

TAIZÉ:

Prayerful Song & Quiet Meditation



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

March 11, 2026 • 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

42 Come And Pray In Us

Canon

$\text{♩} = 89$

A Cm G Cm Fm G B
 Come and pray in us, Ho - ly Spir - it, come and pray in us,
 Vie - ni, Spi - ri - to cre - a - to - re, vie - ni, vie - ni,
C D
 come and vis - it us, Ho - ly Spir - it, Spir - it, come, Spir - it come.
 vie - ni, Spi - ri - to cre - a - to - re, vie - ni, vie - ni!

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NB33 Grant Us Your Peace, O Lord

A B* C D*
 Da pa - cem, Do - mi - ne, da pa - cem,
 Grant us your peace, O Lord, grant us your
 O Chri - ste, in di - e - bus no - stris.
 peace, O Lord, may it fill all our days.
 Coda
 A - men. A - men. A - men.

*The B and D entrances in the canon are sung a fourth lower.

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Psalm 8 (selected verses from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: CLM15 Lord And Giver Of Life

Do - mi - nus Spi - ri - tus est. Spi - ri - tus au - tem vi -
Lord and giv - er of life, Spir - it of light and of

vi - fi - cat. Spi - ri - tus au - tem vi - vi - fi - cat. _____
ho - li - ness, Spir - it of light and of ho - li - ness. _____

The musical score is written in 2/4 time. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. There are repeat signs at the end of each system.

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O Lord, our Sovereign,
How majestic is your name in all the earth!

LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE

You have set your glory above the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes and infants
You have founded a bulwark
Because of your foes,
To silence the enemy and the avenger.

LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE

When I look at your heavens,
The work of your fingers,
The moon and the stars
That you have established;
What are humans
That you are mindful of them,
Mortals that you care for them?

LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE

Yet you have made them
A little lower than God
And crowned them with glory and honor.
You have given them dominion
Over the works of your hands;
You have put all things under their feet.

LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE

All sheep and oxen,
And also the beasts of the field,
The birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
Whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE

O Lord, our Sovereign,
How majestic is your name in all the earth!

LORD AND GIVER OF LIFE

The Word for Meditation: Matthew 19:13-15 *(Inclusive Bible)*

Then small children were brought to Jesus so he could lay hands on them and pray for them.

The disciples began to scold the parents, but Jesus said, “Let the children alone—let them come to me. The kin-dom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

And after laying his hands on them, Jesus left that town.

Silence for Lectio and Visio Divina

(lasting about 5-7 minutes)

Breathe deeply as you hear the scripture and gaze upon the piece, Let the Little Children Come. Imagine placing yourself in this scene of the scripture reading. What parts of the image draw your attention the most? Contemplate the gold shapes in the image. What do they represent to you? Get quiet and still, letting God pray in you or offering your own silent prayer.

**Words from the artist
Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell**



* Let The Children Come To Me

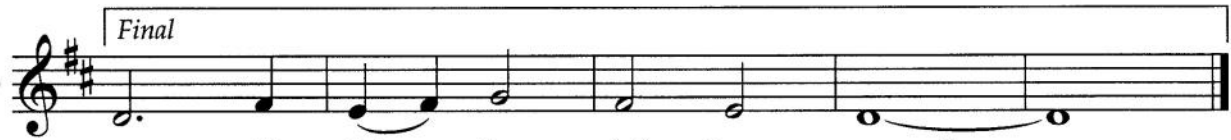
REFRAIN



"Let the chil-dren come to me; let the chil-dren come. Nev-er



hin-der them; nev-er stop them. O let the chil-dren come."



come. O let the chil - dren come." _____

James V. Marchionda
Text and music © 1982, WLP

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Intercessory Prayers

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: * Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing, _____

Lord, send your Spir-it in this place; _____

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing, _____ send us

love, send us power, send us grace. _____

WORDS: Ken Medema

MUSIC: Ken Medema

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CHILDREN PRAYING

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Jesus of Nazareth, you loved without abandon. You loved your disciples, with their questions and their bumbling mistakes. You loved the children, with their runny noses and their easy joy. You loved the widows and the immigrants, with their heartbreak and their dreams for a better tomorrow. You loved the tax collectors and the outcasts, with their hands open to their neighbors. You loved like it was easy.

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

So tonight, we lift up the vulnerable in our community—the ones you loved so quickly. We pray for the immigrants in our land—for those running from fear, longing to give their children a better life. We pray for parents, who stretch themselves thin to be all things for the little ones they love.

