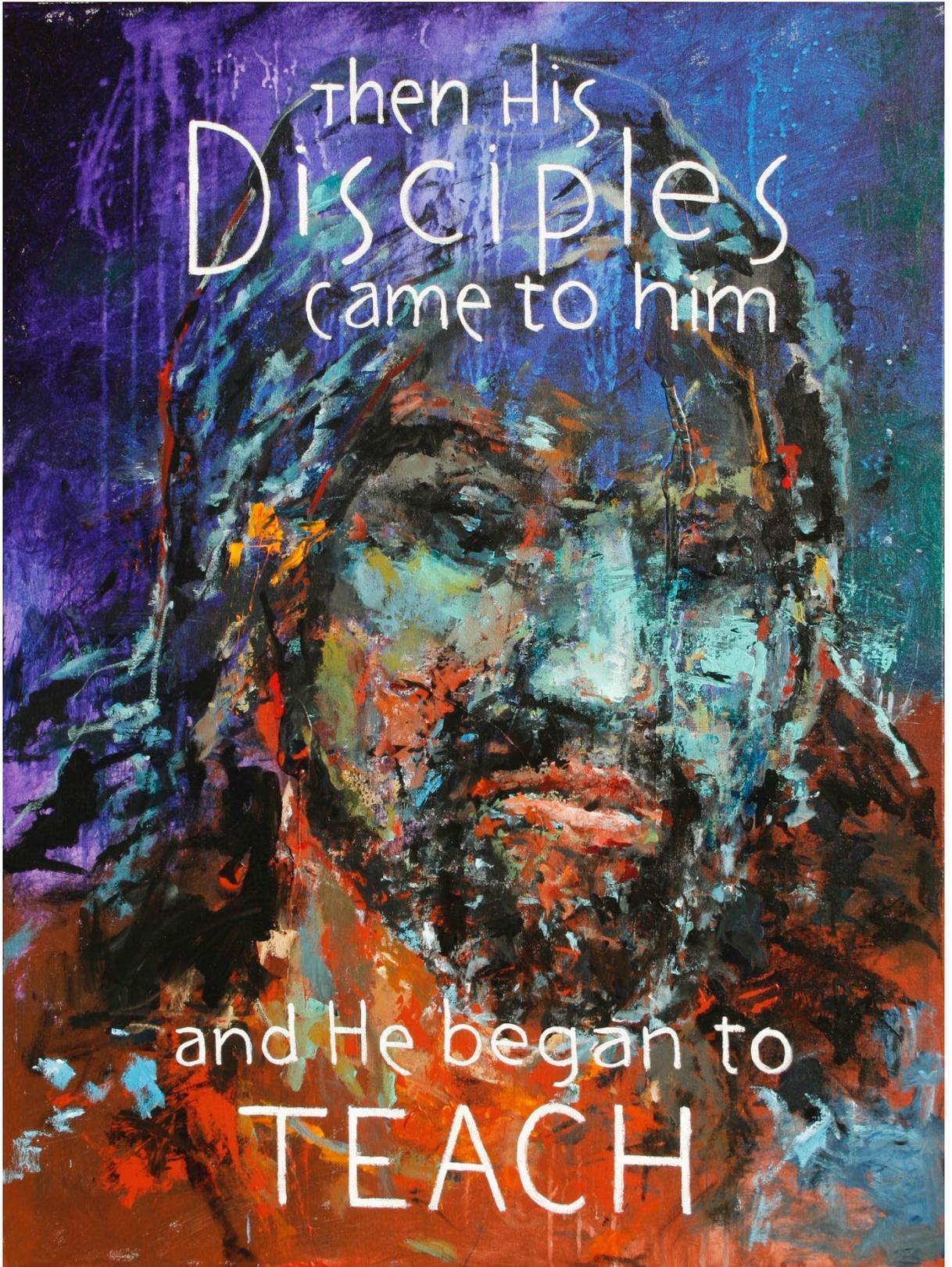


TAIZÉ:

Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

August 27, 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. John Titus

NB31 With You, O Lord

With you, O God, is life in all its full - ness, and

The first system of musical notation for 'With You, O Lord' consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line starts with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. The lyrics 'With you, O God, is life in all its full - ness, and' are written below the notes.

in your light we shall see true light. With you, O God, is

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The treble staff melody includes quarter notes D5, E5, and F5, followed by a half note G5. The bass line continues with quarter notes D2, E2, and F2, followed by a half note G2. The lyrics 'in your light we shall see true light. With you, O God, is' are written below the notes.

life in all its full-ness, and in your light we shall see true light.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. The treble staff melody includes quarter notes G5, F5, and E5, followed by a half note D5. The bass line continues with quarter notes G2, F2, and E2, followed by a half note D2. The lyrics 'life in all its full-ness, and in your light we shall see true light.' are written below the notes.

