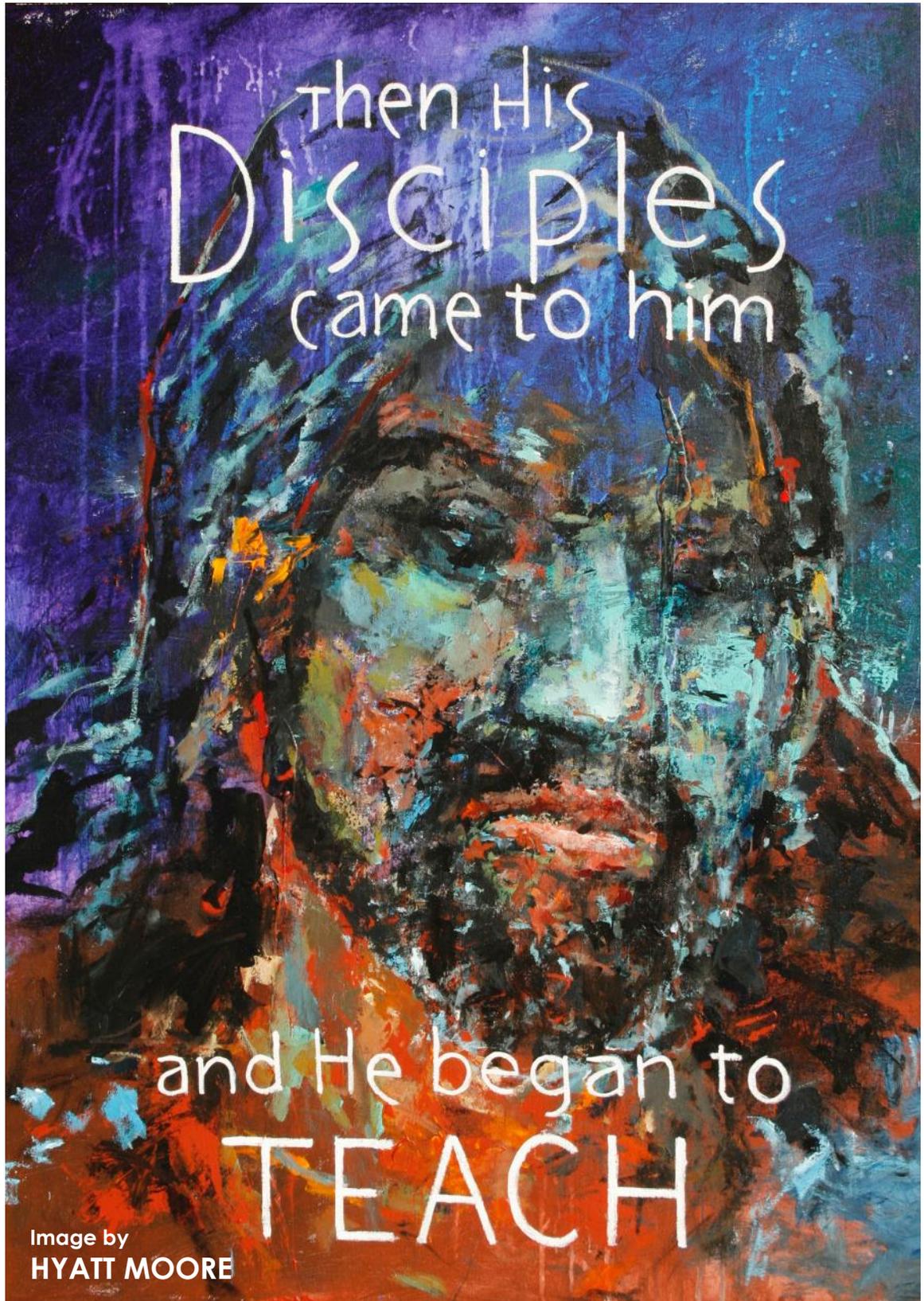


**TAIZÉ:** Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation



**East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church**

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

**August 6, 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**

## 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.

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## CLM12 I Will Sing To The Lord

Can - ta - rei ao Se - nhor, en - quan - to vi - ver; lou - va -  
I will sing to the Lord my whole life - long; I will

rei o meu Deus en - quan - to e - xis - tir. Ne - le en - con - tro a mi - nha a - le -  
wor - ship my God as long as I live. For the Lord brings joy to his

gri - a. Ne - le en - con - tro a mi - nha a - le - gri - a. Can - ta -  
peo - ple. For the Lord brings joy to his peo - ple. I will

(C Last time)

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**Psalm 101** (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

**Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 17**



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I sing of loyalty and of justice;  
To you, O Beloved, I sing.  
I give heed to the Way  
That leads to peace.  
Making a home in our hearts,  
You are our loving Companion and Friend.