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

Tonight, we pray for those living below the poverty line, for those who are unsure where their next meal will come from. We pray for those who live in fear due to the color of their skin, the way that they dress, or the person that they love. We pray for those who are bent over by the weight of depression, anxiety, or addiction.

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

We could go on and on, God, but we know that you see each of us. So, draw near to your children. Wrap your arms around the vulnerable, the weary, the grief filled. Come and comfort your people. Wrap your arms around us.

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

And as you wrap your arms around us, we ask that we might be transformed; we ask that we might bend toward love and move toward compassion and soften our hearts toward your children.

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

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

Until your promised day, when all are cared for and seen, this will be our prayer. Let's join our voices together and sing a song that captures the words your Son taught us to pray...



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 for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in the key of D major and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef for each part. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines, with three verses of text. The score concludes with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

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.



Photo by
KELLY STANFILL

*** Hold On**

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of several systems of staves:

- System 1 (Measures 1-4):** A single vocal line with lyrics: "Hold on hold on".
- System 2 (Measures 5-8):** A single vocal line with lyrics: "my dear ones here comes the dawn".
- System 3 (Measures 9-12):** A four-part instrumental arrangement with labels: "melody", "drone line", "low harmony", and "low melody". The lyrics "hold on hold on" are written below the melody and drone line staves.
- System 4 (Measures 13-16):** A four-part vocal arrangement with lyrics: "my dear ones here comes the dawn".

It is January 2026, and the people of Minneapolis are inspiring us with what it looks like to really take care of one another in the face of escalating ICE raids and authoritarian violence. They are walking kids to school, delivering food to neighbors, standing on street corners in rapid response. And they are singing. I am humbled and moved that this song is useful to folks right now. People have been asking 'can I sing it in my church, synagogue, school, street choir? The answer is yes, of course, this song has work to do. Sing on, and add more harmonies!

If you would like to hear part recordings or learn more about the song's origins check out www.patreon.com/HeidiWilson

