

TAIZÉ: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation

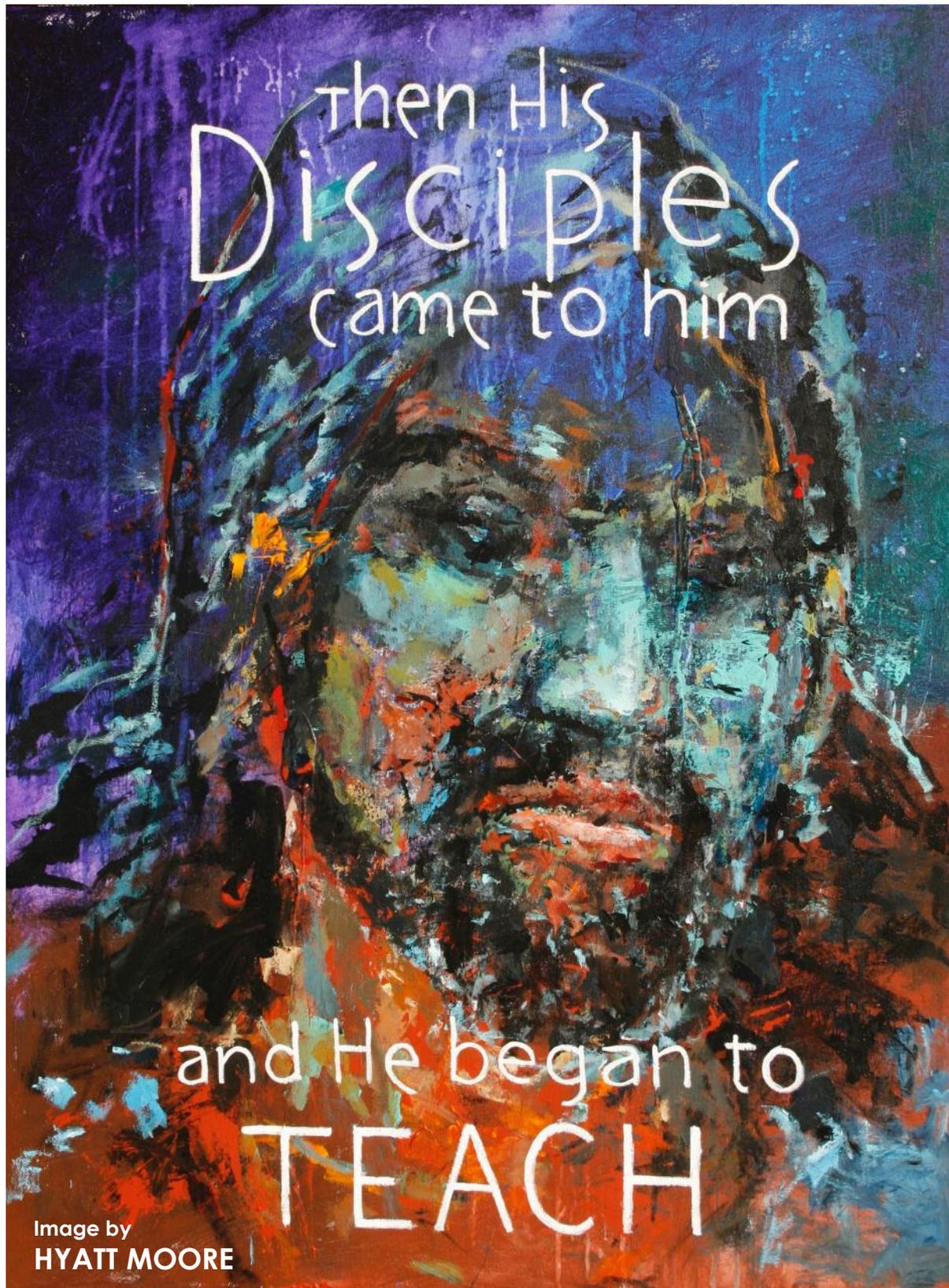


Image by
HYATT MOORE



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

October 29, 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

CLM23 Jesus, Redeemer

1

2



Je - su, re - dem - ptor om - ni - um, tu — lu - men et splen - dor
 Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world, light and splen - dor of God the



