

# TAIZÉ:

PRAYERFUL SONG AND  
QUIET MEDITATION

June 11, 2025 • 7:00 pm



East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church

[www.ELPC.church](http://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**

## CLM39 Praise Our God And Savior

Wy - sła - wiaj - cie Pa - na, O — Wy - sła - wiaj - cie Pa - na, O —  
Praise our God and Sav - ior, O — praise our God and Sav - ior, O —

Śpie - waj Pa - nu ca - ła zie - mio, al - le - lu - ja, al - le - lu - ja! Wy - sła -  
for — God's love en - dures for - ev - er, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise our

(Last time ♪) ,

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## CLM35 The Kingdom Of God

The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly

Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your — king - dom. The

(Last time ♪) ,

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**Psalm 111** (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

**Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 17**



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Praise the Beloved, O my soul!  
I will give thanks to you  
With my whole heart.  
To all who will listen,  
I will tell of your goodness.

**ALLELUIA**

Wondrous is Creation, Great Builder;  
I take pleasure in pondering your work.  
Full of honor and integrity  
Are your teachings;  
Those who follow them will find new life.

**ALLELUIA**

You lift the hearts of those who suffer;  
You come to them in their need.  
Your steadfast Love is food for the soul,  
Nourishment in times of fear.  
You are ever-mindful of your covenant,  
A very Presence to the weary and afflicted.

**ALLELUIA**

Your Voice is truth  
To those with ears to hear,  
Your precepts are sure;  
Written on the hearts of your people,  
They are to be lived forever,  
With faith-filled love and assurance.

**ALLELUIA**

You bring new life to the world.  
Yes! Life in abundance is your gift to us.  
Holy and glorious is your Name!

**ALLELUIA**

Reverence for You, O Holy One,  
Is the beginning of wisdom;  
A good understanding  
Have all who practice it.  
Your Spirit endures forever!

**ALLELUIA**



## **The Word/Meditation: Proverbs 8:1-4, 6-7, 12, 33-34** *(The Inclusive Bible translation)*

Doesn't Wisdom call? Doesn't Understanding raise her voice? On the hills along the road, at the crossroads, she takes her stand; beside the city gates of the town, in the gates themselves, she cries out, "Women and men, people everywhere, I'm calling out to you! I cry out to all of humankind!

Listen closely, for what I say is worth hearing, and I will tell you what is right; for my mouth will speak the truth, and my lips hate to lie.

I, Wisdom, am the habitat of sound judgment, the source of clear thinking.

Take my instruction seriously and grow wise; don't neglect my lessons. Happy are you who listen to me, and keep watch at my door for me, waiting at my gates."

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



### **Breath Prayer**

*(to assist you in the quiet stillness)*

*Inhale* — Wisdom, speak ...

*Exhale* — I am listening ...

**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

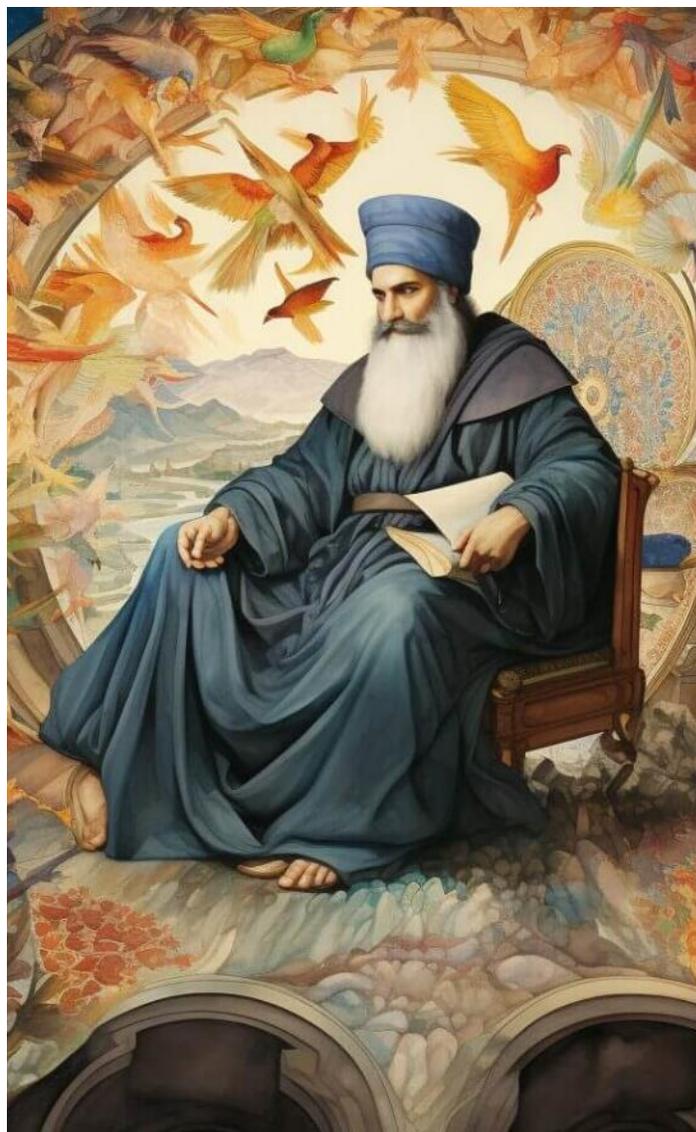
In every moment,  
in every event of your life  
Wisdom  
is whispering to you  
exactly what you need to hear and know.

Who can ever explain this miracle?  
It simply is.

Listen  
and you will discover it  
every passing moment.

