

TAIZÉ:

*Prayerful Song and
Quiet Meditation*



May 28, 2025
7:00 pm



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

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

NB32 Your Word, O Lord

Your word, O Lord, is a light. My God, en - light - en my
 C'est toi ma lam - pe, Sei - gneur. Mon Dieu é - clai - re ma té -

dark - ness. O Lord, my God, en - light - en my dark - ness. O
 nè - bre. Sei - gneur, mon Dieu, é - clai - re ma té - nè - bre. Sei -

Lord, my God, en - light - en my dark - ness. Your
 gneur, mon Dieu, é - clai - re ma té - nè - bre. C'est

Last time

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11 It Is Good To Trust

♩ = 58

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.

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Psalm 37:1-9 (selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 18



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Give no heed to those who are greedy,
Attend not to those who do wrong.
For, like the green grass of spring,
They soon fade and wither away.

ALLELUIA

Trust in the Most High, and seek goodness;
Live harmoniously upon the earth,
In peace and with assurance.
Take delight in the Beloved,
And enjoy the bountiful gifts of Love.

ALLELUIA

Commit your life to the Beloved,
Confident that Love will act on your behalf,
Making clear your pathway,
Bright as the sun at midday.

ALLELUIA

Be still before the Beloved,
And wait quietly in the Silence;
Pray for those who prosper by deceitful means,
And for those who live by their own devices.

ALLELUIA

Recognize your own anger as unfulfilled desire,
And lift your thoughts to higher planes.
For those who act out of anger,
Separate themselves from Love;
While those who live in harmony,
Shall know peace, assurance,
Gratitude, and love.

ALLELUIA



The Word/Meditation: Romans 8 *(selected verses; The Inclusive Bible translation)*

Indeed, I consider the sufferings of the present to be nothing compared with the glory that will be revealed in us. All creation eagerly awaits the revelation of the children of God.

We know that from the beginning until now, all of creation has been groaning in one great act of giving birth. And not only creation, but all of us who possess the firstfruits of the Spirit — we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

In hope we were saved. But hope is not hope if its object is seen; why does one hope for what one sees? And hoping for what we cannot see means awaiting it with patient endurance. The Spirit, too, comes to help us in our weakness. For we don't know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit expresses our plea with groanings too deep for words. And God, who knows everything in our hearts, knows perfectly well what the Spirit is saying, because her intercessions for God's holy people are made according to the mind of God.

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



Breath Prayer

(to assist you in the quiet stillness)

Inhale — Groaning in hope ...

Exhale — I patiently wait ...

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

Patience means to enter actively into the thick of life and to fully bear the suffering within us and around us. Patience is the capacity to see, hear, touch, taste and smell as fully as possible the inner and outer events of our lives. It is to enter into our lives with open eyes, ears and hands so that we really know what is happening... counteracting our unreflective impulse to flee or fight.

— Henri Nouwen

12 Wait For The Lord

Lento (♩ = 48)

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of piano accompaniment and vocal lines. The first system has a tempo marking of 'Lento' and a quarter note equal to 48 beats. The piano part uses chords Em, C, Am6, and B. The vocal line has lyrics: 'Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.' The second system has a dynamic marking of 'mf' and uses chords Em, D, G, Am, B, and Em. The vocal line has lyrics: 'Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!'.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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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: NB42 Kyrie 8

Musical score for 'Kyrie 8' in 4/4 time, key of D major. The score consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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Spirit of the Living God, in our weakness, patiently pray in us and through us for those who suffer pain and ill health.

KYRIE

Spirit of the Living God, in our weakness, patiently pray in us and through us for suffering people of our world, and the places that are experiencing hurt and division—including places of heart.

KYRIE

Spirit of the Living God, in our weakness, patiently pray in us and through us for those experiencing grief and loss.

KYRIE

Spirit of the Living God, in our weakness, patiently pray in us and through us for those who need wisdom for their next steps.

