

**TAIZÉ:** Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation

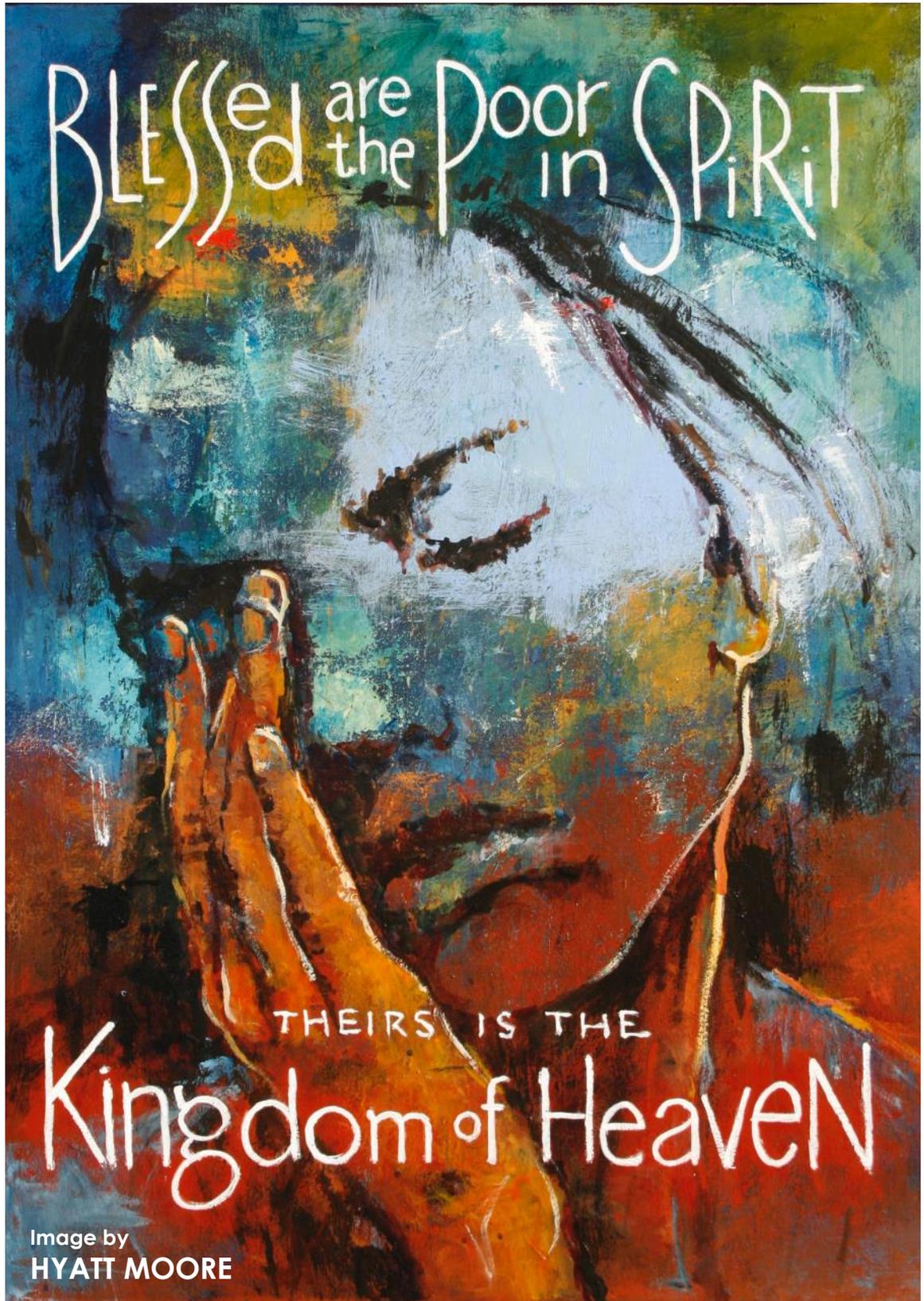


Image by  
HYATT MOORE



**East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church**

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

**July 30, 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**

\* Seek Ye First

*Descant* D F#m G D G

Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia, Al-

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God and God's  
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and

D Em7 A7sus D F#m

le - - - lu - ia, Al - - - le-

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be  
ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be

G D G Em D

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

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS and MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1972

SEEK YE FIRST

© 1972 Maranatha! Music

OneLicense.net #A-700877

Irr.