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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

The first system of musical notation for 'The Kingdom of God' consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line starts with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. The lyrics 'The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly' are written below the notes.

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

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The treble staff melody includes quarter notes D5, E5, and F5, followed by a half note G5. The bass line continues with quarter notes D2, E2, and F2, followed by a half note G2. The lyrics 'Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your_ king - dom. The' are written below the notes. Above the final notes of both staves, the instruction '(Last time ♪)' is written.

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Psalm 76 (from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: NB37 Alleluia 10

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!" repeated twice. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

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In loving places, O Beloved,
are You known,
your mercy extends to all
the earth.
Your abode has been established
in our soul,
your dwelling place in our heart.
ALLELUIA

You break down our walls—
our anger, fear, illusions
and doubts.
Glorious are You, more majestic
than the everlasting mountains.
ALLELUIA

That which is haughty within us
is brought low,
our greed brings us to ruin;
The violence that we harbor
Turns in upon ourselves.
In your loving mercy, O Beloved,
You raise us up with Love.
ALLELUIA

For You fill us with wonder!
You, who know our innermost
being,

You forgive us and raise us up.
From the depth of our soul
You call us to Awaken,
to grow toward harmony
and wholeness.
ALLELUIA

You well up in our hearts with
the inward call
to liberate the oppressed
of the earth.
ALLELUIA

Surely our fear-filled hearts will
One day praise You,
the gold that comes out of
the ashes of our ego.
ALLELUIA

Abandon yourself to the Beloved
With confidence; and
Receive the blessings of Love
From the Heart of your heart.
From the One who yearns for
Your return,
Who welcomes you Home with joy!
ALLELUIA

The Word for Meditation: Matthew 5:1, 27-30 *(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’ve heard the commandment, ‘No committing adultery.’ But I tell you that those who look lustfully at others have already committed adultery with them in their hearts. If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and throw it away. It’s better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away! It’s better to lose part of your body than to have it all cast into Gehenna.

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



Breath Prayer

(to assist you in the quiet stillness)

Inhale — Search me, Beloved ...

Exhale — know my heart ...

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

Faithfulness is a limit that forces us to stop running and encounter God, self and other right now, right here. Without this commitment... change is difficult at best because it lives under the constant threat of abandonment... Growth will indeed come through commitment... There is a monotony of stability... But it is monotony... that forces us to stop running away and find God in the here in now... Monotony makes us deal with the things that distraction sees to avoid.”

— from Brian Taylor, Rector of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Albuquerque, NM.



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 - duis - moi sur le che - min d'é - ter - ni - té, con - duis -
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

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 Eleison 5



Musical notation for the sung response. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 100. The piece is in 2/4 time and consists of 10 measures. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son; Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. (hum) The piece ends with a D.C. (Da Capo) instruction.

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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 empower us to enact these radical invitations in the world You created, love and sustain.

KYRIE

Search us, O Beloved, know our hearts! Try us and discern our thoughts! Help us to face the darkness within; Enlighten us that we may radiate your Love and Light.

KYRIE

We offer our prayers for the universal church. May our words and actions bring honor to your name and teach us true humility.

KYRIE

We offer our prayers for the needs of the world. May peace pervade in all places of conflict and violence.

KYRIE

We offer our prayers for those who suffer from sickness of mind, body, or spirit and all those who care for them.

KYRIE

Almighty God, you call us to follow you with faithfulness, even when it challenges our relationships and the values of our culture. Help us to release our fears, nurture us in your ways, and sustain us as we seek your peace.

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 CANON)

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 hearing 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.