KYRIE

Spirit of the Living God, in our weakness, patiently pray in us and through us for those people and situations that seem broken beyond repair.

KYRIE



Silent and Spoken Prayers

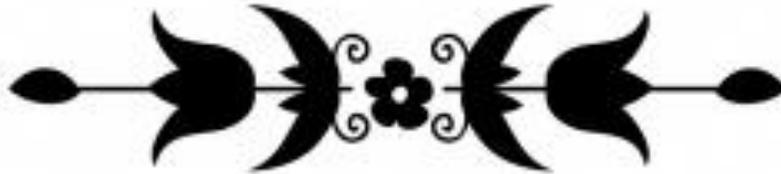
Please feel free to add your spoken petitions.

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 confidentiality.

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 Christ. God, in your mercy...
Hear our prayers!



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 - dian, with - out end. To God be praise! A - men. A - men.

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. Please wait outside the door until the person before you exits.

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.



CLM20 I Am Sure I Shall See

I am sure I shall see the good - ness of the Lord in the
land of the liv - ing. Yes, I shall see the
(Last time ☺)
good - ness of our God, hold firm, trust in the Lord. I am
(Last time ☺)

G74 Masithi (Sing Amen)

(Ma-si-thi:) A-men, si-ya-ku-du-mi-sa. (Ma-si-thi:)
(Sing a-men:) A-men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a-men:)

A-men, si-ya-ku-du-mi-sa. (Ma-si-thi:) A-men, Ba-wo,
A-men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a-men:) A-men, Ba-wo,

a-men, Ba-wo, a-men, si-ya-ku-du-mi-sa.
a-men, Ba-wo, a-men, we praise your name, O God.

WORDS: South African hymn
MUSIC: Attr. S. C. Molefe

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MASITHI
Irr.

Closing Unison Prayer

Go forth this night, beloved children of God,
groaning in hope, patiently waiting,
actively entering the thick of life,
fully bearing the suffering within us and around us.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

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

Monthly Taizé Social Gathering

On the first Wednesday of each month, we will create space for people to connect and fellowship after Taizé with some light refreshments and conversation in the Narthex. Taizé is a unique spiritual community within ELPC, and we desire to have time for those who gather to get to know one another. If you would like to volunteer to bring a cake or some other snacks, please contact Pastor BJ (BJW@coh.net).

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*

Summer Worship Schedule

Begins next Sunday, June 1

Our summer worship schedule begins next Sunday with a combined service at

10 am in Sanctuary

Due to necessary repairs, we will not worship in the Courtyard this summer.



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 for fellowship and prayer.

Tuesdays, 8-8:30 am

Meeting ID: 896 9680 6662 • Passcode 116

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.

June 20 • Fridays, 7:00-8:30 pm

Church Tours – June 8 and 22

Please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 10 am Sunday worship service to participate in any tour:

- ♦ June 8 — *Sanctuary and Chapel* led by Jo Ellen Aleshire
- ♦ June 22 — *Tower* led by Tim Van Fleet and Steve Evrard (*please wear closed-toe shoes for this tour*)

INQUIRERS CLASS

Sunday, June 8

Attend an Inquirers' Class after the 10 am service on Sunday, June 8 to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided.

Register online using this QR code, or visit elpc.church/visit-us/becoming-a-member.

Please contact Jen King for more info:

(JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222)



Labyrinth Prayer Walk

For decades the Labyrinth at ELPC has been a vital and creative spiritual path for our church and neighbors and during the pandemic we had to suspend its weekly offering. It is available on:

Wednesdays and Thursdays
10 am—7 pm in McKelvy Room
(with the exception of June 11, 12, 19, 25, 26)

Volunteers Needed

We need 3 to 6 more people on our team to help with the set up and teardown of the labyrinth.

Set up happens on Wednesdays from 9-10 am; teardown is Fridays from 9-10 am.