**ALLELUIA**

May I walk with integrity where're I go,  
May I see you in all creation!  
May I be a mirror of your Love  
To all that I meet;  
May I reflect the freedom of your Truth,  
And live as a beneficial presence  
In the world.

**ALLELUIA**

Forgive me, O Merciful One,  
If I turn from those in need.  
Humble me if I become  
Arrogant and greedy.  
Embrace me with your Presence.

**ALLELUIA**

I accompany those who love you,  
That I may grow in wisdom;  
I enter into the Silence,  
Into the Eternal Light,  
And listen for your gentle Voice.

**ALLELUIA**

For, no one who oppresses another,  
Who keeps company with injustice,  
Will dwell in the house of Love.  
And, no one who prefers darkness  
Will live in the glory of Light.

**ALLELUIA**

In the morning  
I offer myself to you in prayer,  
By night I surrender to you in trust;  
O, that I might walk in the Light  
With a grateful heart,  
And radiate peace to the world!

**ALLELUIA**



## The Word for Meditation: Matthew 5:1, 13-16 *(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:

You are the salt of the earth. But what if salt were to lose its flavor? How could you restore it? It would be fit for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world. You don't build a city on a hill, then try to hide it, do you? You don't light a lamp, then put it under a bushel basket, do you? No, you set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house.

In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good acts and give praise to your Abba God in heaven.

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



### Breath Prayer

*(to assist you in the quiet stillness)*

*Inhale* — I am light ...

*Exhale* — help me open and  
shine ...

**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

My friends, do not lose heart ... One of the most calming and powerful actions you can do to intervene in a stormy world is to stand up and show your soul. The light of the soul throws sparks, can send up flares, builds signal fires ... causes proper matters to catch fire.

— *Clarissa Pinkola Estes in "Do not Lose Heart"*

## CLM36 Lord, You Are Living Water

Musical score for the hymn "Lord, You Are Living Water" (CLM36). The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are in Italian and English.

Tu sei sor - gen - te vi - va, tu sei fuo - co, sei ca - ri - tà.  
Lord, you are liv - ing wa - ter, you are light and fire, you are love.

Vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to, vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to.  
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, come, O Ho - ly Spir - it.

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Image by HYATT MOORE



## 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: NB45 Come, Lord, Light Of Our Hearts



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Jesus, thank you for teaching us in the Sermon on the Mount, showing us the way of following you. Grant us the grace, wisdom and courage to not just hear these words but to put them in practice. Send your Spirit to us and empower us to enact your radical invitations in the world You created, love and sustain.

#### **COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS**

We pray for wisdom and guidance for all people and leaders of this world, that they may foster peace and justice, and shine your glorious Light as they serve the common good.

#### **COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS**

We pray for your church, that by your grace and our faith we may serve you; allow our light to shine with constancy and love.

#### **COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS**

We pray for those who are sick or suffer any need, that they would know your healing strength and find comfort through the light of our faithful care.

#### **COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS**

Help us to protect the goodness of your creation, may we be a beacon of hope and preserving presence, that all may enjoy the precious blessings of this world as a foretaste of the next.

#### **COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS**

We remember all those who have died and look to that heavenly city with you and all your saints, where we will all shine like the sun, and enter the everlasting heritage of your faithful children.

#### **COME, LORD, LIGHT OF OUR HEARTS**

## 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 - dant, 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.**



## 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*

# CLM33 O Lord, You Hold And Protect Me

Sei - gneur, tu gar - des mon â - me; Ô Dieu, tu con - nais mon  
O Lord, you hold and pro - tect me; you know all my heart's de -

cœur. Con - dui - moi sur le che - min d'é - ter - ni - té, con - dui -  
sire. Guide my steps a - long the ev - er - last - ing way, guide my

moi sur le che - min d'é - ter - ni - té. Sei -  
steps a - long the ev - er - last - ing way. O

*(☺) Last time*

*(☺) Last time*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are in French and English. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning of the first line and a 'Last time' instruction with a smiley face symbol at the end of the second and third lines.

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\* This Little Light Of Mine

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
 2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
 3. Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.  
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh oh

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

4. Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine....  
 5. All in my home, I'm gonna let it shine....

## **Closing Blessing** (*in unison*)

May we be like the wise sage, who built a house upon rock so that when the rainy seasons set in, the torrents came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house, it didn't collapse because it had been set solidly on rock. Likewise, may any word we heard this night be filled with the Love, Grace and Wisdom of God and put into practice in our lives.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

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

### **MONTHLY TAIZÉ**

#### **SOCIAL GATHERING TONIGHT!**

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.