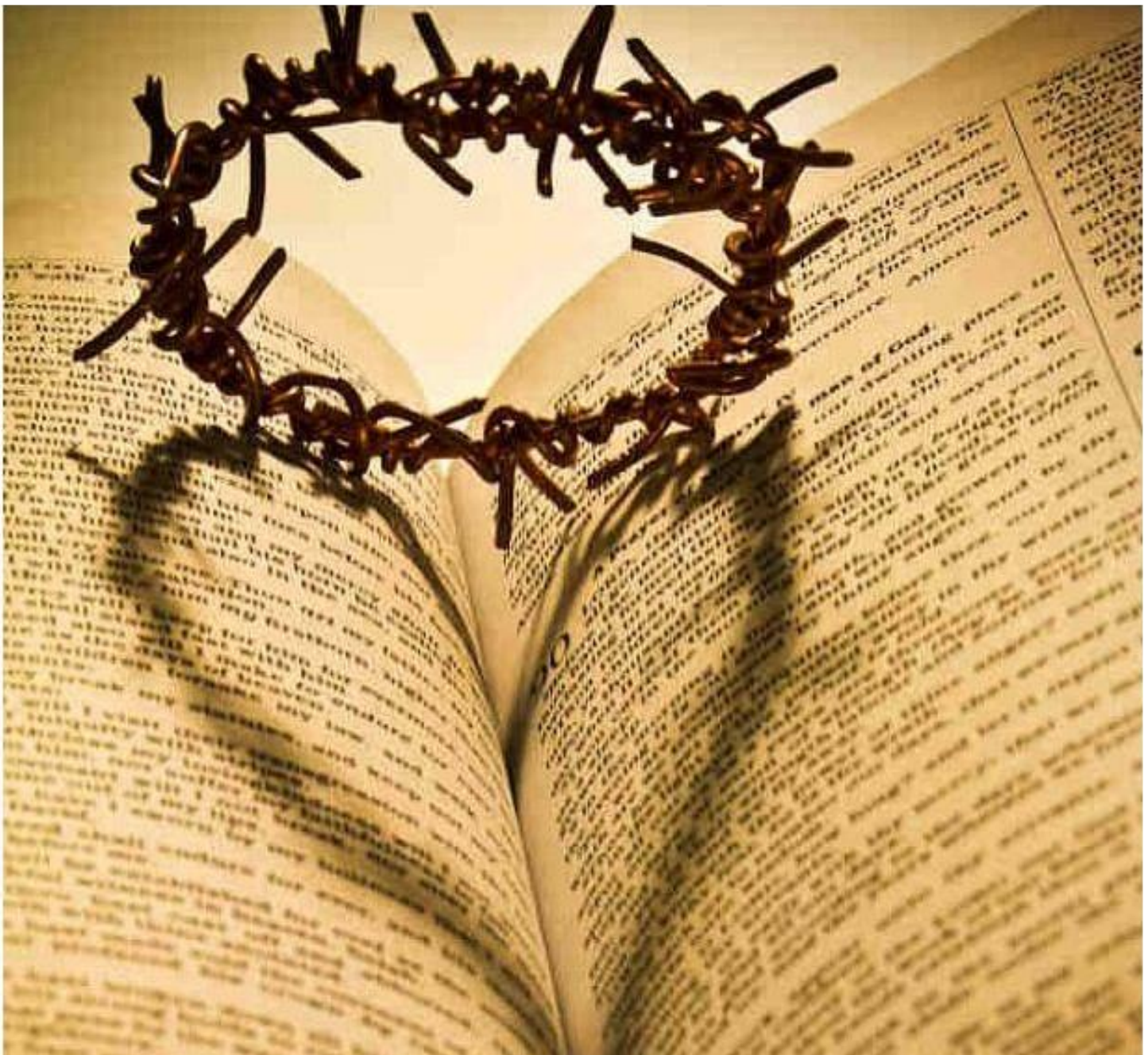
30 Lord Of All Goodness

♩ = 50 Cm Fm B♭ E♭ , Cm Fm B♭ E♭

Do - mi - ne De - us Fi - li - us Pa - tris, do - na no - bis pa - cem.
Lord of all good - ness, Son of the Fa - ther, may your peace sur - round us.
(hum)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord Of All Goodness'. It features a treble and bass clef staff with a 2/4 time signature and a tempo marking of quarter note = 50. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The score includes a 'hum' instruction for the first measure of the bass line.

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* Mayenziwe/Your Will Be Done

SOUTH AFRICA

Not too quickly

Ma - ye - (Ma - ye) nzi - we 'nta - ndo y - kho. Ma -
Your will (Your will) be done on earth, O Lord. Your

ye - (Ma - ye) nzi - we 'nta - ndo ya - kho. Ma - ye - nzi -
will (Your will) be done on earth, O Lord. Your will be

we 'nta - ndo ya - kho. Ma - ye - nzi - we 'nta -
done on earth, O Lord. Your will be done on

ndo ya - kho. Ma - ye - nzi - we 'nta - ndo ya - kho.
earth, O Lord. Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

Closing Unison Blessing

May we go from this place tonight like children —
Joyful, unruly, and sincere,
 knowing we are artists, made to create;
 unaware of risks, dependent and curious,
 knowing we are always welcome to crawl up in our Mother's lap.

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>

Artist Statement

Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

At the center of this work is a drawing made by my five-year-old niece, Angelina. I watched her joyfully scribble it in under three minutes, churning out drawing after drawing and handing each one to me with an eager smile...

I imagine the scene in Matthew 19: toddlers wailing, little ones slipping from their parents' arms, parents offering apologetic glances toward the frowning disciples as the scene around Jesus grows increasingly disorderly and loud... Jesus reorients his disciples (and us) away from the illusion of control and reminds us that it is the joyful, unruly, sincere presence of a child to whom the kingdom truly belongs... unless they become like little children, they will not even enter the kingdom. Surely... Jesus couldn't mean that literally—right?

While I've been busy making art, Angelina has been busy being an artist. I surely could learn a thing or two from her about inheriting the kingdom.

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

Step Into the Story of Nell and Poll Exhibit – Until Easter

ELPC's Facing Systemic Racism, Spiritual Life, and Worship, Music, and the Arts Committees invite you to a storywalk on the lives of Nell and Poll, members of a family enslaved and sold by two of our early founders. This unique self-guided experience in the Trustees Room will include six stations that trace significant milestones and moments in the lives of Nell and Poll.

Visitors moving through the storywalk will encounter



powerful images paired with prayers, guided meditations, poetry, and reflections designed to deepen their understanding and spark contemplation. This is more than an exhibit—it's an opportunity to pause, pray, and engage with narratives that challenge and inspire.

The storywalk is available through Easter:

Tuesdays through Fridays from 9 am-8 pm

Saturdays and Sundays from 9 am-3 pm

NOTE: This exhibit is appropriate for older children, but please use your discretion for younger children.