♩=72-80

## G130 How Blessed Are You

Mixed Voices

*p* = 60  
How blessed are you who are poor; the King-dom of God is

(Fine)  
yours, how blessed are you who are poor; the King-dom of God is yours. — How

OneLicense.net #A-700877

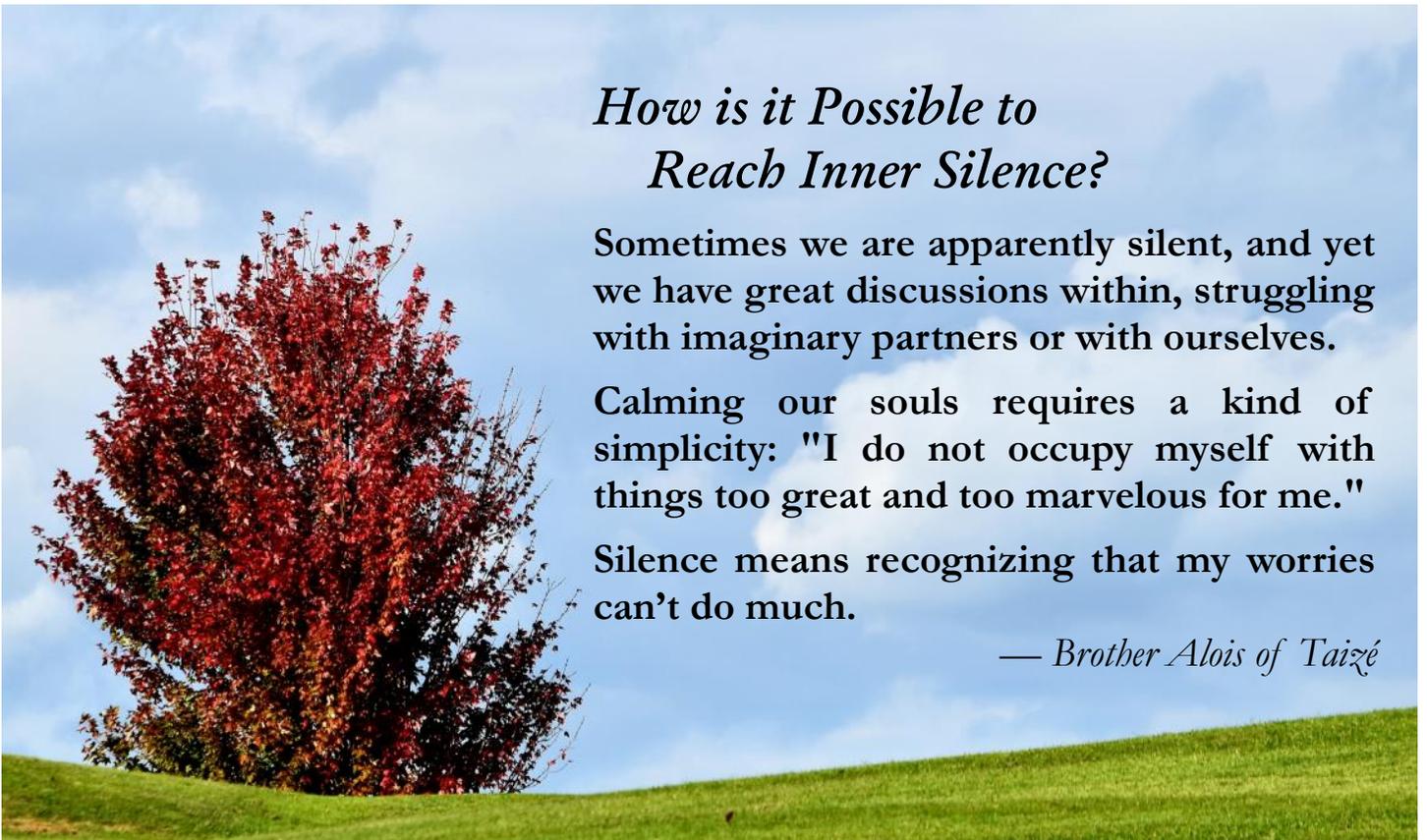
### *How is it Possible to Reach Inner Silence?*

Sometimes we are apparently silent, and yet we have great discussions within, struggling with imaginary partners or with ourselves.