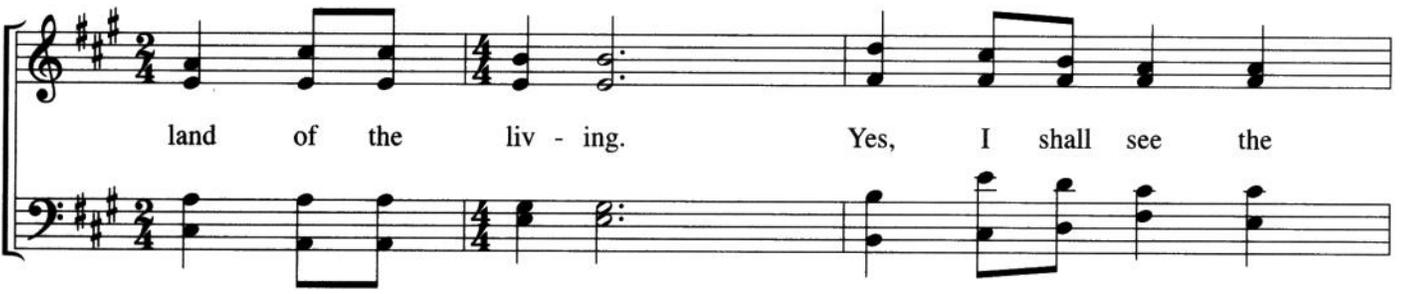
Pa - tris, ti - bi sit glo - ri - a, ti - bi Je - su sit glo - ri - a.
 Fa - ther, glo - ry and praise to you, all — glo - ry and praise to you.

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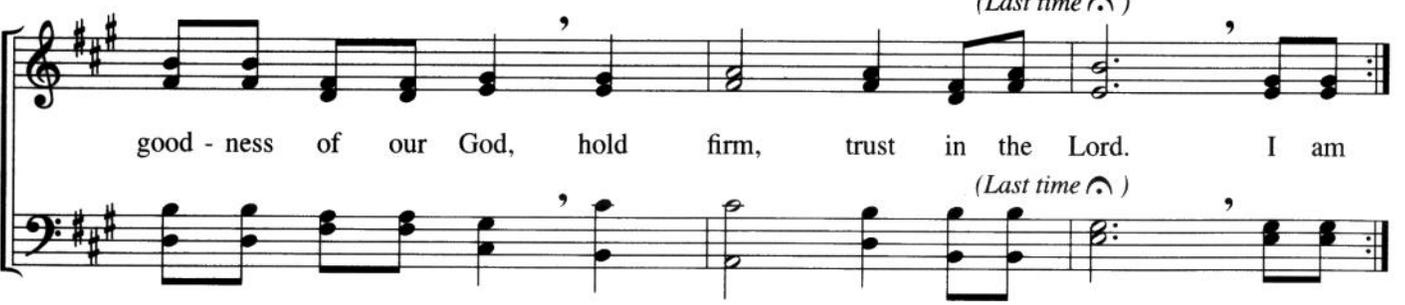
CLM20 I Am Sure I Shall See



I am sure I shall see the good - ness of the Lord in the



land of the liv - ing. Yes, I shall see the



good - ness of our God, hold firm, trust in the Lord. I am

(Last time ☺)

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Psalm 58 (selected verses; from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: CLM3 Alleluia 21

The musical score is written for Cantor (Soprano and Alto) and Tenor/Bass. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Cantor part begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The Tenor/Bass part begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, — al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! le - lu - ia!". The score includes a repeat sign with first and second endings. The first ending leads to a double bar line, and the second ending leads to a double bar line. The score concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The dynamic marking "D.S." (Da Capo) is placed above the final measure of the first ending and below the final measure of the second ending.

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Do the leaders of the nations
Know what is right?
Or are their hearts set on power and fame?
Do they look within for guidance,
To the Heart of all hearts?
In whom can the people put their trust?
ALLELUIA

The ignorant go astray,
Following idol gods of illusion;
They err in their blindness,
Fooling only themselves.
They are filled with conceit
And empty promises.
ALLELUIA

As the hunter with sweet bait
Lures the deer with intent to kill,
The weak become food for the arrogant.
ALLELUIA

O Beloved, open our eyes;
Break through the darkness
Of our ignorance,
Tear down the walls of our fear!
Let us trust in the Divine Moment,
Living as children with trust and joy.
ALLELUIA

