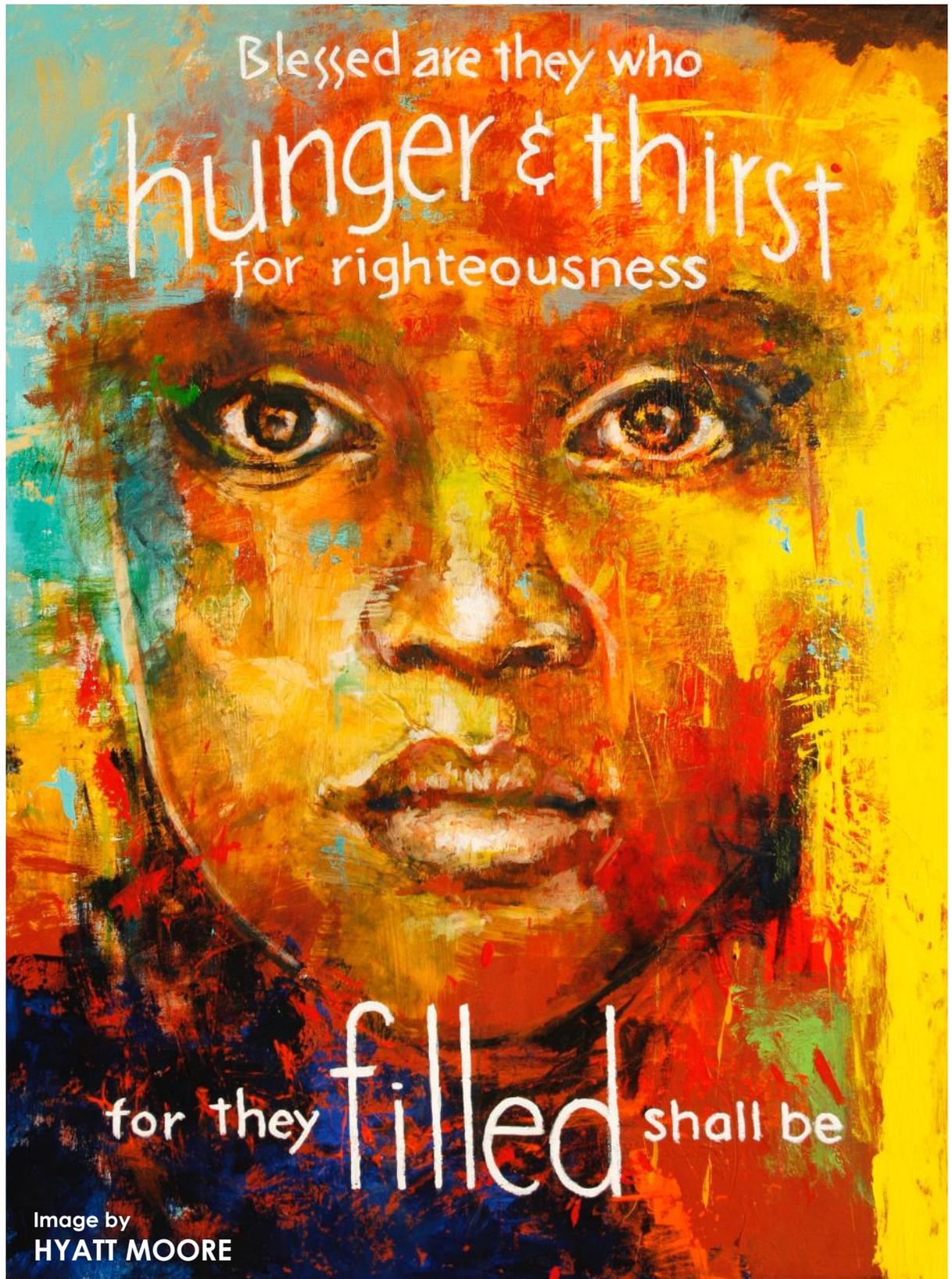


TAIZÉ: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation



Blessed are they who
hunger & thirst
for righteousness

for they **filled** shall be

Image by
HYATT MOORE



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

October 22, 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

LAFFERTY Irregular

Karen Lafferty (b. 1948)

Karen Lafferty (b. 1948)

D F#m G D G

Descant Al - le - lu - ia, Al -

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God And His
 2. Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and

D Em A7 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 D A7 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!