Calming our souls requires a kind of simplicity: "I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me."

Silence means recognizing that my worries can't do much.

— Brother Alois of Taizé



**Psalm 60** (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

**Sung Response: 2 Alleluia 7**

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 3/4 time, with a tempo marking of quarter note = 116. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody begins with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia! (hum) —". The score includes a first ending (1.) and a second ending (2.) marked "D.C." (Da Capo). The first ending leads back to the beginning of the phrase, and the second ending concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

OneLicense.net #A-700877

O Beloved, why do I believe  
That I can separate myself from you,  
Feeling like an alien in a foreign land?  
O, that I might return to the Light.

**ALLELUIA**

You know how I tremble with fear;  
Help me to break down the walls,  
To let go of illusions,  
For I want to stand tall.  
You have allowed me to suffer hard things;  
You have not prevented my downfall.

**ALLELUIA**

You, who are Love,  
Gave me leeway to choose,  
To wander far from home.  
O my Beloved,  
Be gracious unto me,  
Welcome me back into new life,  
Hear my prayer!

**ALLELUIA**

The Comforter came to me:  
"With joy are you ever  
At home in my Heart,  
As I have always lived in yours.  
You are mine; I belong to you.

**ALLELUIA**

The broken are blessed with humility,  
The wayward who turn back  
Walk with me as love,  
Walk with me knowing Love.  
Let your mind be guided by truth,  
Your heart informed by wisdom;  
Then will you know peace and joy."

**ALLELUIA**

Who will enter the Heart of Love?  
Who will open their hearts  
And know the Beloved?  
Who dares to face their fears,  
To break down the prison walls,  
To walk with Love?

**ALLELUIA**

O grant us help to answer the call,  
Strengthen us with pure resolve!  
With the Beloved we shall triumph;  
With Love we shall be free!

**ALLELUIA**

## **The Word for Meditation: Matthew 5:1, 7-12** *(The Inclusive Bible translation)*

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Mahatma Gandhi, and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. all regularly read and were significantly influenced by the Sermon on the Mount. It was a prominent text that they frequently returned to as a source of their activism amidst their own troubled times. From now until Advent we will be meditating on the Sermon on the Mount. May it ground and inspire all of us in the radical teachings of Jesus, as we seek to be salt and light in our own troubled times.*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

Blessed are those who show mercy to others; they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are clean; they will see God.

Blessed are those who work for peace; they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of their struggle for justice; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you, and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.

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



### **Breath Prayer**

*(to assist you in the quiet stillness)*

*Inhale* — Jesus, help me ...

*Exhale* — find my acceptance  
in you ...

**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

No wonder the prophet weeps yet —  
We begin again but not innocent...  
And we feebly watch for You and wait.  
Teach us how to weep while we wait,  
and how to hope while we weep,  
and how to care while we hope.

— *Walter Bruggeman (1933-2025), an Old Testament scholar, whose work often focused on the Hebrew prophetic tradition and the sociopolitical imagination of the Church, he died last month on June 5th.*



### \* All Will Be Well



All will be well, and all will be well, all



man - ner of things will be well.



well, will be well, will be well.

Text: *The Revelations of Divine Love*, Julian of Norwich; adapt. by Steven C. Warner, b.1954

Tune: Steven C. Warner, b.1954

© 1993, World Library Publications, a division of GIA Publications, Inc.

OneLicense.net #A-700877

## 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: 44 Give Peace

Canon  
♩ = 72

(A) Cm F Cm F

Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da  
Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give

(B) (C)

pa - - - - - cem. Da pa - - - - - cem. Da  
peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord. Give

The musical score is written on two staves in G minor (one flat) and 7/8 time. The tempo is marked 'Canon' with a quarter note equal to 72 beats. The first staff contains the main melody with lyrics and is marked with circled 'A'. The second staff contains a continuation of the melody with lyrics and is marked with circled 'B' and 'C'. Chord symbols Cm and F are placed above the first staff. The lyrics are: 'Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give pa - - - - - cem. Da pa - - - - - cem. Da peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord. Give'.

