

# CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE

INSPIRED BY THE TAIZÉ COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016

BE RECONCILED ALL YOU WHO ENTER HERE

*Parents, children, partners, friends, enemies;*

*Believers and those who cannot believe;*

*Christians and their fellow Christians.*

(Variation of greeting posted outside the Church of Reconciliation, Taizé, France)

*We begin by centering ourselves in silent prayer.*

## COME AND FILL OUR HEARTS

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are ho - ly.  
Com - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - - - ia!  
Com - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - - - ia!

## PSALM

I lift up my eyes to the mountains;  
from where shall come my help?  
My help shall come from the Lord  
who made heaven and earth.

May God never allow you to stumble!  
Let your guard not sleep.  
Behold, neither sleeping nor slumbering,  
Israel's guard.

The Lord is your guard and your shade;  
and stands at your right.  
By day the sun shall not smite you  
nor the moon in the night.

The Lord will guard you from evil,  
and will guard your soul.  
The Lord will guard your going and coming  
both now and for ever.

- Psalm 121

## READING

“But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don’t withhold your shirt either. Give to everyone who asks and don’t demand your things back from those who take them. Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you. “If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. Be compassionate just as your God is compassionate. Don’t judge, and you won’t be judged. Don’t condemn, and you won’t be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return.

- Luke 6:27-37

## SING, PRAISE, AND BLESS THE LORD



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!



1. 2.  
gen - tes, al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!  
Na - tions! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

# O Lord, Hear My Prayer

## The Lord Is My Song

471

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'O Lord, hear my prayer. Or The Lord is my song; O Lord, hear my prayer. the Lord is my praise: When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O the all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song; the Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.'

### SILENCE

*Remaining in silence in God's presence, open to the Holy Spirit, is already prayer.*

### INTERCESSIONS

Giver of Life and Love, you created all people as one family and called us to live together in harmony and peace. Surround us with your love as we face the challenges and tragedies of gun violence.

For our dear ones, for our neighbors, for strangers and aliens, and those known to you alone, Loving God,

**Make us instruments of your peace.**

God of Righteousness, you have given our leaders, especially Barack, our President, our Governor, members of Congress, judges of our courts and members of our legislatures, power and responsibility to protect us and to uphold our right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

For all who bear such responsibility, for all who struggle to discern what is right in the face of powerful political forces, Loving God,

**Make us instruments of your peace.**

God of Compassion, we give you thanks for first responders, for police officers, firefighters and EMTs, and all those whose duties bring them to the streets, the lobbies, the malls and the homes where the carnage of gun violence takes place day after day.

Give them courage and sound judgment in the heat of the moment and grant them compassion for the victims. For our brothers and sisters who risk their lives and their serenity as they rush to our aid, Loving God,

**Make us instruments of your peace.**

Merciful God, bind up the wounds of all who suffer from gun violence, those maimed and disfigured, those left alone and grieving, and those who struggle to get through one more day. Bless them with your presence and help them find hope.

For all whose lives are forever marked by the scourge of gun violence, Loving God,

**Make us instruments of your peace.**

God Who Remembers, may we not forget those who have died in the gun violence that we have allowed to become routine. Receive them into your heart and comfort us with your promise of eternal love and care.

For all who have died, those who die today, and those who will die tomorrow, Loving God,

**Make us instruments of your peace.**

God of Justice, help us, your church, find our voice. Empower us to change this broken world and to protest the needless deaths caused by gun violence. Give us power to rise above our fear that nothing can be done and grant us the conviction to advocate for change.

For your dream of love and harmony, Loving God,

**Make us instruments of your peace.**

All this we pray in the name of the One who offered his life so that we might live, Jesus the Christ.

**Amen.**

*-Litany for Gun Violence Prevention is written by the Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane, Episcopal bishop of Maine*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## PRAYER

Lord Christ, enable us to turn to you at every moment. So often we forget that your Holy Spirit dwells in us, that you pray in us, that you love in us. Your miracle in us is your trust, and your constant forgiveness.

### Jesus, Remember Me

227

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The first system of music for 'Jesus, Remember Me' consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The second system of music for 'Jesus, Remember Me' consists of two staves, identical in notation to the first system. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

### BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL

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

The first system of music for 'Bless the Lord, My Soul' consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a common time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is present at the beginning of the first staff.

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

The second system of music for 'Bless the Lord, My Soul' consists of two staves, identical in notation to the first system. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is present at the beginning of the first staff.

Our next Prayer Service will be on Sunday, July 10, 2016 at 7:00 PM here in the Chapel.

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**About Taizé:** Taizé is a tiny village hidden away in the hills of Burgundy, in the eastern part of France, not far from the town of Cluny. Since 1940, it has been the home of an ecumenical community of brothers whose prayer, three times each day, is at the center of their life. Today, Taizé is a place to which visitors of all ages and backgrounds come on pilgrimage, to participate in international meetings of prayer and reflection.

**Taizé's vocation** is to strive for communion among all. From its beginning, the community has worked for reconciliation among Christians split apart into different denominations. But the brothers do not view reconciliation among Christians as the end in itself; it concerns all humanity, since it makes the Church a place of communion for all.

**Singing** is one of the most essential elements of Taizé worship. Short chants, repeated again and again, give it a meditative character. Using just a few words, they express a basic reality of faith, quickly grasped by the mind. As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God. It allows everyone to take part in a time of prayer together and to remain together in attentive waiting on God, without having to fix the length of time too exactly.