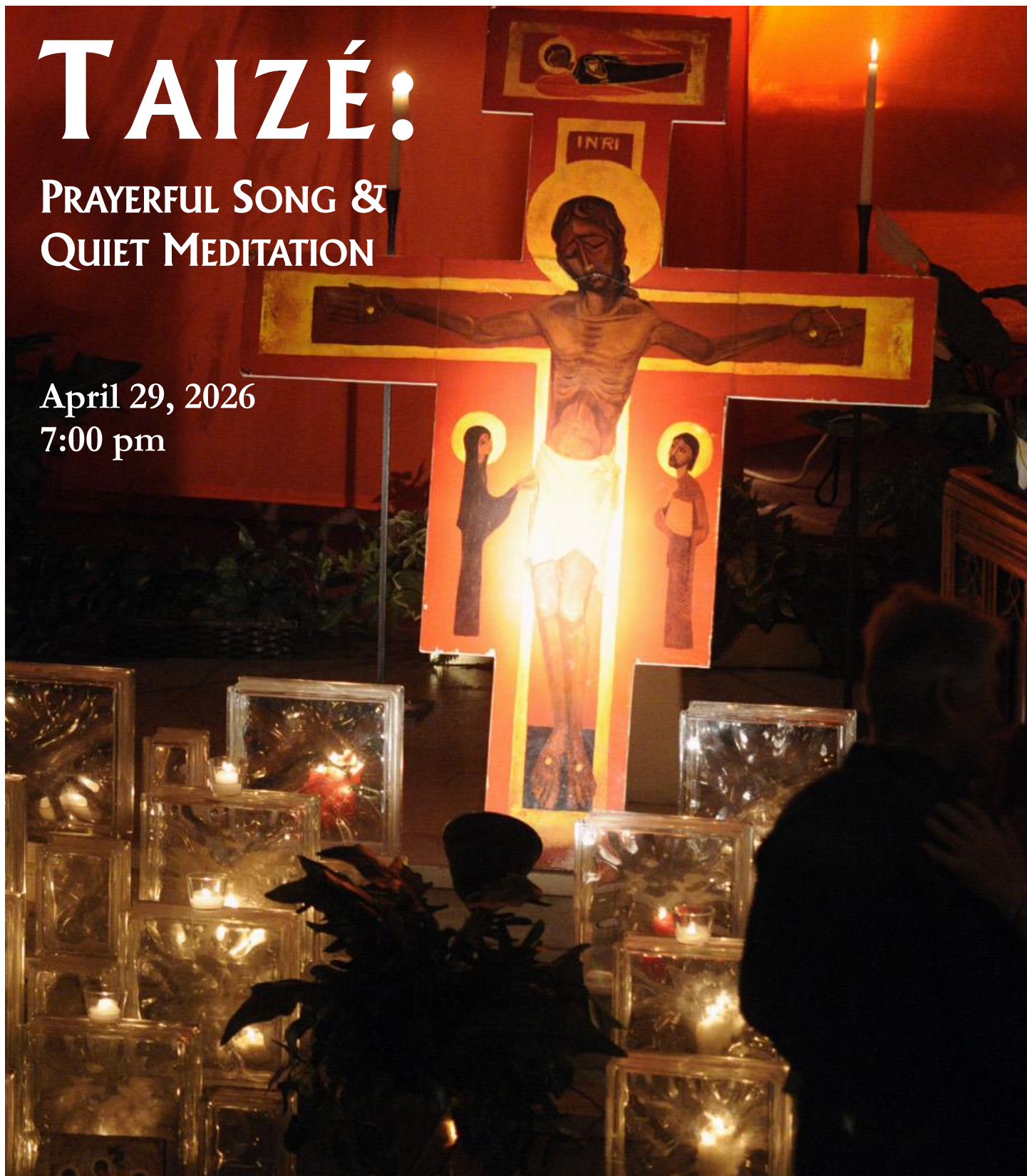


TAIZÉ:

PRAYERFUL SONG &
QUIET MEDITATION

April 29, 2026
7:00 pm



**East Liberty
Presbyterian Church**

www.ELPC.church

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

CLM 37 O Come and Let Us Sing to God

Ve - ni - te, ex - ul - te - mus Do - mi - no, ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus.
 O come and let us sing to God, our hope. God's mer - cy is for - ev - er.