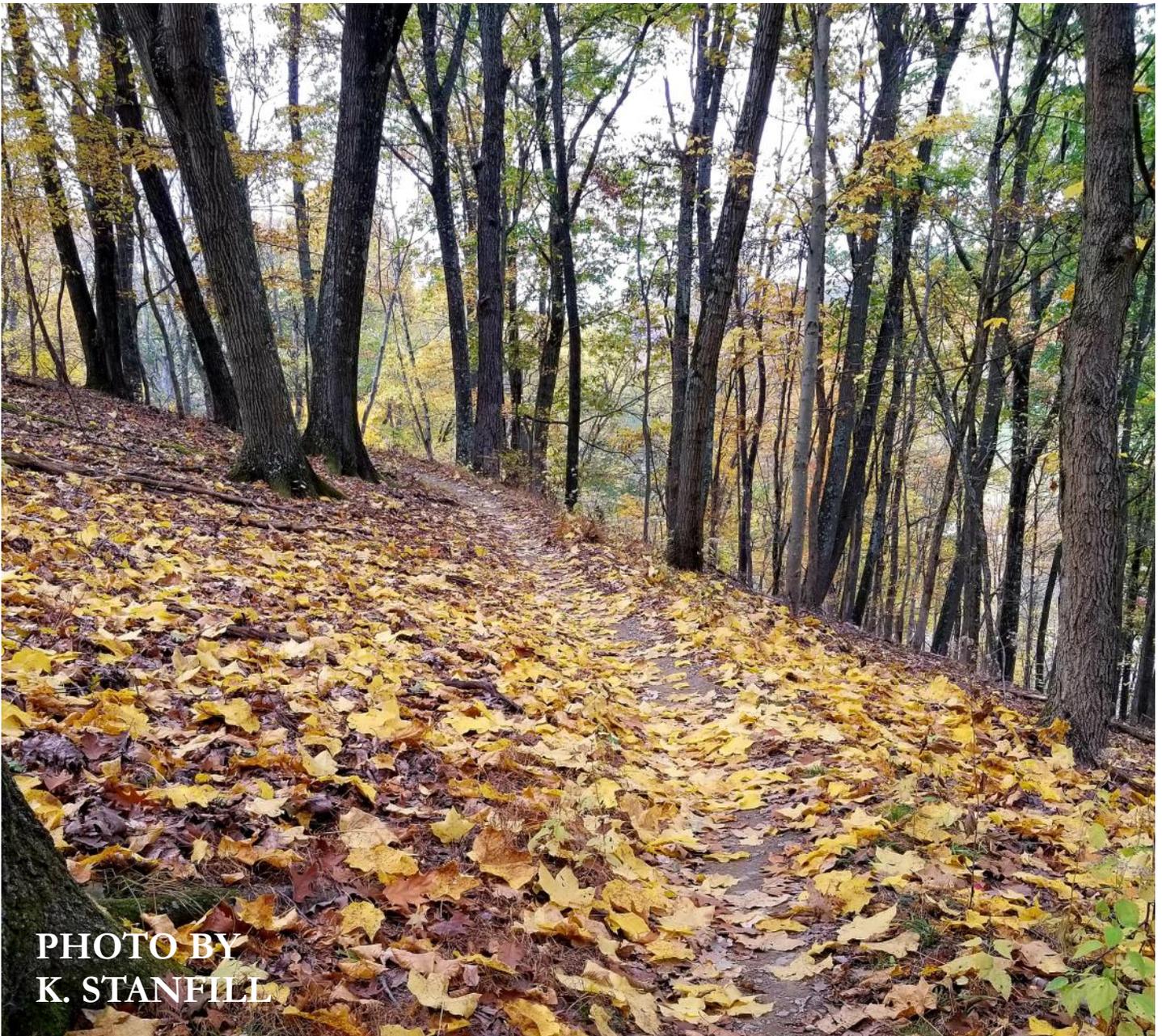
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Let us awaken to our birthright,
Free to choose the creative path,
Walking in harmony
To the planetary song.
Awaken us to the interconnectedness
Of all beings, to all that fly and swim
To all that walk and crawl upon the earth!

ALLELUIA

Those who know Love
Will rejoice as the nations
Learn to cooperate,
As the peoples of earth
Recover their true heritage.
People will say, "The time has come
To dwell in peace and integrity;
To walk together in the Light
Of the Most High, Heart of the Universe!"