CCLI #689547

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.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are in English and French. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics. The second system covers the next two lines. The third system covers the final two lines and ends with a double bar line.

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Psalm 104:1-2, 10-15, 19-24, 27-33 (NRSV)

Sung Response: CLM2 Alleluia 20

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features three staves: a vocal line for the Cantor (Soprano and Alto), and two accompaniment lines for Tenor and Bass. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

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Bless the Lord, O my soul.
O Lord, my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty,
Wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent.

ALLELUIA

You make springs
Gush forth in the valleys;
They flow between the hills,
Giving drink to every wild animal;
The wild asses quench their thirst.
By the streams the birds of the air
Have their habitation;
They sing among the branches.
From your lofty abode
You water the mountains;
The earth is satisfied
With the fruit of your work.

ALLELUIA

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle
And plants for people to cultivate,
To bring forth food from the earth
And wine to gladden the human heart,
Oil to make the face shine
And bread to strengthen the human heart.

ALLELUIA

You have made the moon
To mark the seasons;
The sun knows its time for setting.
You make darkness, and it is night,
When all the animals of the forest
Come creeping out.
The young lions roar for their prey,
Seeking their food from God.
When the sun rises, they withdraw
And lie down in their dens.
People go out to their work
And to their labor until the evening.

ALLELUIA

Continued on next page ...

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
The earth is full of your creatures.
These all look to you
To give them their food in due season;
When you give to them, they gather it up;
When you open your hand,
They are filled with good things.
When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
When you take away their breath, they die
And return to their dust.
When you send forth your Spirit,
They are created,
And you renew the face of the ground.

ALLELUIA

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
May the Lord rejoice in his works—
Who looks on the earth and it trembles,
Who touches the mountains
And they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God
While I have being.

ALLELUIA

Hoping in Season and out of Season

by Brother Alois of Taizé

Humanity is able to move forward because of the multitudes of women and men who give themselves without counting the cost, even in times of upheaval and uncertainty.

People have become more aware of structures of injustice, sometimes inherited from the past. And unfortunately, power has not always been exercised to serve the good of all. In the face of such abuses, frustration and anger are comprehensible. Who will be daring enough to be creators of justice and peace beyond the divisions that are splitting our societies apart?

Yes, in the midst of the difficult realities of the present, we can glimpse reasons to hope, and even at times to hope against all hope. For this, we need to come together with others who have made different choices—with Christians from other denominations, with believers of other religions, and with people who are agnostic or atheist and who are also committed to solidarity and sharing.

Joy is renewed when we live as brothers and sisters, when we remain alongside the most deprived: the homeless, men and women who are elderly, ill or lonely, children in difficulty, people living with disabilities, migrants.... Life's circumstances can make us all vulnerable. And the pandemic is exposing the weak spots of our humanity.



The Word for Meditation: Matthew 5:1, 6:24-34 *(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:

No one can serve two superiors. You will either hate one and love the other, or be attentive to one and despise the other. You cannot give yourself to God and Money. That's why I tell you not to worry about your livelihood, what you are to eat or drink or use for clothing. Isn't life more than just food? Isn't the body more than just clothes?

Look at the birds in the sky. They don't sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet our God in heaven feeds them. Aren't you more important than they? Which of you by worrying can add a moment to your lifespan? And why be anxious about clothing? Learn a lesson from the way the wildflowers grow. They don't work; they don't spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in full splendor was arrayed like one of these. If God can clothe in such splendor the grasses of the field, which bloom today and are thrown on the fire tomorrow, won't God do so much more for you — you who have so little faith?

