

# TAIZÉ:

Prayerful Song & Quiet Meditation



**East Liberty  
Presbyterian Church**

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

**April 8, 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. BJ Woodworth**

## NB23 The Lord Is Risen

O ————— Sur - re - xit Chri - stus, al - le - lu - ia!  
The Lord is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia!

O ————— Can - ta - te Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - ia!  
Sing out and praise the Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

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## NB2 Be Not Afraid

Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia!  
Ne - boj - te se, ra - duj - te se! Kris - tus slav - ný ví - téz z hro - bu vstal.

Be not a - fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris - en, al - le - lu - ia!  
Ne - boj - te se, ra - duj - te se! Kris - tus slav - ný ví - téz z hro - bu vstal.

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**Psalm 16** (selected verses from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

**Sung Response: \* Celtic Alleluia**

*Celtic Mass*  
Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

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Remain ever before me, O Living Presence,  
For in you am I safe.  
You are my Beloved,  
In you and through you I can do all things.

**ALLELUIA**

I look to those who are at one with you,  
And learn from them of your ways;  
My delight increases each time  
I sense your presence within me!  
Songs of praise well up from my heart!

**ALLELUIA**

Love is my chosen food, my cup,  
Holding me in its power.  
Where I have come from,  
Where'er I shall go,  
Love is my birthright, my true estate.

**ALLELUIA**

I bless the Counselor who guides my way;  
In the night also does my heart instruct me.  
I walk beside the Spirit of Truth;  
I celebrate the Light.  
I bask in The Oneness of All!

**ALLELUIA**

Thus my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
I shall not be afraid,  
Nor fall into the pit of despair;  
For in Love's presence I know fullness of joy.  
You are my Beloved and,  
In you will I live forever!

**ALLELUIA**



## The Word for Meditation: John 20:19, 24-29 *(Inclusive Bible)*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were locked in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Temple authorities. Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

It happened that one of the Twelve, Thomas—nicknamed Didymus, or “Twin”—was absent when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him, “We’ve seen Jesus!” Thomas’ answer was, “I’ll never believe it without putting my finger in the nail marks and my hand into the spear wound.”

On the eighth day, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them, saying, “Peace be with you.” Then, to Thomas, Jesus said, “Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Don’t persist in your unbelief, but believe!” Thomas said in response, “My Savior and my God!” Jesus then said, “You’ve become a believer because you saw me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”



## Quiet Meditation and Reflection

*(lasting approximately 5-7 minutes)*

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### Breath Prayer

*Inhale* — I believe ...

*Exhale* — help my unbelief ...


**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.

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## Words from Saints and Ancestors

From the place where we are right  
Flowers will never grow  
In the spring.  
The place where we are right  
Is hard and trampled  
Like a yard.  
But doubts and loves  
Dig up the world  
Like a mole, a plow.  
And a whisper will be heard in the place  
Where the ruined  
House once stood.

— *Yehuda Amichai (1924-200), Israeli poet and author*

## CLM19 Peace I Leave You

Frie - den, Frie - den hin - ter - las - se ich euch. —  
Peace I leave you, my — peace I — give. —

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody, and the bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The accompaniment consists of chords and single notes. There are dashed boxes around some notes in both staves, and a solid box around a group of notes in the bass staff.

Mei - nen Frie - den ge - be ich euch. Eu - er Herz ver - za - ge nicht.  
Let your hearts be free from — fear. My — peace I give to you.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It features the same 4/4 time signature and clefs. The melody and accompaniment continue with similar rhythmic patterns. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. There are dashed boxes around some notes in both staves, and a solid box around a group of notes in the bass staff.

## Intercessory Prayers *(adapted from Carol Penner's "Congregational Prayer for Doubters")*

*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: 5 Kyrie 10

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son; Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. (hum)

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You call us to be people of faith, yet we are often people with doubts. We doubt that love can grow again in relationships where anger and bitterness reign supreme. You know the strength of love and the power of prayer: help us to be faithful lovers.

#### **KRYIE**

We doubt that peace can come in countries torn by war and centuries of violence; where violence, war, hatred, and fear of the “other” reign supreme. You know that peace is growing there: help us to be faithful peacemakers.

#### **KRYIE**

We doubt that the hungry can be fed in the U.S and around the world, where despair and hopelessness reign supreme. You know that there is enough food in the world; help us to be generous and faithful.

#### **KRYIE**

We doubt that gun violence will ever end or even lessen; and that our government officials will pass just gun control laws to protect our children. You know that guns are meant to be turned into gardening tools. Help us to speak up, lobby, resist and envision a nonviolent way of living.

#### **KRYIE**

God, we want to believe, help our unbelief! We know you specialize in impossibilities, surprises, and resurrection. Give us faith, small as a mustard seed, so that we can be your faithful people, believing in your power to save and to reign supreme, so that we can share the hope of good news with everyone we meet.

