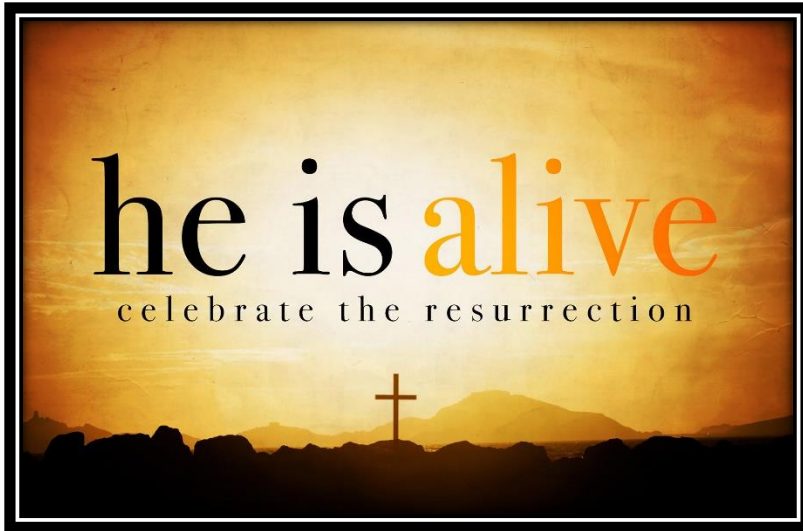


Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesday, April 22, 2020 - 7:00 pm



Welcome! We are glad you are here!

There are four ways to connect and participate in this evening's service:

1. For the streaming video service at 7 PM, visit Our Facebook Page [HERE](#)
2. For the TeleGathering audio service, call in from any Phone:
 - a. Five minutes before the service, call this number: **(712) 770-5505**.
 - b. When asked for the access code, enter **234426**, then press the # key.
3. By Text:
 - a. Text the words 'Call me' to 7127705505 then hit send
 - b. You will receive a phone call in seconds asking for our access number
 - c. Enter 234426# to connect
4. Through The FCC app:

To download the free app., click [HERE](#)

For our ELC TeleGathering Support Page, click [HERE](#)

Faith in a Time of Crisis

The faithful of Emmanuel Lutheran Church wish you a Blessed Easter and welcome you here to not only celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord, but to spend time in prayer together during such a challenging time.

As all churches currently, we have been operating at a safe distance. When our doors closed to worshipping physically in the presence of others, another door opened for us to reach out and be present to one another through modern technology. We have been live broadcasting our 10:15 AM Sunday services along with tonight's prayer service through teleconferencing and posting our bulletins and tonight's service on Facebook.

To prepare at home tonight, we encourage you to be in a comfortable, quiet place, dim your lights (if possible), have this worship aid available and an unlit candle nearby. We will light our candles during the silent meditation following the Gospel reading. We invite you to participate in the singing and the praying of the prayers.

About Taizé

Taizé is one of the first ecumenical and international monastic orders in the world. The community is located in Taizé, France which was founded in 1940 by a young, Protestant, Swiss seminary student, Roger Schütz, as a place of hospitality and reconciliation for refugees seeking sanctuary during World War II. Today, the community is composed of more than 100 brothers from both Protestant and Catholic traditions who originate from 30 countries around the world. Taizé Prayer Pilgrimages and Intercontinental Meetings around the globe bring together thousands of young people and adults in an effort to discern God's purpose for their lives and become the prayerful, reconciled presence of Christ wherever they live.

