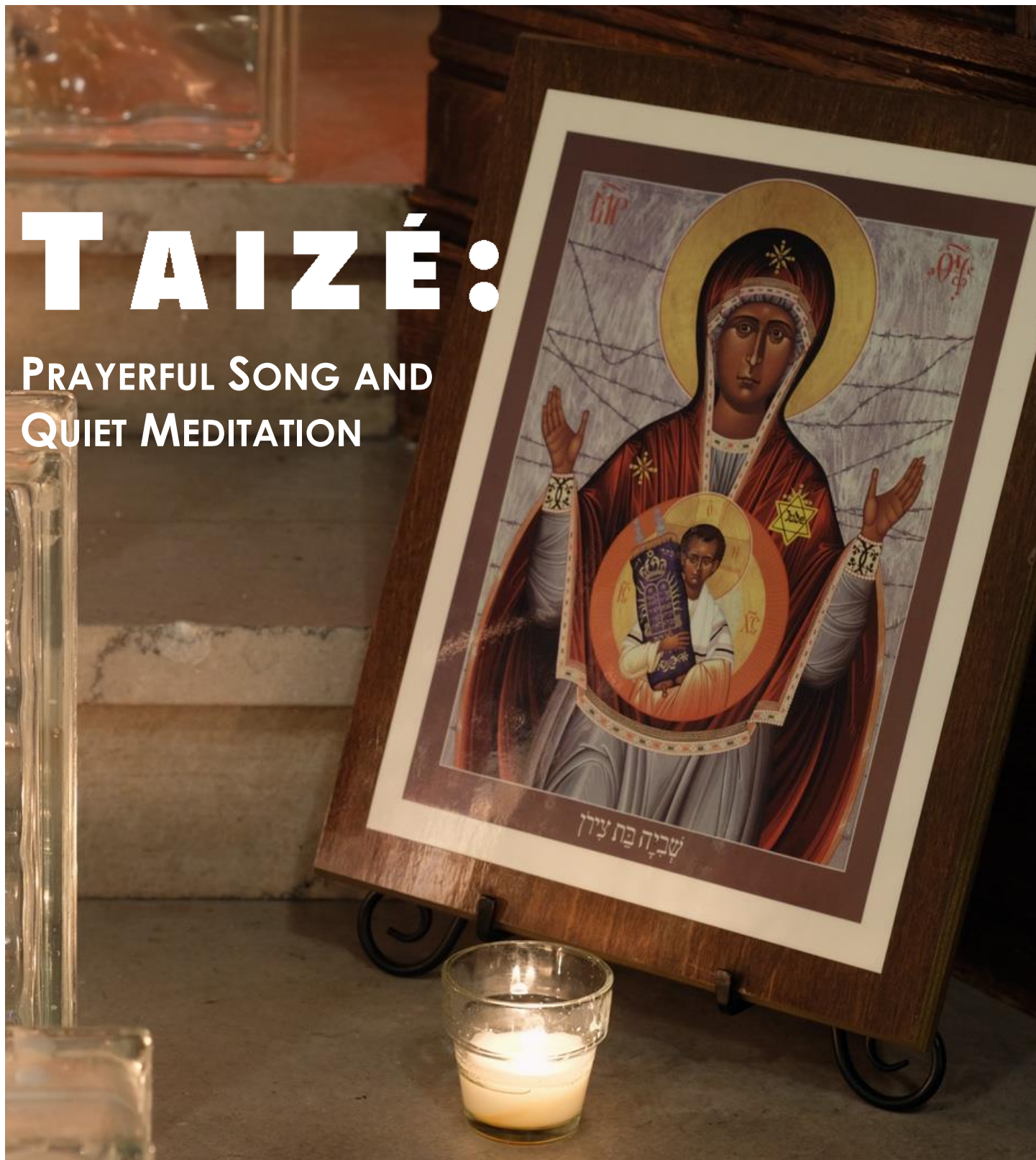


TAIZÉ:

PRAYERFUL SONG AND
QUIET MEDITATION



May 13, 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

CLM35 The Kingdom Of God

The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly
Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your - king - dom. The

(Last time ☺)

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a vocal line and a bass line. The second system also has a vocal line and a bass line, with a repeat sign and a 'Last time' instruction above the vocal line.

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CLM36 Lord, You Are Living Water

Tu sei sor - gen - te vi - va, tu sei fuo - co, sei ca - ri - tà.
Lord, you are liv - ing wa - ter, you are light and fire, you are love.

Vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to, vie - ni Spi - ri - to San - to.
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, come, O Ho - ly Spir - it.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb). It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a vocal line and a bass line. The second system also has a vocal line and a bass line, with a repeat sign and a 'Last time' instruction above the vocal line.

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Psalm 68:8-20 (selected verses from "Psalms for Praying" by Nan C. Merrill)

Sung Response: CLM3 Alleluia 21

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Sing to the Beloved, the Name above all names;
Lift up a song to our Blessed Friend;
Commit yourself to loving service!

