



East Liberty Presbyterian Church February 5, 2025 • 7:00 pm

116 South Highland Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15206 **412.441.3800**

www.ELPC.church



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.

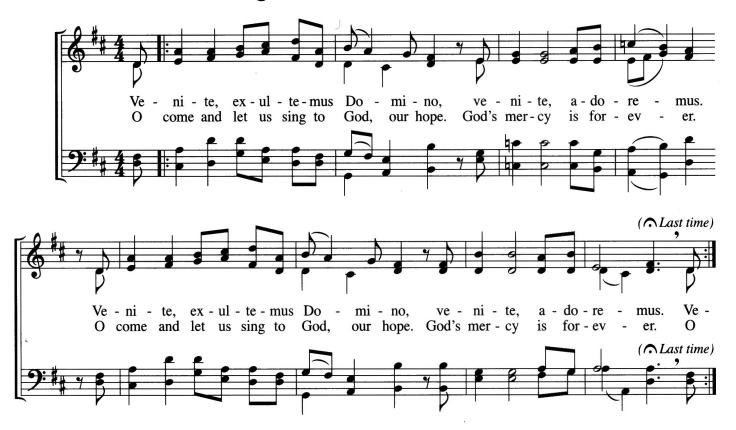
- Hold a prayer stone, palm cross or prayer beads.
- Allow the simple repeated refrains to be sung over you and join in as you are able.
- Come forward to the table to doodle or color a mandala.
- Sit on a prayer cushion or chair at the front to be closer to the icons and artwork.
- Light a candle in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

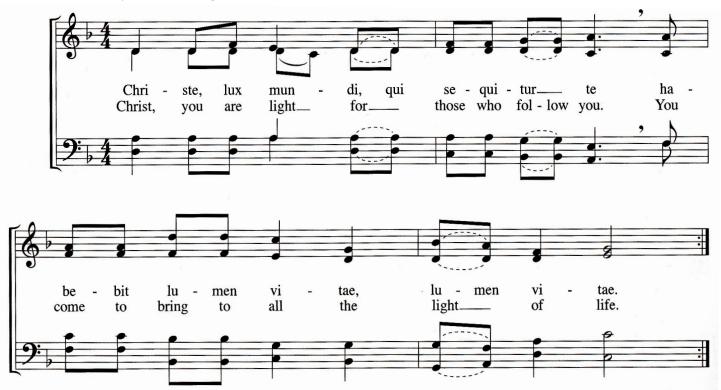
CLM37 O Come And Let Us Sing To God



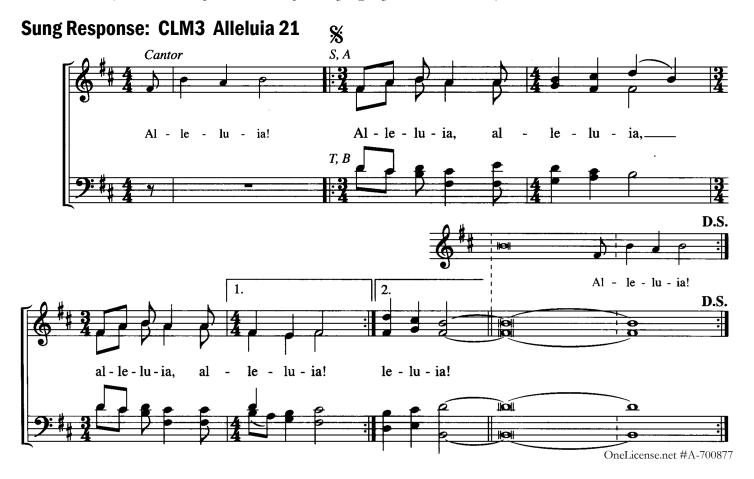
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Psalm 138 (selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)



I give you thanks, O Blessed One, With my whole heart; Before all the people I sing your praise; I was humbled when I came to see That you dwell in me, In the sacred chapel of all souls; My gratitude knows no bounds!