Stop worrying, then, over questions such as, "What are we to eat," or "what are we to drink," or "what are we to wear?" Those without faith are always running after these things. God knows everything you need. Seek first God's reign, and God's justice, and all these things will be given to you besides. Enough of worrying about tomorrow! Let tomorrow take care of itself. Today has troubles enough of its own.

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



Breath Prayer

(to assist you in the quiet stillness)

Inhale — Releasing worry ...

Exhale — I look to the birds
and wildflowers ...

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

I want to be born again, in exactly the selfsame life,
aware this time from the inside out, and to stand this time
as a beautiful un-worrying witness, living beyond
the need for this or that...

— *David Whyte from "Born Again"*

29 Nothing Can Trouble

♩ = 72

Am Dm7 G Em/C 1. F Dm6

p *mf*

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te. Quien a Dios tie - ne
 Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en. Those who seek God shall

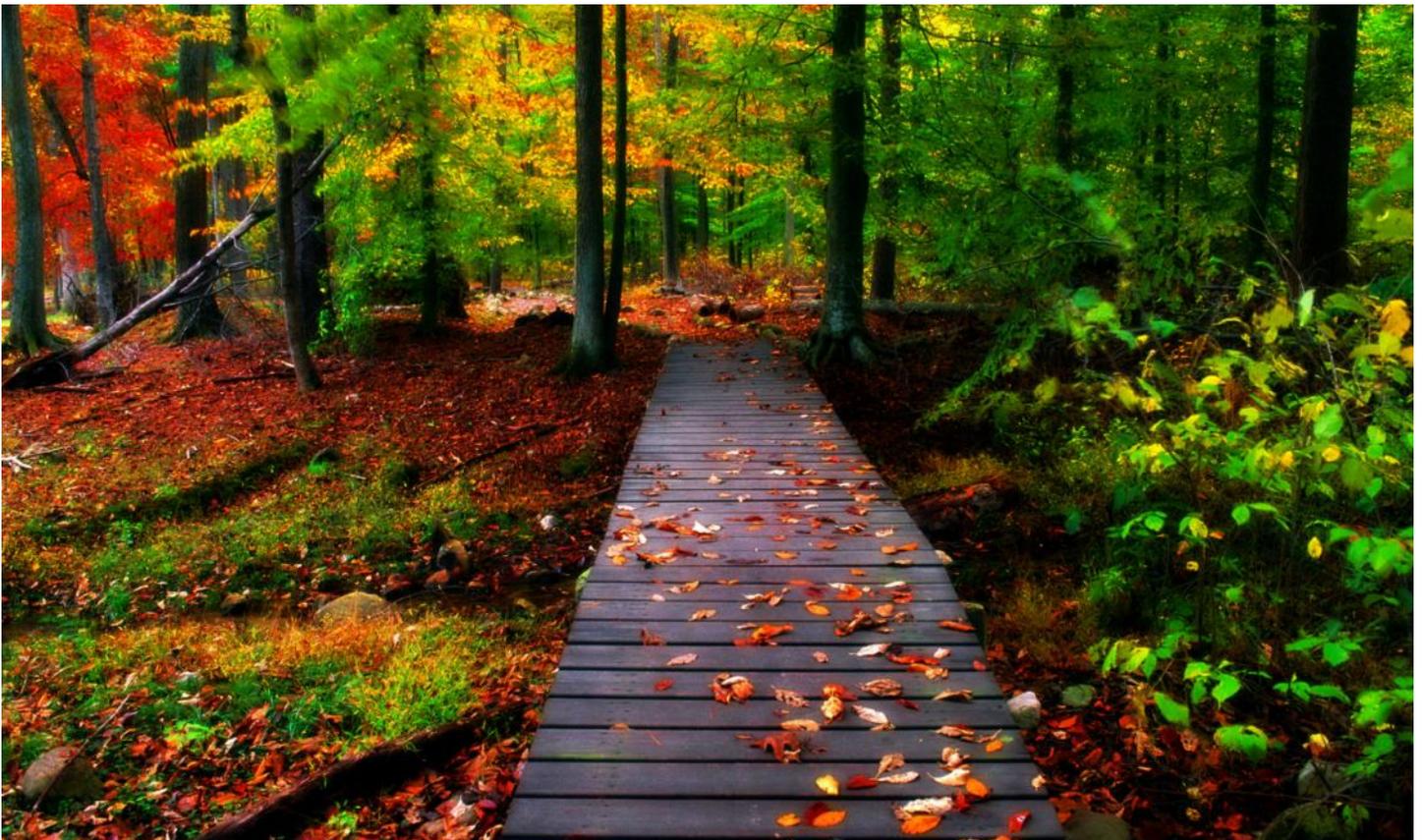
E Am 2. F Dm6 E Am

f *f*

na - da le fal - ta. So - lo Dios bas - ta.
 nev - er go want - ing. God a - lone fills us.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Nothing Can Trouble'. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a tempo of quarter note = 72. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The first system includes chords Am, Dm7, G, Em/C, F, and Dm6. The second system includes chords E, Am, F, Dm6, E, and Am. Dynamics include piano (p), mezzo-forte (mf), and forte (f). The lyrics are in Spanish and English.

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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: CLM18 Put Your Trust In God

The image shows a musical score for a song in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score is written for voice and piano. The lyrics are in French and English. The first line of music is for the voice, and the second line is for the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Fi - ez - vous en Lui, ne craig - nez pas. La paix de Dieu gar - de - Put your trust in God, and do not fear. God's peace will dwell deep with - ra vos cœurs. Fi - ez - vous en Lui. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! in your hearts. Put your trust in God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Fi - ez - vous en Lui, ne craig - nez pas. La paix de Dieu gar - de -