OneLicense.net #A-700877

Jesus, thank you for teaching us what it looks like to follow you. Grant us the grace, wisdom and courage to not just hear your words but to put them in practice. Come, Holy Spirit, into our hearts, minds, bodies and spirits and empower us to enact your radical invitations in this world that you created, love and sustain.

### GIVE PEACE

God, bless those who show mercy, and show them mercy. Help us to be merciful to those who oppose, harm and resist your will and your ways. Give us eyes to see those who need your kindness and compassion, and quicken our hearts to enact your steadfast love with concrete actions of forgiveness, care and assistance.

### GIVE PEACE

God, bless those whose hearts are clean, may they truly see you and may we see you in them. Help us to attend to our interior lives and honestly assess, confess and turn from habits and attitudes that are mean, biased, judgmental and impure; may we see how they harm ourselves, others and the world.

### GIVE PEACE

God, bless your children who work for peace in the world. We pray for those seeking to make peace in all nations at war, including, Gaza, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Congo, Nigeria, and Haiti. Strengthen those working for peace in their marriages, families, schools, workplaces and neighborhoods.

### GIVE PEACE

God, bless people who stand in the tradition of the prophets and are persecuted, insulted and slandered as they struggle for justice. Strengthen them in body, mind and spirit that they may continue to be a force of resistance against evil, war, injustice, and the disregard of human life. May they be empowered to continue to speak truth in love in the face of harassment, intimidation and discrimination.

### GIVE PEACE

## 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 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 features a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

## 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.**



## 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

## NB8 In God Alone

In God a-lone my soul can find rest and peace, in God my peace- and joy.  
Mon â-me se re-po-se en paix sur Dieu seul: de lui vient mon- sa - lut.

On - ly in God my soul can find its rest, ... find its rest- and peace. In  
Oui, sur Dieu seul mon â - me se re - po - se, se re - po - se en paix. Mon

*Last time*

OneLicense.net #A-700877

## G138 Thank You, Jesus, Amen

Thank you, Je - sus, a - men! Thank you, Je - sus, a - men! Thank you,  
Ti - no ten - da, Je - su! Ti - no ten - da, Je - su! Ti - no

Je - sus, a - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
ten - da, Je - su! Ha - le - lu - jah! A - men!

WORDS: Trad. Shona; trans. by Patrick Matsikenyeri (Ps. 118:21; Rev. 11:17; 19:4)  
MUSIC: African folk song; transcribed and arr. by Patrick Matsikenyeri

TINO TENDA  
Irregular

## Closing Blessing *(in unison)*

May we all become wise sages. May we hear Jesus' words and put them into practice so that when the rainy seasons set in, the torrents come and the winds blow, our lives, built upon rock, will stand and not collapse.

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 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*

## Announcements

### 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.

3rd Friday of month, 7:00-8:30 pm

### Benefit for Pittsburgh's

#### Immigrant Community – Aug 7 to 10

Ted Cmarada and Susan Spangler have organized the *All Together Now! Music Festival* to benefit our immigrant community. The music festival will be held from Aug 7 to 10 at various venues around Pittsburgh.

All proceeds will go to the Collaborative for Immigrant Impact to help immigrants access legal services, housing, healthcare, education, English classes, career development, food assistance, and more, ensuring our immigrant neighbors have the opportunity to thrive. The Collaborative for Immigrant Impact is a network of 20 Pittsburgh-based organizations that serve as a critical safety net for over 20,000 immigrants in our community.

The music festival ends on Sunday, Aug 10 at 3 pm with *An Afternoon of Storytelling and Multicultural Music and Dance* in the ELPC Sanctuary.

Please visit [www.alltogetherpgh.com](http://www.alltogetherpgh.com) for a schedule of events and ticket prices, the listing of bands and artists, to purchase tickets and t-shirts, and to make a donation.