ALLELUIA

Merciful to the poor and kind to the lowly
Is the Comforter, who dwells within.
With compassion are the desolate given a home,
The prisoner set free;
But those who run from Love
Live in a parched land.

ALLELUIA

O Beloved, reach into the hearts of your people;
Enter into the darkness of their fears;
As the earth quakes,
As floods strike without warning,
Your presence is within us.

ALLELUIA

As the mountains tremble
And volcanoes spew forth ash,
Your Presence is within us.

ALLELUIA

As rain falls in abundance on desert floors,
Restore the lands that they might flourish,
That the flocks may roam and graze
On fertile fields.

ALLELUIA

In your Mercy, O Beloved,
You provide for the needy,
For those in peril.
You are with us always.

ALLELUIA

A new dawn is rising;
Great will be the understanding
Of those who know Love;
The darkness of ignorance will be overcome!
The nations will be united in their diversity,
Living in harmony and with integrity.

ALLELUIA

Like the wings of a dove covered with silver,
Its pinions with gold.
Then will fear be no more,
Love will reign in every heart!

ALLELUIA

The Word/Meditation: John 17:1, 9-11 *(The Inclusive Bible translation)*

After Jesus said this, he looked up to heaven and said, “Abba, the hour has come! Glorify your Only Begotten that I may glorify you.

And it’s for them that I pray — not for the world, but for those you’ve given me — for they are really yours, just as all that belongs to me is yours, and all that belongs to you is mine. It is in them that I have been glorified.

I am in the world no more, but while I am coming to you, they are still in the world.

Abba, Holy God, protect those whom you have given me with your Name — the Name that you gave me — that they may be one, even as we are one.”

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



Breath Prayer

Inhale — Spirit, you are in me ...


Exhale — and I am in you ...

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

Pitch your tent within me, Gracious Master; take up your dwelling in me now and remain in your servant unceasingly, inseparably, to the end.

— *Simeon the New Theologian (949-1022)*

After an early career of imperial service in Constantinople,

Simeon entered monastic life and became an abbot.

His greatest contribution, however, was as a mystic and spiritual writer,

combining both the private contemplative tradition

with an emphasis on the importance of community life.



NB8 In God Alone

In God a-lone my soul can find rest and peace, in God my peace and joy.
Mon â-me se re-po-sè en paix sur Dieu seul: de lui vient mon-sa-lut.

On-ly in God my soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace. In
Oui, sur Dieu seul mon â-me se re-po-se, se re-po-se en paix. Mon

Last time
Last time

Prayers of Intercession

Sung Response: NB14 Lord God, You Love Us

The image shows a musical score for a song. 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 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The lyrics are: "Lord God, you love us, source of compassion. Toi, tu nous ai-mes, source de vie." The word "source" is written above "of" and "de" is written below "of". The word "vie." is written below "de". There are some musical notations like slurs and ties. A dashed oval is drawn around the final notes of the melody.

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Rescuing God, parent of orphans and protector of widows, you give the desolate a home to live in and lead out the prisoners into prosperity. Help us to order the patterns of our common life to support the health of your human family and the welfare of your world.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Steadfast God, you have given to your church the inheritance of faith in Christ alone and bestowed your Spirit's love upon us to make us one with you. Help us to grow in strength and courage to witness to this hope: that all may find your saving love in Christ.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Life-giving God, you send rain and abundance to relieve the parched crops and thirsty land, and make clean the winds of heaven. Help us to find sustainable solutions as we seek to honor and care for the well-being of your creation.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Loving God, you heard the sufferings of your people, listened to our cries, and sent your Son into our world that was no stranger to our pain. Help us to offer your healing and compassion as we minister to others in the mercy of your Christ.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

Resurrecting God, you draw near to those who are sick and dying and you call them home to you. May we all know the joy of life eternal shared with you, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

LORD GOD, YOU LOVE US

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

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 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 image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system contains three lines of lyrics, and the second system contains three lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, homophonic style.

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 bearing prayer concerns, anointing happens to the left in the columbarium.

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.



NB10 In The Lord

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord I will re-joice! Look to God, do not be a-
El Se - nyor és la me-va for - ça, el Se-nyor el me-u cant. Ell m'ha es-tat la sal-va-ci-

fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near. In the
ó. En ell con - fi - o i no tinc por. En ell con - fi - o i no tinc por. El Se -

CLM18 Put Your Trust In God

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 image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Put Your Trust In God'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has 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 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the next two lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and some melodic lines.

