IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZÉ SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Prayer in the spirit of the Taizé Community is a meditative form of common prayer. Gathered in the presence of Christ we sing uncomplicated, repetitive songs, uncluttered by too many words, allowing the mystery of God to become tangible through the beauty of simplicity. A few words sung over and over again reinforce the meditative quality of prayer. They express a basic reality of faith that can quickly be grasped by the intellect and that gradually penetrates the whole being.

Silence is observed by all prior to the service for prayer and reflection.



GATHERING SONGS



Ostinato Refrain:



Text: Psalm 139 Tune: Jaques Berthier, 1923-1994 © 1998, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

Confitemini Domino



Text: Psalm 136, *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good*; Taizé Community, 1982 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1982, 1991, 2011, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

The Kingdom of God



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ALLELUIA AND PSALM (Stand)

Verses are sung by the cantor and are sustained by all humming, with each verse followed by a sung Alleluia, forming a kind of "pillar of fire" at the heart of the prayer.



Alleluia 11/Psalm 116

Text: Taizé Community Tune: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1991, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Reading *(Sit)* Romans 8:31-39

Message from Brother Roger (founder of the Taizé Community) to the United States following the attacks of September 11, 2001:

At a time when many people close to us around the world are disconcerted by the violence, by the incomprehensible suffering of the innocent, my brothers and I are praying for those who are undergoing a time of trial and we ask for consolation for all of them. We also pray that the Holy Spirit may inspire the hearts of those who are seeking ways of peace in the human family. I wrote this prayer for the Sunday morning service in Taizé, and I would like to share it with our friends in the United States: Holy Spirit, however powerless we may be, enable us to bring peace where there are oppositions and violence, and to make a reflection of God's compassion visible through our lives. Yes, enable us to love, and to express it by the lives we lead.

SONG AFTER THE READING

Following the reading there is a song, somewhat prolonged, which leads to an extended time of shared silence.



Text: 1 Corinthians 13:2–8, 13; *Where charity and love are found*, God is there; Taizé Community, 1978 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994 © 1979, 2009, 2011, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

SILENCE

When we try to express communion with God in words, we rapidly reach the end of our capacities, which is why silence is so essential in discovering the heart of prayer. Remaining in silence in God's presence, open to the Spirit, is already prayer. (5-7 minutes)

INTERCESSIONS (Stand)

A prayer composed of short petitions, sustained by humming, with each petition followed by a response sung by all, can form a kind of "pillar of fire" at the heart of the prayer. Praying for others widens our prayer to the dimensions of the entire human family; we entrust to God the joys and the hopes, the sorrows and the sufferings of all people, particularly those who are forgotten.





Text: Taizé Community Tune: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1988, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER



MEDITATIVE SONGS (Sit)





Text: Taizé Community Tune: Taizé Community © 2007, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Jesus, Your Spirit in Us



Text: Psalm 63:1–4, 7–8, John 7:37–39; Taizé Community Tune: Taizé Community © 2003, 2011, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent





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Text: Michael Joncas, b.1951, © 2016, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: FINLANDIA, 11 10 11 10 11 10; Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957

grace



Text: The Revelations of Divine Love, Julian of Norwich; adapt. by Steven C. Warner, b.1954 Tune: Steven C. Warner, b.1954 © 1993, World Library Publications, a division of GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

As we gathered in silence, so too do we depart in silence.

Our next Prayer in the Spirit of Taizé will be October 8th at 7:30PM.

Prayer in the Spirit of Taizé at St. John the Baptist: stjb.net/Worship/TaizePrayer Learn more about the community of Taizé: www.taize.fr/en

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