ALLELUIA

For you are the Holy One,
The Life of our life.
On the day that I called,
You answered me;
The strength of my soul you increased.

ALLELUIA

All the leaders of the earth Shall one day praise you, When your Spirit awakens in every heart; And they shall proclaim The new dawn of Light and Love. Great will be the radiation of your Glory!

ALLELUIA

For even as you are the Most High, You are Friend to the lowly; The arrogant close their hearts To your love and guidance.

ALLELUIA

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life; You are a very Presence As I face my fears and doubts; Your strength upholds me.

ALLELUIA

You guide me as I pray
To fulfill my purpose on earth;
You do not forsake those who call upon you.
Your steadfast Love and Truth
Endures forever.

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: Isaiah 6:1-8 (The Inclusive Bible)

In the year of the death of Uzziah, ruler of Judah, I saw Yhwh seated on a high and lofty judgment seat, in a robe whose train filled the Temple. Seraphs were stationed above; each of them had six wings; with two they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

They would cry out to one another, "Holy! Holy! Holy is Yhwh Omnipotent! All the earth is filled with God's glory!" The doorposts and thresholds quaked at the sound of their shouting, and the Temple kept filling with smoke.

Then I said, "Woe is me, I am doomed! I have unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips! And my eyes have seen the Ruler, Yhwh Omnipotent!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding an ember which it had taken with tongs from the altar. The seraph touched my mouth with the ember. "See," it said, "now that this has touched your lips, your corruption is removed, and your sin is pardoned."

Then I heard the voice of the Holy One saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am," I said, "send me!"

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — Earth is filled with God's glory ...

Exhale — may I see it ...

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.

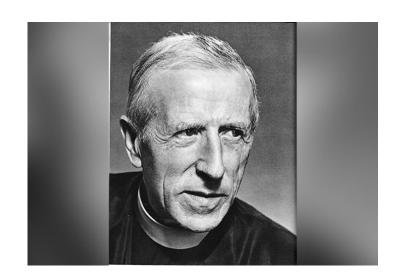
You may also carry this with you throughout your week, and let this embodied practice hold you, knowing that many across space and time are breathing and praying with us.



Words from Saints and Ancestors

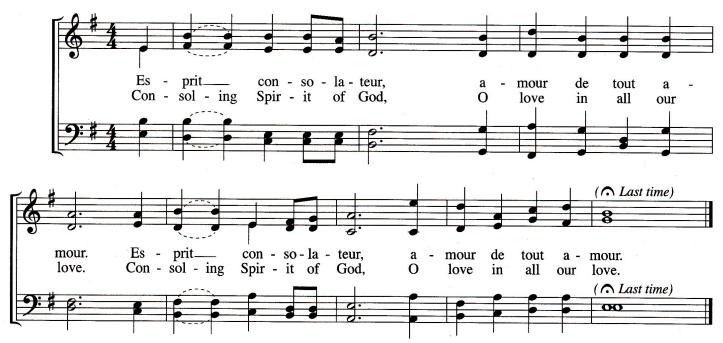
By means of all created things, without exception, the divine assails us, penetrates us, and molds us.

— Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a French Jesuit, Catholic priest, scientist, paleontologist, theologian, philosopher, and teacher





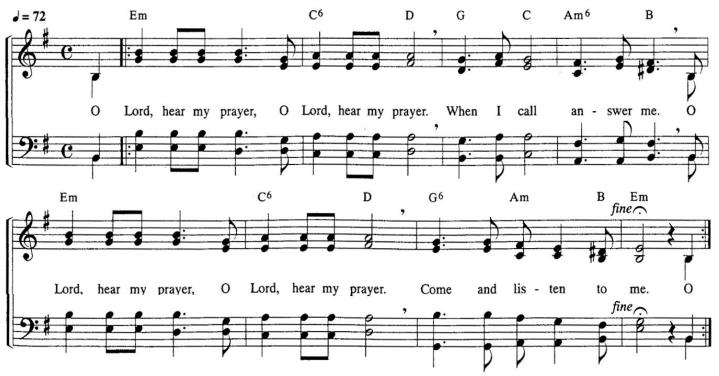
CLM17 Consoling Spirit Of God



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: 20 O Lord, Hear My Prayer (1st verse only)