Taizé's mission is to bring peace and community to the world by healing the divisions between Christians of different denominations and within the human family. The worship of Taizé is marked by depth and simplicity, consisting of mostly singing simple meditative chants composed and published by the brothers and significant periods of silent meditation. For more information, please visit the community's website: www.taize.fr

A Taizé Service is a time of Prayer & Renewal

Three times a day, everything on the hill of Taizé stops: the work, the Bible studies, the discussions. The bells call everyone to pray and sing together with the brothers of the community. Scripture is read in several languages. In the middle of each common prayer, there is a long period of silence, a unique moment for meeting with God. Brother Roger was always concerned that nothing in prayer should appear inaccessible—nothing too long or too complicated. For those new to this unique form of musical prayer, we offer a few notes of introduction (from the Taizé service leaflet):

- ***Chant & Refrains:*** Each chant/refrain is repeated many times over in English; with time, you may find a mantra effect to this repetition. Many who attend Taizé regularly, can attest that once a chant is learned and becomes familiar, a space opens up within for the meeting of the soul and the Spirit.
- ***Cantors:*** While the congregation sings, a cantor may sing a descant (an independent treble melody usually sung or played above a basic melody) over the congregation. Please continue to sing the chant while the cantor sings a prayer for us all. Feel free to sing in parts at any time.
- ***Prayers:*** The large cross icon, placed at the front of the church, is a copy of the one painted by Brother Eric of the Taizé community used in their daily services. It might serve as a focus for your prayer or meditation.

Gathering Song – Sung in English

Christus Resurrexit / Jesus Christ is Risen



O Chri-stus re - sur - re - xit,
Je - sus Christ is ris - en,



Chri-stus re - sur - re - xit.
Je - sus Christ is ris - en! O



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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❖ Psalm 103

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Leader: The Lord works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

All: The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

Leader: He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

All: as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

Leader: For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.

All: As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

Leader But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.

All: The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

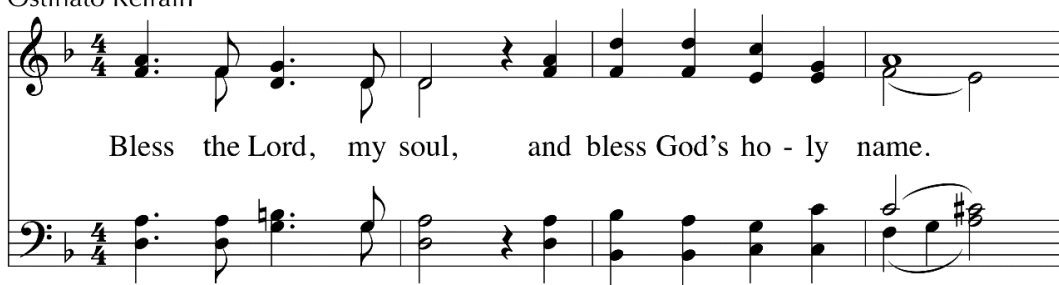
Leader: Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice of his word! the Lord, all the hosts,
his ministers, who do his will!

All: Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the Lord, O my soul!

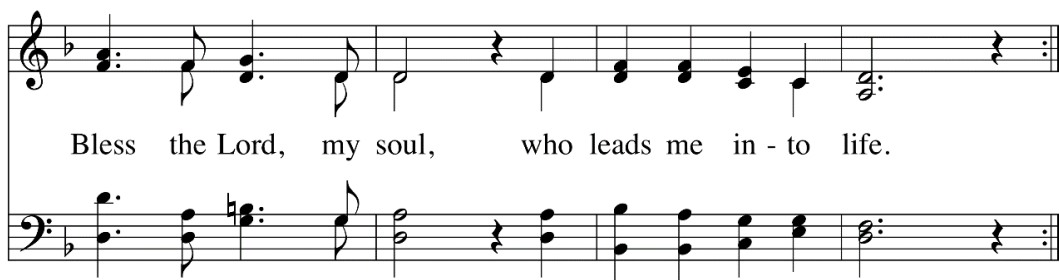
Sung Response

Bless the Lord

Ostinato Refrain



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

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❖ The Word: John 3:16-21 (ESV)

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

❖ **Silent Prayer – Candle Lighting**

At this time, please light your candle, and reflect upon the meditation below.

❖ **Silent Meditation: Instrumental Music**

This light gives life. Not only does it provide warmth and enable us to find our way, but also it situates us in the midst of creation and allows us to discover who God is. Welcoming it means entering the reality of God's life and love, which, in the Resurrection, will show themselves to be stronger than hatred and refusal. Welcoming it also means changing our outlook – no longer wishing to be our own light, no longer wishing at all costs to transform resistances and blind spots by our own powers, but letting in the light that gives new life to what seemed to have become hardened.