Listen  
and your whole life  
will become a conversation  
in thought and act between you and  
Wisdom,  
directly,  
wordlessly,  
now,  
and always.

— *Rumi, a 13th-century poet,  
Sufi mystic and theologian*



## CLM25 Jesus, Your Spirit

Kris - tus, din An - de i oss är en käl - la med por - lan - de va - ten.  
Je - sus, your Spir - it in us is a well - spring of life ev - er - last - ing.

## 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 6



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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God of wisdom, you are more than we can know or name. We call on you again and again for you alone are God. We cannot live apart from you, you have called us into your triune life. Your steadfast love surrounds us all our days. Wherever we may be, you call to us, delighting in all the diversity of humanity.

#### **KYRIE**

We come before you in thanksgiving for all the gifts you have given that delight us so: for the beauty of this spring season; for the lives of those who bless us beyond their knowing; for this community of faith by which we are nurtured and challenged; for opportunities to serve you by serving others; for goals accomplished; and for the gift of life granted yet again today.

#### **KYRIE**

We come before you humbly and hopeful in need: for those who are suffering today because of illness in mind, body, or spirit; for those trying to make a difficult decision; for those grieving a loss, an ending, a dream deferred. We pray for healing, hope and strength in every broken place of our lives.

#### **KYRIE**

We pray for those whose livelihood is precarious; for those who live at the edge of poverty's precipice; for the elderly; for undocumented immigrants and their families; for our trans siblings and for all who fear and are being dehumanized during this time of social and civil unrest and chaos.

#### **KYRIE**

We pray that you would grant us wisdom to know what ours is to do in this time of great need. Empower us to speak and advocate for justice. Break our hearts for the things that break your heart. And unite us in your vision of building the diverse, all-inclusive and beloved community your Spirit is creating.

#### **KYRIE**

## Silent and Spoken Prayers

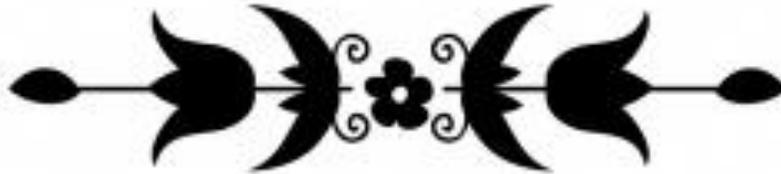
*Please feel free to add your spoken petitions.*

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

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and bass lines. The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system contains the concluding lyrics. The music is a simple, homophonic setting of the 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 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.**



## NB14 Lord God, You Love Us

Lord God, you love us, source of com - pas - sion.  
Toi, tu nous ai - mes, sour - ce de vie.

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Photo by  
LAYLA STANFILL

\* **Holy, Holy, Holy (Lord God Almighty!)**

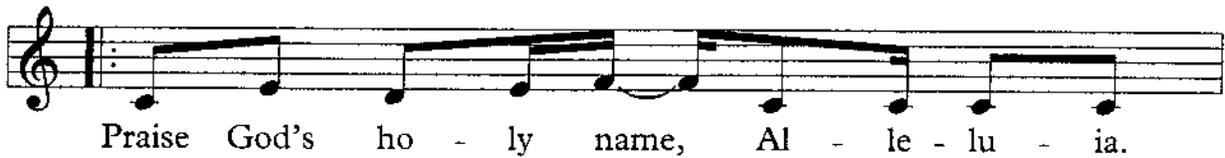
1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark-ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## G86 Praise, Praise, Praise The Lord



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MUSIC: Trad. Cameroon

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### Closing Blessing *(in unison)*

Go out this night participating in the life of the Trinity –  
by honoring mutuality, living in equality and justice,  
and celebrating the amazing diversity by which our communion  
with God, creation and one another is enriched.

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*

### 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 Tower Tour – June 29

On Sunday, June 29, a *Tower tour* will be led by Tim Van Fleet and Steve Evrard.

High above the bustle of the streets below, you will have an opportunity to view the entire East Liberty valley and beyond from the 300 foot spire of ELPC. The climb requires a bit of stamina, as there are 333 steps total (equivalent to about 13 stories), many of which are very narrow and circular. Please wear pants and comfortable, closed-toe shoes. The tour is not recommended for children under 12, those with heart or respiratory conditions, people with fear of heights or small enclosed spaces.

The tour capacity is limited to a total of 20 participants. You must pre-register for the tour online at <https://tinyurl.com/TowerTourELPC>, or scan this QR code.

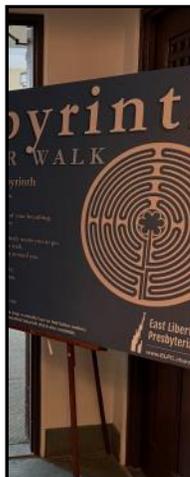


There is no cost to participate but free-will donations are gratefully accepted. Please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 10 am Sunday worship service to participate, and allow 45-60 minutes for the tour.

### Reckoning with ELPC's Tie to Enslavement – June 29

In 2022, our church family learned that one of our most revered founders and donors enslaved and sold two women, Nell and Poll, in the early 1800s.

Join the Facing Systemic Racism Committee after the 10 am service in the Social Hall on Sunday, June 29 for a presentation on what we have learned about Nell, Poll, and their family, and for a time of discussion and reflection on what we must do to reckon with this part of our church's legacy. A light lunch will be provided.



**Labyrinth Prayer Walk**

The Labyrinth is available on:  
**Wednesdays and Thursdays**  
**10 am—7 pm in McKelvy Room**  
*(with the exception of June 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.