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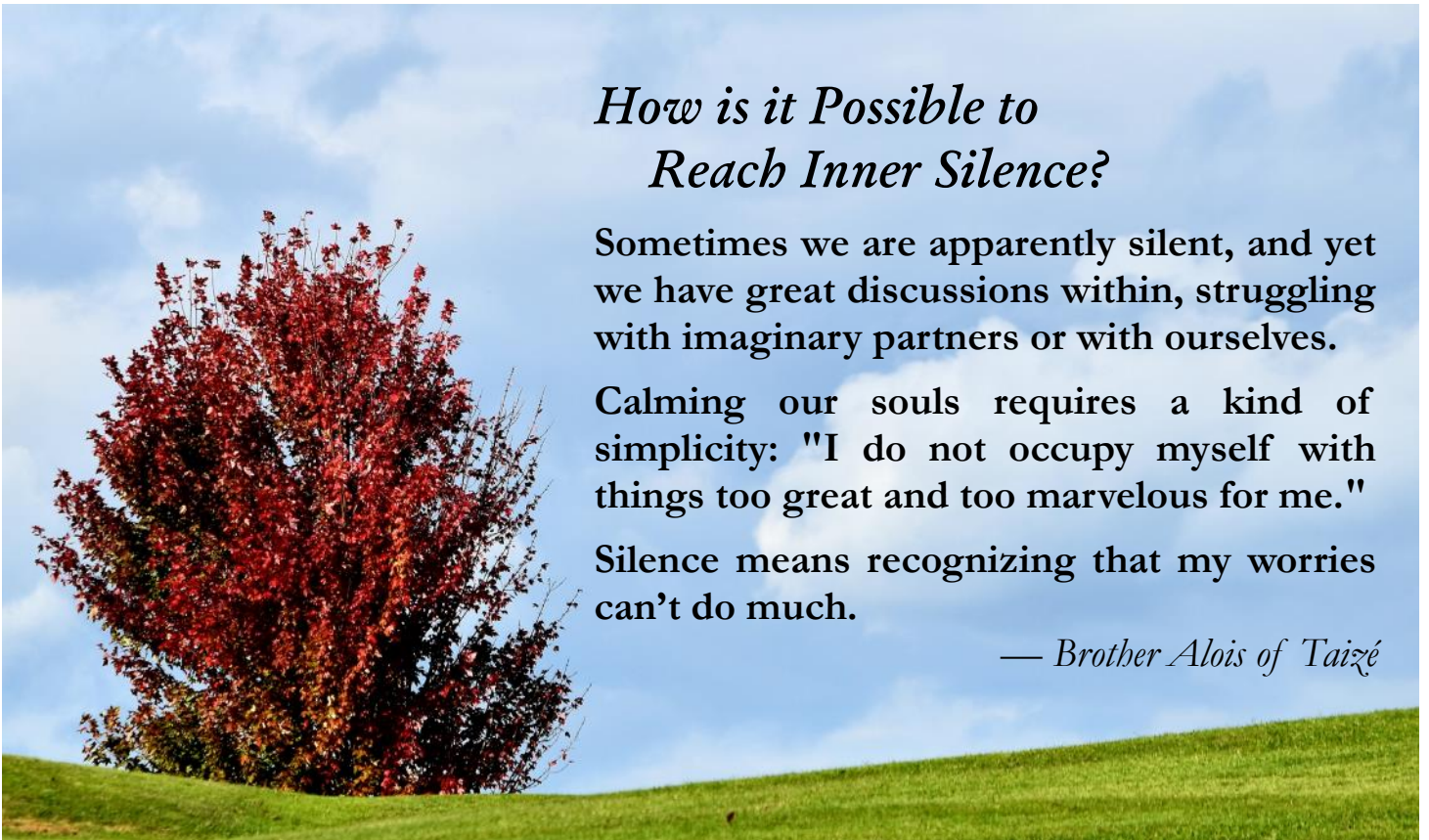
How is it Possible to Reach Inner Silence?

Sometimes we are apparently silent, and yet we have great discussions within, struggling with imaginary partners or with ourselves.

Calming our souls requires a kind of simplicity: "I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me."

Silence means recognizing that my worries can't do much.

— Brother Alois of Taizé



G74 Masithi

(Ma - si - thi:) A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:)
(Sing a - men:) A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:)

A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:) A - men, Ba - wo,
A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:) A - men, Ba - wo,

a - men, Ba - wo, a - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa.
a - men, Ba - wo, a - men, we praise your name, O God.

WORDS: South African hymn
MUSIC: Attr. S. C. Molefe OneLicense.net #A-700877

MASITHI
Irr.

Closing 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)*

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

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: Concludes May 20

Our final weekly class drawing upon John Philip Newell's book *Listening for the Heartbeat of God: Celtic Daily Prayer* will be on Wednesday, May 20 from 5:30-6:30 pm (light dinner at 6:30 pm). Sign up at:

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

Hope Academy Recitals – May 14 and 15

Hope Academy students will present their recital *Sing & Dance* + at 6 pm in the Social Hall on Thursday, May 14. Voice and piano students will have their recital in the Music Room on Friday, May 15 at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend!

Free Dinners at the Chapel Market – May 15

Come enjoy a hot, home-cooked meal at the Chapel Market and meet new friends in our community who may feel unwelcome and are food insecure. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30 pm on these Fridays in the upcoming months: May 15, June 12, July 17, Aug 21.



PENTECOST: CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH
Join us on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and birth of the church!

- Wear festive red clothing to worship
- Join us for lunch and some family friendly and fun service projects.

RSVP to SaraH@coh.net