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Holy, Holy God, we are a people of unclean hearts, minds and lips and you meet us with love, kindness, and compassion. You cleanse us and call us to participate in the formation of your beloved community in this world. All thanks and praise to you, hear our prayers this evening for the church, the world, and all who live in it.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

We pray for the church and all who work to embody love and justice and bring others a word of compassion.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

We pray for peace among nations and peace among people, especially those suffering from war, apartheid, and calamities of nature.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

We pray for those who are oppressed and for those who live in the security of privilege and all who need courage to resist oppressive principalities and powers.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

We pray for all who feel unsafe, afraid, and alone in this world and are paralyzed by fear; may your perfect love cast out their fear and your love and light bring healing and comfort.

O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

Silent and Spoken Prayers

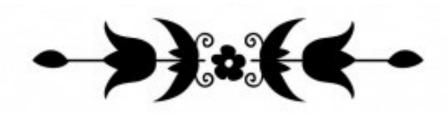
Please feel free to add your spoken petitions.

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.

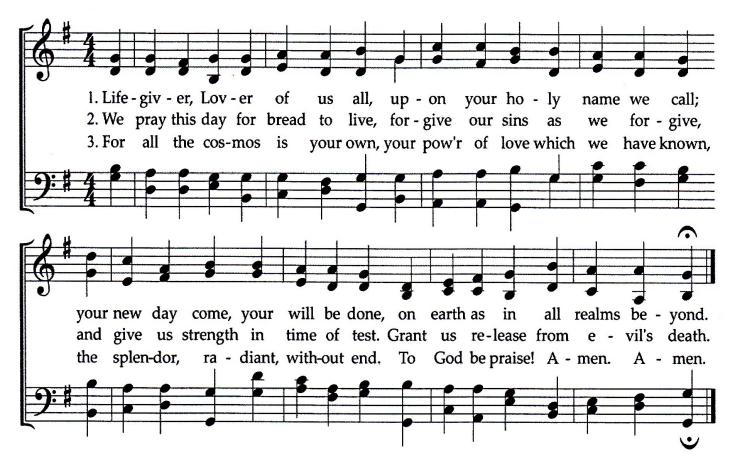
Whether or not you say the person's name out loud, God hears and receives the intentions of your heart.

Closing Refrain

In the communion of the Holy Spirit and all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another to the living God through Jesus the Christ, in your mercy... **Hear our prayers!**



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



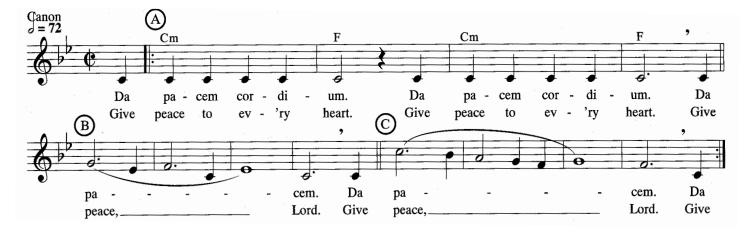
Prayer over the Anointing Oil (in unison)

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.