(♩ Last time)

Ve - ni - te, ex - ul - te - mus Do - mi - no, ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus. Ve -
 O come and let us sing to God, our hope. God's mer - cy is for - ev - er. O

(♩ Last time)

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NB 33 Grant Us Your Peace, O Lord

Canon

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

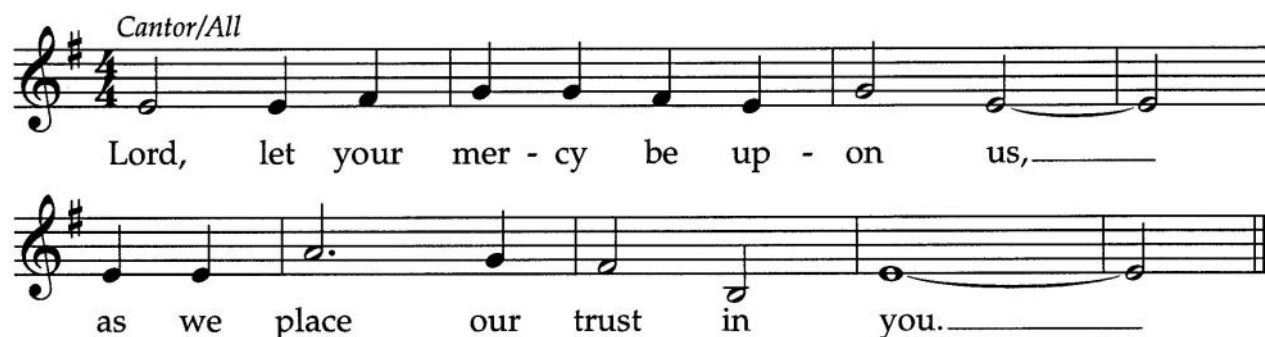
A - men. A - men. A - men.

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Psalm 31 (selected verses from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: * Lord, Let Your Mercy

Cantor/All



Lord, let your mer - cy be up - on us, _____
as we place our trust in you. _____

Text (ref) © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL.
Steven C. Warner. Text and music © 1983, WLP.
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In you, Beloved, I would make my home;
Though I be humiliated with guilt,
Your mercy and forgiveness will deliver me!
Hear me and hasten to my assistance!
For you are my strength
And have the power to raise me up!

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

Yes, you are strength and truth in me;
You are my teacher, my guide;
The fire of your abiding love cleanses my heart;
Loosen the webs that entangle me,
That veil my love for you.
Into your heart I commend my soul.
You have redeemed me, O love,
O ever Faithful One.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

Blessed be the Eternal Beloved,
Who wondrously showered me
With steadfast love,
When I was overwhelmed by fear.
I had cried out, "Where are you?
Have you left me alone forever?"
You heard my fear-filled pleas
And enveloped me in love.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

Listen in the silence, all you saints!
For wisdom makes her home there.
The Beloved upholds the faith-filled,
Those who embrace goodness
And walk in the Light.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY

Those who choose to remain in illusion
Separate themselves from truth
And know not love.
Be strong, let your heart take courage
And be encouraged,
All you who would serve with Love
In the Oneness of Light.

LORD, LET YOUR MERCY



The Word/Meditation: John 14:1-7 *(The Inclusive Bible translation)*

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith in me as well. In God’s house there are many dwelling places; otherwise, how could I have told you that I was going to prepare a place for you? I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, and then I will come back to take you with me, that where I am there you may be as well. You know the way that leads to where I am going.” Thomas replied, “But we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus told him, “I myself am the Way — I am Truth, and I am Life. No one comes to Abba God but through me. If you really knew me, you would know Abba God also. From this point on, you know Abba God and you have seen God.”

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — Dwelling in the
Way ...


Exhale — lead me in Life and
Truth ...

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

Who are you, sweet Light, that fills me,
and the illumines the darkness of my heart?

You lead me like a mother's hand,
and should you let go of me,
I would not know how to take another step.

You are the space
that embraces my being and buries it in yourself.

You nearer to me than it to myself
and more interior than my most interior,
and still impalpable and intangible
and beyond any name,
Holy Spirit, eternal love!

— *Edith Stein (1891-1942) a German Jewish philosopher
who converted to Christianity and became a Carmelite nun*

CLM19 Peace I Leave You

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

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.

Prayers of Intercession

Sung Response: NB42 Kyrie 12

The image shows a musical score for a Kyrie. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The score includes a first ending (marked '1.') and a second ending (marked '2.').