#### **KRYIE**

## 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 confidentialities.*

*Whether or not you say the person's name out loud, God hears and receives the intentions of your heart.*



### 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 voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with line numbers 1, 2, and 3 indicating different verses. The score ends 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.*

## 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

(♩ Last time)

# 50 O Lord, Your Cross

♩ = 63

B Em B Em Bm Am D G E Am D

Cru - cem tu - am a - do - ra - mus Do - mi - ne, re - sur - re - cti - o - nem  
 O Lord, your cross, we a - dore and glo - ri - fy, for your ho - ly re - sur -

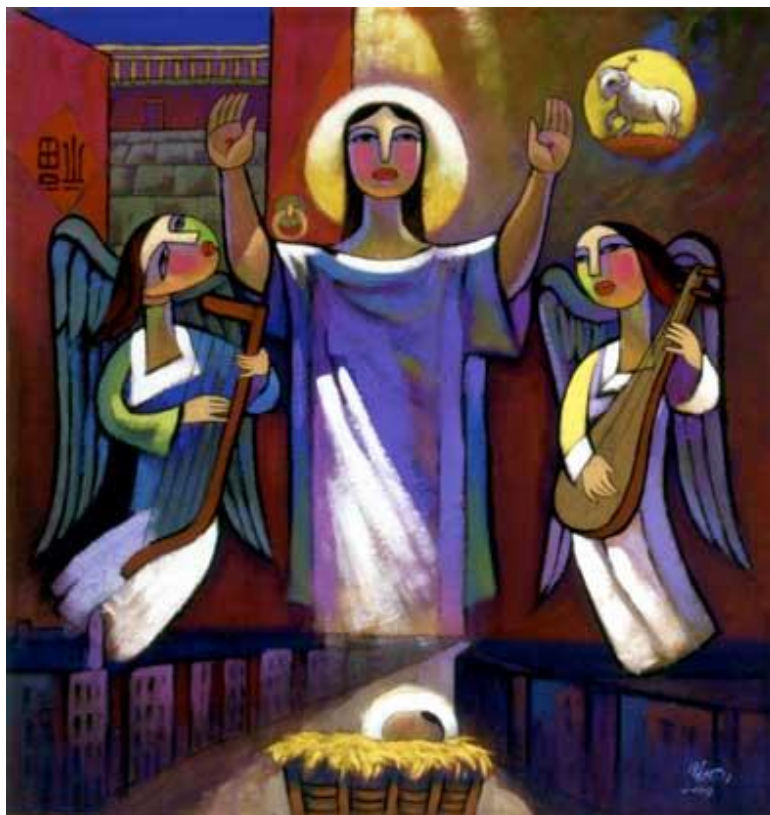
G Am<sup>7</sup> B Em E Am E Am E

tu - am lau - da - mus Do - mi - ne. Lau - da - mus et glo - ri - fi - ca - mus.  
 rec - tion, we praise you Lord of life. We praise you and we glo - ri - fy you.

Am D G Am<sup>7</sup> B Em (fine) B Em B

Re - sur - re - cti - o - nem tu - am lau - da - mus Do - mi - ne. Cru - cem tu -  
 For your ho - ly re - sur - rec - tion, we praise you Lord of life. O Lord, your

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## 35 Sing, Praise, And Bless The Lord

♩ = 116

Lau - da - te Do - mi - num, lau - da - te Do - mi - num om - nes  
Sing, praise and bless the Lord. Sing, praise and bless the Lord, peo - ples!

gen - tes, al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!  
na - tions! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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## Easter Blessing (in unison)

May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to you and those you hold most dear.

And may Christ, our Risen Savior, always be there by your side to bless you most abundantly and be your loving guide.

Leader: Thanks be to God. Amen.

People: Amen.

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

### TONIGHT! 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

## 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

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S HEARTBEAT

*Retreat:* **April 24-26**  
at the Villa Maria Retreat Center

*Classes:* **Wednesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, 20**  
from 5:30- 7 pm at ELPC

*Register*  
*online:* <http://tiny.cc/gods-heartbeat>  
(by April 12)

Our gatherings will be based on Phillip Newell's *Listening for the Heartbeat of God: Celtic Daily Prayer*, inviting participants into the rich stream of Celtic spirituality through ways of listening for God. We will explore different movements of listening — for goodness, within creation, for God in all things, with imagination, and in action. We will pair a reflection on a chapter with a contemplative practice such as reimagining the Jesus Prayer, walking attentively in creation, gathering the graces, engaging the imagination, and embracing a “chaos of uncalculating love.”

Framed by liturgy from the *Celtic Book of Daily Prayer*, our time together will continually return to the themes of our belovedness, discovering God in creation, the sacred role of mystery and imagination, and the wide, inclusive nature of God's love.

Our facilitator, Rev. Jeff Eddings, currently serves as the Spiritual Formation and Coaching Associate for the 1001 New Worshiping Communities Initiative in the PC(USA). He oversees a network of 100 coaches and pastored Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community in Pittsburgh from 2004 to 2019. The Ignatian motto of ‘finding God in all things’ is one he seeks to live by.

## 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](mailto:BJW@coh.net)

## Donations for Chapel Market



The Chapel Market needs:

- **summer clothes**
- **diapers (sizes 5-7)**
- **full-sized toiletries items** (soap, body wash, toothpaste, etc.)

Donations can be left at the Highland Lobby, or dropped off at the Chapel Market (on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 5–7 pm, or Thursdays from 10 am–Noon).