ALLELUIA



**PHOTO BY
K. STANFILL**

The Word for Meditation: Matthew 5:1, 7:1-6 *(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:

Don't judge, or you yourself will be judged. Your judgment on others will be the judgment you receive. The measure you use will be used to measure you.

Why do you look at the splinter in your neighbor's eye and never see the board in your own eye? How can you say to your neighbor, "Let me remove the splinter in your eye," when the whole time there's a two-by-four in your own? Hypocrite! Remove the board from your own eye first; then you'll be able to see clearly to remove the splinter from your neighbor's eye.

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



Breath Prayer

(to assist you in the quiet stillness)

Inhale — Releasing
judgement ...

Exhale — I rest in
Kindness ...

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

A brother...committed a fault. A council was called to which Abba Moses was invited, but he refused to go to it. Then the priest sent someone to say to him, 'Come, for everyone is waiting for you.' So he got up and went.

He took a leaking jug, filled it with water and carried it with him. The others came out to meet him and said to him, 'What is this, Abba?'

The old man said to them, 'My sins run out behind me, and I do not see them, and today I am coming to judge the errors of another.'

When they heard that they said no more to the brother but forgave him.

— *Abba Moses the Black*

CLM16 Whoever Walks In God's Love

1.
 El al - ma que an - da en a - mor, ni can - sa ni se can - sa. El
 Who - ev - er walks in God's love tires no one nor grows wea - ry. Who -

2. (Last time)
 can - sa. O O El
 wea - ry. O O Who -

(Last time)

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features two systems of music. The first system includes a treble and bass clef staff with lyrics in Spanish and English. The second system includes a treble and bass clef staff with lyrics in English and a 'Last time' marking. The music is in the key of D major and 4/4 time.

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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: 6 Kyrie 13

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 96. The lyrics are: "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, e - le - i - son. (hum)". The music features a melodic line in the treble clef and a supporting bass line in the bass clef. The piece concludes with a double bar line and the instruction "D.C." (Da Capo).

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Author of all mercy, we give you thanks for your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all you have made. Help us to release our judgement of others, to attend to the things in our own lives that blind us from our own faults and seeing our neighbor with your loving kindness.

KYRIE

We pray for those who wield earthly power, for those who lead and those who follow, that they may be moved by the image of your people, children of God, diverse and sometimes in disagreement but living together in harmony, a vision of the common good to which all nations might aspire.

KYRIE

We pray for all who are in need: for those who are in prison... those awaiting trial... those facing surgery... all who lack medical help... those who have no work... those who work for too little pay... the unhoused... and the ill. May they all be awake and aware of your companioning presence.

KYRIE

As we approach All Saints Day, we give you thanks for those who have gone before us, whose lives have shown us your truth, and whose witness brought us and kept us in the community of faith. We trust in your never-failing love, O Lord, joining us with your holy ones gathered in your Presence.

KYRIE

We pray for those persecuted for the sake of justice and righteousness and those weighed down by trials and distress, that the example of the saints may give them courage and the help of all your children give them hope during their struggle.

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

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting that for these, and for us, your care is constant, and your heart is always open... God, in your mercy... **Hear our prayer!**



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 below the notes.

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.

CLM14 Christ, You Are Light

Chri - ste, lux mun - di, qui se - qui - tur— te ha -
Christ, you are light— for— those who fol - low you. You

be - bit lu - men vi - tae, lu - men vi - tae.
come to bring to all the light— of life.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second system also ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

28 Come And Fill

$\text{♩} = 66$

D Bm D A

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
 Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Em C Em A D

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - ia!
 Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - ia!

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* I'm So Glad

1. I'm so glad Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad

Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad Je - sus lift - ed me,
 I'm glad that

sing - in' Glo - ry, Hal - le - lu - jah, Je - sus lift - ed me!

2. Satan had me bound; Jesus lifted me...
3. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me...

Text: African American traditional
 Tune: African American traditional; arr. by Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, b.1953, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

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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.....	<i>flute</i>	Alyssa Creasy.....	<i>pianist</i>
James Avant.....	<i>vocalist</i>	Jennifer Gorske	<i>music director/ vocalist</i>
David Bennett.....	<i>cello</i>	Chris Markwell.....	<i>vocalist</i>
		Gerard Rohlf.....	<i>guitar</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