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. lei - son.

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God, like the disciples, our hearts are troubled for sometimes it seems that you have left us alone, to walk this journey of life by ourselves, we don't know where we are going, and we don't know where you are. We ask for a clearer sense of your presence, guidance, and wisdom.

KYRIE

As we walk this journey of life, help us to trust that you are the Way. When we feel lost and confused remind us you are the path, and make known to us your voice, your wisdom and guidance as we seek to follow you, may we hear your voice guiding us in the way we should go.

KYRIE

As we navigate this life often filled with deception, lies and embellished reality, help us to know you as the Truth, the underpinning reality of all that was, is and is to come. Give us discerning and wise minds to perceive your will and your ways in our homes, work, church, and the world.

KYRIE

As we live our everyday ordinary lives, help us to know that you are our Life Source. Assist us in noticing and naming the fleeting promises of fulfillment, nourishment, and refreshment and give us courage to turn to you as the source of full and everlasting Life.

KYRIE

We pray for all those who are lost and are seeking to find their way; for those who are deceived and seeking to know the truth, and for those who are depleted and needing their life renewed. May they find their home in you, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

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 confidentialities.

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



Closing Refrain

In hope for what we do not yet see, we join our spoken and wordless prayers with the groaning of the Spirit in us and all of creation... 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 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 lyrics written below the notes. The piece 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.



11 It Is Good To Trust

♩ = 58

Dm ASUS A Dm C F

Bo - num est con - fi - de - re in Do - mi - no,
It is good to trust in the Lord our God,

Gm C F Dm Gm⁷ Am Dm

bo - num spe - ra - re in Do - mi - no.
trust and hope in the Lord our God.

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*

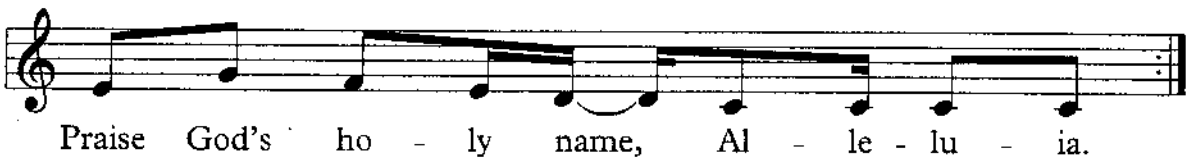
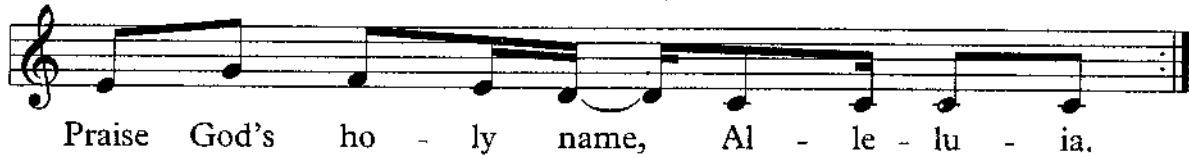
na - da le fal - ta. So - lo Dios bas - ta.
nev - er go want - ing. God a - lone fills us.

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 72 beats per minute and a key signature of one flat (B-flat major). The first line of music is in treble clef and the second in bass clef. The first system includes the lyrics: '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'. The second system continues with: 'na - da le fal - ta. So - lo Dios bas - ta. nev - er go want - ing. God a - lone fills us.' The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *p*, *mf*, and *f*. Chord symbols are placed above the notes.

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G86 Praise, Praise, Praise The Lord



WORDS: Trad. Cameroon

MUSIC: Trad. Cameroon

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Irregular

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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)*

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>

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

Our last meeting will be on Monday, May 18 and we will resume on Monday, September 14.

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:

Classes: April 29, May 6, 13 20

We will offer weekly classes at ELPC on Wednesdays, April 29, May 6, 13, 20 from 5:30-6:30 pm (light dinner at 6:30 pm), drawing upon John Philip Newell's book *Listening for the Heartbeat of God: Celtic Daily Prayer*. We will explore the rich stream of Celtic spirituality to help us practice listening for God in our lives. More info is available on our website (ELPC.church). Sign up for the weekly classes at:

<https://tinyurl.com/gods-heartbeat-classes>

NO WORSHIP SERVICES ON MARATHON SUNDAY

Due to the Pittsburgh Marathon, ELPC is unable to offer worship services on May 3.

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