

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE

INSPIRED BY THE TAIZÉ COMMUNITY

SUNDAY JANUARY 15, 2017

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Breath of God,
breath of life,
breath of deepest yearning,
Come Holy Spirit.

Comforter, Disturber,
Interpreter, Enthuser,
Come, Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Friend,
Lamplighter,
Revealer of truth,
Midwife of change,

The Lord is here
God's Spirit is with us.

♩ = 58 B♭ A Dm C F

Spi - ri - tus Je - su Chri - sti, Spi - ri - tus ca - ri - ta - tis, con -
Spir - it of Christ Je - sus, Spir - it of lov - ing kind - ness, con -

B♭ F C Dm Gm A F B♭ F C Dm A Dm

fir - met cor tu - um; con - fir - met cor tu - um.
firm your heart and keep it; con - firm your heart and keep it.

PRAYER

Lord, teach us the silence of humility,
the silence of wisdom,
the silence of love.
the silence that speaks without words,
the silence of faith.

Lord teach us to silence our own hearts and minds
that we may listen for the movement of your Holy Spirit,
and feel your presence in the depths of our being. Amen.

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. 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). The chords are Am, Dm7, G, Em/C, F, and Dm6. The lyrics are: "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 has a key signature of one sharp (F-sharp). The chords are E, Am, F, Dm6, E, and Am. The lyrics are: "na - da le fal - ta. So - lo Dios bas - ta. nev - er go want - ing. God a - lone fills us." The score includes dynamic markings such as *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *f* (forte).

System 1:

Chords: Am, Dm7, G, Em/C, F, Dm6

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

System 2:

Chords: E, Am, F, Dm6, E, Am

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

Psalm 32

Response

Antiphon: Emma Lou Diemer, 1994

Unison

Stead - fast love sur - rounds those who trust in God.

R

¹Happy are those whose transgression
is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

²Happy are those to whom God
imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no
deceit.

³While I kept silence, my body
wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was
heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the
heat of summer. *R*

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my
transgressions to God,"
and you forgave the guilt of my
sin.

⁶Therefore let all who are faithful offer
prayer to you;

at a time of distress, the rush of
mighty waters shall not reach them.

⁷You are a hiding place for me; you
preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of
deliverance. *R*

⁸I will instruct you and teach you the
way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye
upon you.

⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule,
without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with
bit and bridle, else it will not stay
near you.

¹⁰Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those
who trust in God.

¹¹Be glad in God and rejoice, O
righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright
in heart. *R*

READING

This is God's Word and it can be trusted.

We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us-and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before God whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts and God knows everything.

This is God's Word and it can be trusted.

- I John 3, 16-20

The musical score is written for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time, with a tempo of 72 beats per minute. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The lyrics are written below the staves. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the next two lines. The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with chords indicated above the staff. The lyrics are: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me, O The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God. The Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well - spring of life. The". The score ends with a "fine" marking and a repeat sign.

System 1:

Chords: Em, C⁶, D, G, C, Am⁶, B

Lyrics: O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me, O
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God. The

System 2:

Chords: Em, C⁶, D, G⁶, Am, B, Em *fine*

Lyrics: Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O
Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well - spring of life. The

SILENCE

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Holy God,
though this world depends on your grace,
it is governed and tended by mortals.

So we pray for those
who walk the corridors of power
in the legislatures of this and other lands,
whose judgments we value or fear.

May they always consider those they represent,
make decisions with courage and integrity,
and resist any temptation
to abuse the trust placed in them.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for those who hold key positions
in the worlds of finance, business and industry,
whose decisions may profit some
or impoverish many.

May they always value people higher than profit;
may they never impose burdens on the poor
which they would not carry themselves;
and may they never divorce money from morality
or ownership from stewardship.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for those in the caring professions,
who look after and listen to
kind, cruel and cantankerous folk,
and for those who make decisions
regarding the nation's health and welfare.

May they always sense the sanctity of life
and every person's uniqueness;
may they help and heal
by their interest as well as their skill;
and may they be saved from tiredness
and an excess of demands.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

And let us remember
those for whom we are responsible
and to whom we are accountable
in what we do today.

May we show to them
the thoughtfulness, tolerance
and kindness of Jesus.

Lord hear us.

Lord graciously hear us.

Lord, hear our prayers,
and if today we might be the means
by which you answer the prayers of others,
then may you find us
neither deaf nor defiant,
but keen to fulfill your purpose,
for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

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.**

♩ = 66

F# Bm Am D G F#

Our dark - ness is nev - er dark - ness in your sight: the
 La té - nè - bre n'est point té - nè - bre de - vant toi: la

Bm A D Em⁶ F#^{SUS} fine F# ,

deep - est night is clear as the day light. Our
 nuit com - me le jour est lu - miè re. La té -

fine

CLOSING PRAYER

From where we are
 to where you need us,
Jesus, now lead on.

From the security of what we know
 to the adventure of what you will reveal,
Jesus, now lead on.

To refashion the fabric of this world
 until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,
Jesus, now lead on.

Because good things have been prepared
 for those who love God,
Jesus, now lead on. Amen.

Prayer Services will continue on the third Sunday of every month (weather permitting).

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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.