Our olive oil is from the Palestinian village of Bil'in. Sent to us by Iyad Burnat, a nonviolent, international peacemaker. Bil'in has had 60% of its land stolen by Israel and now houses an illegal settlement for 100,000 European and American Jewish people.

NB5 By Night We Hasten

De no - che i - re - mos, de no - che que
By night, we has - ten, in dark - ness, to

pa - ra en - con - trar la fuen - te, só - lo la sed nos a -
search for liv - ing wa - ter, on - ly our thirst leads us

lum - bra, só - lo la sed nos a - lum - bra. De
on - wards, on - ly our thirst leads us on - wards. By

mf pp Last time

mf pp Last time

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-sē 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

NB29 O Come and Let Us Sing to God

Ve-ni-te, e-xul-te-mus Do-mi-no, ve-
 O come and let us sing to God, our hope. God's

ni-te, a-do-re-mus. Ve-ni-te, e-xul-te-mus
 mer-cy is for ev-er. O come and let us sing to

Do-mi-no, ve-ni-te, a-do-re-mus. Ve-
 God, our hope. God's mer-cy is for ev-er. O

Last time

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 tor-rents 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*)



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*

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).

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

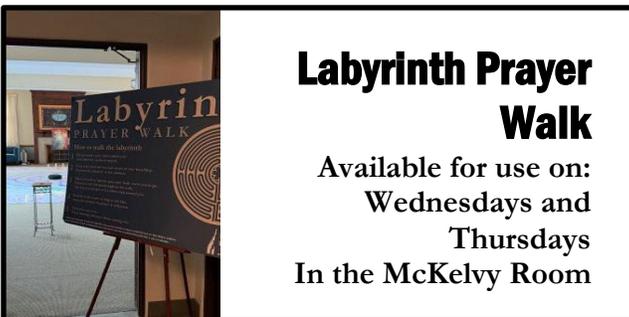
Yamuna will lead yoga in-person in the Sanctuary before the 7 pm Taizé Prayer service.

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



Prayer Vigil for Immigrants – August 29

The ELPC Mission Board encourages participation in the weekly *Prayer Vigil for Immigrants* held on the sidewalk adjacent to the ICE offices at 3000 Sidney St, 15203. Prayers begin on Fridays at 8 am and conclude at 10 am. The interfaith vigil is sponsored by Pax Christi, Casa San Jose and the Sisters of Saint Joseph. If you wish to bring a sign, please use a message from your faith about welcoming the immigrant. Parking is available in the public garage two blocks west of the ICE offices. For more information, please text Michele Bossers (412.303.9243).

Registration Is Open for Hope Academy's Fall Term

Hope Academy of Music and the Arts is now accepting registrations and scholarship applications for the 2025 Fall Term. Learn more about our classes and private instrument lessons online at tiny.cc/hope-academy.

LGBTQIA+ Ministry's Spiritual Gathering – Sept 7

You are invited to attend the LGBTQIA+ Ministry's spiritual gathering on Sunday, Sept 7 after the 11 am worship service. Join us to share lunch and conversation. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike welcome! Contact Wil Forrest to RSVP (Wil@coh.net).

ELPC Seeking Associate Pastor for Connection and Care

The process has begun to seek a new Associate Pastor for ELPC who will oversee connection and care and be the liaison for the Board of Deacons and M&O Committee.

The position description is listed at

elpc.church/careers.

Choir Rehearsals Resume – Sept 4 and 16

If you are interested in joining any of the choirs at ELPC, please contact Dr. Ed Moore (EdM@coh.net). Rehearsals for each of the 3 choirs resume on:

- *Journey Praise Team* — Thursday, Sept 4 at 5:30 pm
- *Chancel Choir* — Thursday, Sept 4 at 7 pm
- *Handbell Choir* — Tuesday, Sept 16 at 6 pm

FALL KICK-OFF SUNDAY

Our regular Sunday morning worship schedule and Sunday school classes resume on

SUNDAY, SEPT 7

8:45 am- Journey worship in the Social Hall.

9:45-10:45 am- Adult & Teen (7-12th graders)

Sunday school classes & Open Gym and coffee for families

11am- Sanctuary service

11:10--noon- Ages 4—6th grade Sunday School

The Rev. BJ Woodworth is Minister of Taizé Prayer 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