We should not be afraid of this call, which seems too demanding – to be witness to the light, as John the Baptist was, to be ourselves the light of the world, as Jesus invites us to be (see Matthew 5:14). It is not our strength that can achieve this; we need simply to let a reflection of God's love shine through us and radiate outward in the midst of those who are unaware of it.

Personal Reflection for this Evening:

What Gospel text helps me understand that Christ is light?

When I am frightened by darkness, what enables me to realize that Christ's light is near?

“God of every human being, you never impose yourself, you never force our heart, but you place your peaceful light within each one of us.”

– Brother Roger Shütz, founder of the Taizé Community

❖ Prayers of Intercession

In God Alone / Mon âme se Repose

Ostinato Chorale

In God a-lone my soul can find rest and peace, in
Mon â-me se re-pose en paix sur Dieu seul: de

God my peace and joy. On-ly in God my
lui vient mon se-lut. Oui, sur Dieu seul mon

soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace.
â-me se re-po-se, se re-pose en paix.

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Leader:

For all who work in direct patient care, give them strength for their service and strength to ask for help when they are in need.

All: In God Alone.

Leader: For all the sick; bring them to full health and restore them to those who love them.

All: In God Alone

Leader: For all those isolated in their homes; sustain them in joy and peace.

All: In God Alone.

Leader: For all those who have died and those who grieve their loss in isolation; comfort them in their sorrow.

All: In God Alone.

Leader: For decision-makers at all levels; send them your wisdom and good counsel to serve their communities.

All: In God Alone.

❖ **Silent & Spoken Prayers**

Please feel free to add your spoken petitions.

❖ **The Lord's Prayer**

Leader: Let us pray together the prayer which Jesus taught us, in the way it was taught to each of us. Our Father...

Sung Response:

All My Hope on God Is Founded

F Bb/D C' F

1 All my hope on God is found - ed who will all my
 2 Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be -
 3 Great thy good - ness, e'er en - dur - ing; deep thy wis - dom,
 4 Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of

D7 G C7 F Dm G7

trust re - new, who through change and chance will guide me,
 tray our trust; what with care and toil we fash - ion,
 pass - ing thought; splen - dor, light, and life at - tend thee,
 praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es prais - ing

A7 Dm C/E G7 C F/A Bb

on - ly good and on - ly true. God un - known,
 tow'r and tem - ple, fall to dust. But thy pow'r,
 beau - ty spring - ing out of naught. Ev - er - more
 for the gift of God's own Son. Christ doth call

Cm/A D Gm A Dm G7 C7 F

God a - lone, call my heart to be thine own.
 hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tow'r.
 from thy store new - born worlds rise and a - dore.
 one and all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.

Leader: Thanks be to God. All: Amen.

Community Outreach

You may now extinguish your candles.

Thank you for sharing in prayer with us this evening. If you enjoyed tonight's service, please tell a friend or better yet, invite your friend to our scheduled Wednesday Taizé prayer services at 7 PM on May 20 and June 17. Until we can gather together in person, both services will be available here on Facebook, or by audio only from any phone. Simply dial this number before the service (712)770-5505 and enter the access code 234426 # when asked. We will keep you posted on our website and Facebook page as to when we will be gathering in the sanctuary again.

We'd also like to invite you to attend our 10:15 AM Sunday audio services led by Rev. Dr. Alden W. Towberman every Sunday morning while we are unable to gather in person. Follow the call-in instructions above to participate.

Many thanks to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council, accompanist Dr. John Salvesson, Director of Music and Organist at the First Presbyterian Church of Greensburg, PA along with the beautiful voices of Crystal Stryker, Kelsey Weightman, Louisa Dieck, Gloria Christofano, and Gregg Brandt.

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This evening's service is in loving memory of our guitarist and friend,
James Buckley, Jr. July 9, 1954-April 1, 2020.
Your joyful spirit and soulful playing will be greatly missed by all.