Put your trust in God, and do not fear. God's peace will dwell deep with -

ra vos cœurs. Fi - ez - vous en Lui. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
in your hearts. Put your trust in God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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Holy God, you promise to hear us when we pray, and showers with unexpected blessings. You relieve our sufferings and fill us with good things. When we face challenges that threaten to overcome us, you give us strength. With grateful hearts, we entrust our cares and concerns to you this night.

PUT YOUR TRUST IN GOD

We pray for the worries, cares and concerns that occupy our hearts and minds. Teach us to look to the birds and wildflowers and see how they trust you for their provisions. Help us to let tomorrow take care of itself.

PUT YOUR TRUST IN GOD

We pray for an end to violence, between countries, within nations, on our streets, and in our schools, workplaces and homes....

PUT YOUR TRUST IN GOD

We pray for those who give aid to refugees, immigrants and victims of natural disasters, and all who suffer from forces beyond their control...

PUT YOUR TRUST IN GOD

We pray for those who seek shelter in the streets of our nation, even in our own communities and on the doorsteps of our church building...

PUT YOUR TRUST IN GOD

We pray for all those who have lost their way and cannot see their next right step...

PUT YOUR TRUST IN GOD

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

Gather up our spoken prayers, O God, and those silent groanings in our hearts; make us ever more faithful to seek first your reign and justice... 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 treble and bass clef staff for each system. The lyrics are placed between the staves.

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.



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.

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.

* All Will Be Well

The musical score for 'All Will Be Well' is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains the lyrics 'All will be well, and all will be well, all'. The second staff is marked 'To repeat' and contains the lyrics 'man - ner of things will be well.'. The third staff is marked 'Last time' and contains the lyrics 'well, will be well, will be well.'. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence at the end of the third staff.

