever,
Your Love endure as long as the sun!

ALLELUIA

May the people bless themselves
In knowing you,
And all nations call you blessed!
Blessed be the Beloved,
The One who dwells in open hearts,
Who guides us along the way.
Blessed be you,
Who comes in the Name of Love;
May your glory fill the earth!
Amen and Amen!

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: Isaiah 60:1-6 *(Inclusive Bible)*

Arise, shine, for your light has come! The glory of Yhwh is rising upon you! Though darkness still covers the earth and dense clouds enshroud the peoples, upon you Yhwh now dawns, and God's glory will be seen among you!

The nations will come to your light and the leaders to your bright dawn! Lift up your eyes, and look around: they're all gathering and coming to you — your daughters and your sons journey from afar, escorted in safety; you'll see them and beam with joy, your heart will swell with pride.

The riches of the sea will flow to you, and the wealth of the nations will come to you — camel caravans will cover your roads, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of Yhwh.

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — Your light has come.

Exhale — Your glory shines within.

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

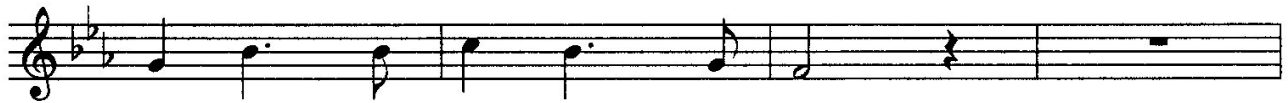
The hearts of the Magi “were open to the horizon, and they could see what the heavens were showing them, for they were guided by an inner restlessness. They were open to something new. The Magi personify all those who believe, those who long for God, who yearn for their home, their heavenly homeland. That longing keeps hope alive in the community of believers, which from week to week continues to plead: ‘Come, Lord Jesus’.”

— Pope Francis

* Jesus, The Light of the World



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing.
 2. Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise.
 3. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored.
 4. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace.



Je - sus, the light of the world.



Glo - ry to the new - born King,
 Join the tri - umph of the skies.
 Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!



Je - sus, the light of the world. We'll walk in the



light, beau - ti - ful light. Come where the



dew - drops of mer - cy shine bright. Oh, shine all a -



round us by day and by night. Je - sus, the light of the world.

Text: George D. Elderkin; verses by Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Tune: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, 7 7 7 7 with refrain; George D. Elderkin; arr. by Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, b.1953, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

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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: G91 Lead Me, Lord

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right-eous-ness, make thy way
plain be - fore my face.

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Lead Me, Lord'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system covers the first two lines of the lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

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Loving God, you embrace people of every nation and make them members of the same body, sharers in the process promise of the gospel. We pray for the holy Church of God, that through its faithful witness, the wisdom of God, in its rich variety, may be known on the earth.

LEAD ME, LORD

Loving God, you judge the people with righteousness and the poor with justice. We pray for nations, rulers, and authorities to forsake violence and be guided by the light of truth that righteousness may flourish, and justice abound in every land.

LEAD ME, LORD

Loving God, wise men came from afar to visit the holy family and found a place of rest and worship. We pray for our city of Pittsburgh and for all who live here, that we may be a community of hospitality, welcoming the stranger and sheltering the refugee.

LEAD ME, LORD

Loving God, in your providence the land yields prosperity for the people. We pray that righteousness may prevail in the land. We pray for our planet earth that we may dwell peacefully with nature, be good stewards of its resources, and share its abundance for the sake of human flourishing.

LEAD ME, LORD

Loving God, you defend the cause of the poor, give deliverance to the needy, and save those who are oppressed. We pray for those who suffer the cruelty of poverty, and who endeavor to transform systems of economic injustice.

LEAD ME, LORD

Loving God, you have compassion on the weak. We pray for those whose bodies are debilitated by disease or whose spirits are incapacitated by illness, that they may be restored to wholeness of life.

LEAD ME, LORD

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 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.



36 The Lord Is My Light

Calmly (♩ = 66)

(A1) Dm G (A2) (B1) (B2) fine

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

(A1) (A2) (B1) (B2) fine

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

Each of the two themes can be sung *separately*, either in unison or as a round (two voices only: coming in on A1 and B1). The two themes can also be sung *together*, preferably with theme I for female and theme II for male voices.

NB15 Lord, Jesus Christ

Je — sus your light is shi — ning with - in us. Let not my
Jé - sus le Christ, lu - mière in - té - rieu - re, ne lais - se

doubts nor my dark - ness speak to me. Je — sus your light is
pas mes té - nè - bres me par - ler. Jé - sus le Christ, lu -

shi — ning with - in us. Let my heart al - ways wel - come your love.
mière in - té - rieu - re, don - ne - moi d'ac - cueil - lir ton a - mour.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are in English and French. The first system covers the first line of lyrics. The second system covers the second and third lines. The third system covers the fourth and fifth lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

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* Behold The Star

Refrain

Be - hold the star! Be - hold the star up yon - der!

Be - hold the star! It is the star of Beth - le - hem.

2. Verses

1. There was no room found in the inn,
2. The wise men came from the East
3. A song broke forth up - on the night.

Last time

Beth - le - hem. (ooh)

For him who was born
To wor - ship him, the
Peace on earth, good -

It is the star of Beth - le - hem. (ooh)



free from sin. Oh,
 "Prince of Peace."
 will to men.

It is the star of Beth - le - hem.

Text: Negro Spiritual
 Tune: BEHOLD THE STAR, LM with refrain; Negro Spiritual, arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr., b.1969, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc. OneLicense.net #A-700877

Epiphany Prayer (in unison)

Loving God, in the journey of life, guide us by the star that leads to Jesus, the Christ, that we may return to you transformed by his love.

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 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

Epiphany Retreat – Jan 31 to Feb 2

On this retreat, we will reflect together on four ways in which God still communicates, speaks and reveals God's self-directing, guiding, and granting us wisdom. Join us for a time of solitude, silence, community, rest, prayer and discovery. Scholarships available. **RSVP to Norma by Jan 19 (412.441.3800 x211).** *Cost options:*

1. One Night (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun) Shared Bath | \$85
2. One Night (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun) Private Bath | \$100
3. Two Nights (Fri-Sun) Shared Bath | \$120
4. Two Nights (Fri-Sun) Private Bath | \$155
5. Sat ONLY (just meals for the day) | \$25