ELPC Communications Survey

ELPC's new Communications Team is asking for your feedback as we assess our current ELPC communication tools, identify any gaps, and make recommendations about how best to connect with people in the life of the church.

Please complete a brief survey online by scanning this QR code, or by visiting: tiny.cc/elpc-communications.



Tell Me Something Good

Wednesdays through April 1

Join Pastor Michael on Wednesday evenings through April 1 in the Good Samaritan Room as we slow down and listen for a different kind of news.

Each week from 5:30-7 pm, we'll gather for honest, hope-filled conversations rooted in Sunday's sermon and our series *Tell Me Something Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News This Lent*.

Together we'll explore Jesus' life through the scriptures and ask deeper questions about the text, the sermon, and what it means for us today. Our goal is not to give each other easy answers but to speak from our own perspective and experiences. A light dinner will be served at 6:30 pm.

Please register online at:

tiny.cc/tell-me-something-good



Brother Roger

founder of Taizé

ON PRAYER

From the depths of the human condition, a secret aspiration rises up. Caught up in the anonymous rhythms of schedules and timetables, men and women of today are implicitly thirsting for the one essential reality: an inner life, signs of the invisible.

Nothing is more conducive to a communion with the living God than a meditative common prayer with, as its high point, singing that never ends and that continues in the silence of one's heart when one is alone again.

In a technological society, there is a clear separation between prayer and work. When inner life and human solidarity appear to be in competition with one another, as if people had to choose between them, that opposition tears apart the very depths of the soul.

Prayer is a serene force at work within human beings, stirring them up, transforming them, never allowing them to close their eyes in the face of evil, of wars, of all that threatens the weak of this world. From it we draw the energy to wage other struggles—to enable our loved ones to survive, to transform the human condition, to make the earth a place fit to live in.

ON SINGING

Singing is one of the most important forms of prayer. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of the prayer. They express a basic reality of faith that can quickly be grasped by the intellect, and that gradually penetrates the heart and the whole being. These simple chants also provide a way of praying when one is alone, during the day or at night, or even in the silence of one's heart while one is working.

ON SILENCE

When we try to express communion with God in words, we rapidly reach the end of our capacities. But in the depths of our being Christ is praying, far more than we imagine. Compared to the immensity of that hidden prayer of Christ in us, our explicit praying dwindles to almost nothing. That is why silence is so essential in discovering the heart of prayer.





Please visit our website for more information about the ministries of East Liberty Presbyterian Church.

WWW.ELPC.CHURCH

INFORMATION ABOUT TAIZÉ

ABOUT TAIZÉ: Taizé is an international ecumenical prayer community in Taizé, France which was founded in 1940 by a young seminary student, Roger Schultz, as a place of hospitality and reconciliation during World War II. Today, thousands of young people come each week to Taizé to pray with the brothers and discern God's purpose for their lives. Taizé Prayer Pilgrimages and Intercontinental Meetings around the globe bring together thousands more in an effort to become the prayerful, reconciled presence of Christ wherever they live.

Taizé prayers at East Liberty Presbyterian Church were begun in the Spring of 1992 in preparation for an intercontinental meeting in Dayton. The experience proved to be so meaningful that we have continued to pray every Wednesday evening since then, inviting people of all backgrounds to join with us.

Taizé is located in eastern France, southeast of Paris, north of Lyons, due west of Geneva, Switzerland, between the towns of Chalon-sur-Saône and Macon. Here are the ways to get Taizé information:

Address:	Taizé Community, 71250 TAIZE, France
To contact Taizé:	community@taize.fr
To visit Taizé:	meetings@taize.fr
List of useful info:	info@taize.fr
Web site:	www.taize.fr
Telephone:	011-33 385 50 30 02 Fax: 011-33 385 50 30 16

YOU ARE WELCOME AT EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Our congregation seeks to promote peace, justice and human dignity; to reflect a spirit of openness, sharing and learning in our ministry and mission; to build a richly diverse faith community that witnesses to our oneness in Christ across all boundaries of race, social class, ability, culture, age, gender and sexual identity. *(From our Strategic Plan.)*

ELPC Web site:	www.CathedralofHope.org
E-mail:	BJW@coh.net

You are welcome at any of our programs and worship services. It is possible to have more than one church home. Perhaps you would be interested in becoming a member or friend of this Church. If so, please speak to The Rev. BJ Woodworth, Minister of Taizé Prayer (BJW@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x241).