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

Tune: Steven C. Warner, b.1954

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CLM1 I Lift Up My Soul To You

The musical score for 'I Lift Up My Soul To You' is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Ad te Je - su Chri - ste le - va - vi a - ni - mam' and 'I lift up my soul to you, Christ Je - sus, my re -'. The second staff contains the lyrics 'me - am. Sal - va - tor mun - di, in te spe - ra - vi. Ad' and 'deem - er. All earth's sal - va - tion, my hope is in you. I'. The score includes first and second endings for the first two staves, and first and second endings for the last two staves. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence at the end of the fourth staff.

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G86 Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,

For if you lead me, I can - not stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee.

Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

Continued on next page ...

3

I am weak and I need thy strength and power
 Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness,
 I am lost if you take your hand from me,

to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
 Be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
 I am blind with - out thy Light to see,

Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see,
 I am put - ting all my trust in thee.
 Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.
 Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.
 Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

Closing Blessing *(in unison)*

Thank you for the wisdom of Jesus, the Christ, and the words of the Sermon on the Mount. May its radical truths stick with us and guide our lives, helping us to be the wise builders who build their lives on the rock and put them into practice.

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*



Labyrinth Prayer Walk
The Labyrinth is available on:
Wednesdays and Thursdays
10 am—7 pm
in McKelvy Room

**PLEASE NOTE TOMORROW,
OCT 23 IS THE LAST DAY
THE LABYRINTH WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR THE
FORESEEABLE FUTURE.**

The Rev. BJ Woodworth is Minister of Taizé Prayer here 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contemplative Prayer

Join us for our Monday morning *Contemplative Prayer* sessions. Together on Zoom we will spend 20–30 minutes, quieting our souls, breathing, listening to and for that still small voice within through guided scripture meditation, silence, and music—all in community with others in our faith family.

Mondays, 7:30–8 am

Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992 • Passcode: bestill

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

Meditation Hour

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join John Benedict in the Chapel each Tuesday from 6–7 pm for an hour devoted to meditation. The session will include an opening reading, silent sitting, and walking. John is a retired psychologist and a long time student and practitioner of insight meditation.

Tuesdays, 6–7 pm

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

Book Study Series – Begins Oct 29

Join Pastors BJ and Michael on Wednesdays from Oct 29 to Nov 19 from 5:30–7 pm for a four-week journey utilizing Marcus Borg's influential book, *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time. Together.*

We'll explore Jesus as: *Spirit Person* (a man deeply connected to the sacred); *Teacher of Wisdom* (offering timeless guidance for life today); *Social Prophet* (challenging systems of injustice); *Movement Founder* (inspiring a community of transformation).

Each session will blend teaching, scripture, conversation, and spiritual practices, creating space not just to learn about Jesus, but to experience his presence anew.

We'll share dinner together at 6:30 pm, and you're invited to stay for our contemplative Taizé prayer service at 7 pm. To register, visit: tiny.cc/meeting-jesus-again

Reparations Session – Oct 26

Following the 11 am service on Sunday, Oct 26, the Facing Systemic Racism Committee will facilitate a *Reparations Session* that builds from the powerful telling of Nell and Poll's story into meaningful next steps for ELPC. The event will combine reflection, shared learning, and community dialogue. This session will begin with refreshments in the Social Hall after worship.

Joint Adult Sunday School: Impactful Advocacy – Oct 26

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee will make a presentation on how to make your advocacy meaningful and impactful at a joint Adult Sunday School class on Oct 26 at 9:45 am in the Good Samaritan Room. Lucy Page and Fred Kraybill from ELPC will share their research and experiences. The state organizer from *Bread for the World* will discuss how they use advocacy. There will be a table of resources, and after the class there will be an advocacy activity supporting solar. Contact Nancy Heastings to get the zoom link (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Cathedral Concert: Fox Chapel High School – Oct 26

On Sunday, Oct 26 at 3 pm, the Fox Chapel High School Chorus & Orchestra will perform in the Sanctuary. Led by Ben Murray, choral director, and Mairi Cooper, orchestra director, the concert will feature *Illuminare* for string orchestra, piano, and choir by Elaine Hagenberg. The concert is free, and will also be livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook.