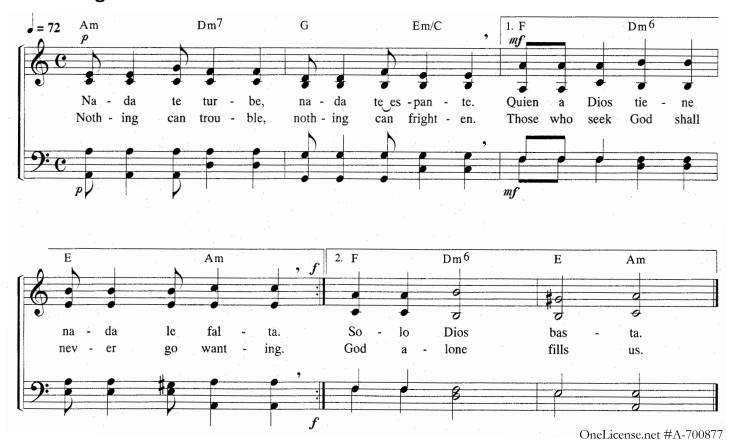
44 Give Peace



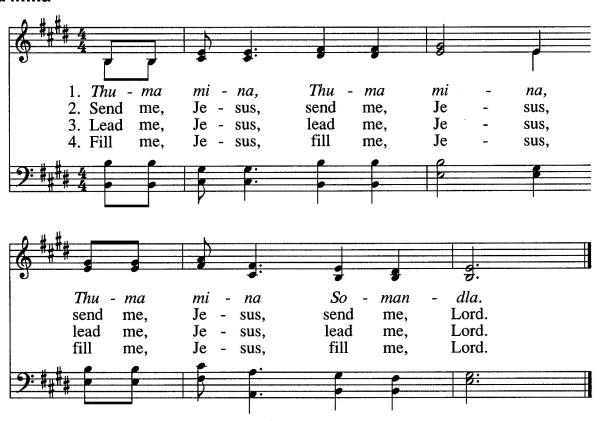
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29 Nothing Can Trouble



* Thuma Mina



Text: South African
Tune: THUMA MINA, South African
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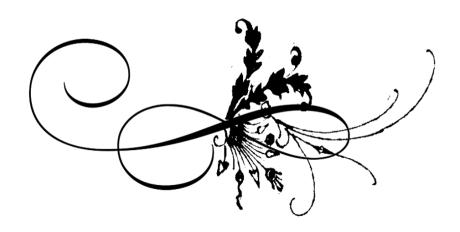
Closing Unison Prayer

May the Holy One fill you with awe: may Christ, the teacher, amaze you with grace; and may the Holy Spirit increase your strength of soul.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

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



TAIZÉ MUSICIANS:

Charlie Andersonflute

James Avantvocalist

David Bennettcello

Alyssa Creasypianist

Jennifer Gorske music director/vocalist

Chris Markwellvocalist
Gerard Rohlfguitar

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.

February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21, December 19 Fridays, 7:00-8:30 pm

The Rev. BJ Woodworth is Minister of Taizé Prayer here at ELPC.

BJ is also Director of Spiritual Life Ministries and is available to provide spiritual direction to anyone who is a part of the ELPC community (attending Taizé makes YOU a part of that community).

He can be reached at: 412.441.3800 x241 • BJW@coh.net

Cathedral Concert

St. Olaf Choir

Sunday, Feb 9 • 7:30 pm



The highly acclaimed St. Olaf Choir will perform in the ELPC Sanctuary on Sunday, Feb 9 at 7:30 pm. The

choir is hailed as one of the nation's premier a cappella ensembles and is renowned for its artistry and beauty of sound.

This is a ticketed event and will not be livestreamed. Discounted tickets are available for ELPC members and friends. Contact Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net).



Children and Families Event — Feb 9

Our next family event is *Dog Treat Baking* on Sunday, Feb 9 after the 11 am sanctuary service. If you would like to participate, please contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Environmental Team Book Study — Feb 20

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee invites you to read *The Great Displacement: Climate Change and the Next American Migration* by Jake Bittle, and then join a book discussion on Thursday, Feb 20 at 7 pm on Zoom.

Even as climate change dominates the headlines, many of us still think about it in the future tense. Jake Bittle, a journalist who covers climate change and energy, gives us a human-based narrative of national scope. Contact Nancy Heastings for info and link (n.heastings@comcast.net).



INQUIRERS CLASS Sunday, February 9

Attend an Inquirers' Class on Sunday, Feb 9 after the 11 am worship service to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Jen King (JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222) to register or for info.