



PRAYER SERVICE

in the manner of the Taizé Community

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

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)

Holy Spirit, mystery of a presence, you say to each of us:

“Why be worried? One thing alone is necessary:

a heart attentive to understand that

God loves you and always forgives you.”

(Prayer by Brother Roger of Taizé)

JESUS, REMEMBER ME

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

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

STAY WITH ME

Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch _____ and
pray, _____ watch _____ and pray.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: "Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch _____ and". The piano accompaniment starts with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time signature. The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "pray, _____ watch _____ and pray." The piano accompaniment continues with the same key signature and time signature.

Cantor's text: Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray, watch and pray! Watch and pray not to give way to temptation. The spirit is eager, but the flesh is weak. My heart is nearly broken with sorrow. Remain here with me, stay awake and pray. Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by. Father, if this cannot pass me by without my drinking it, your will be done.

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord, I will re -
joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is
near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near. In the

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord, I will re -". The piano accompaniment starts with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is". The piano accompaniment continues with the same key signature and time signature. The third system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near. In the". The piano accompaniment continues with the same key signature and time signature.

Cantor's Text: With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation. Give thanks to the Lord. Acclaim God's name.

OPENING SENTENCES

One: *In the beginning our God created the light.*

All: **Morning broke open on the first day.**

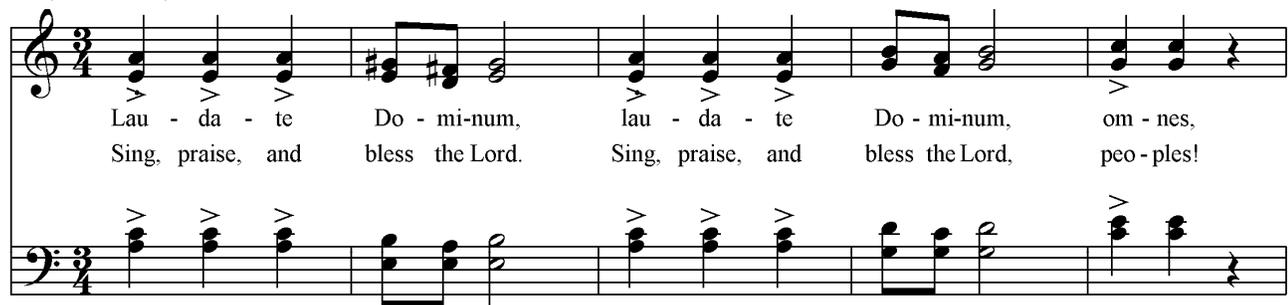
One: *This God of ours sent the light.*

All: **Jesus the Christ came to the world's people.**

One: *Evening light opens for us.*

All: **God's light illumines our lives; and opens us to worship this night.**

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

Cantor's Text: Praise the Lord, all you nations, praise God all you peoples. Alleluia! Strong is God's love and mercy, always faithful for ever. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Let everything living give praise to the Lord. Alleluia! Praise to the Lord.

A READING FROM ACTS 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

One: *Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.*

All: **Thanks be to God.**

(Left side of the sanctuary facing the chancel)

**How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!**

(Right side of the sanctuary facing the chancel)

**It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.**

(Left side)

**It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.**

(Right side)

**For there the LORD ordained his blessing,
life for evermore.**

A READING FROM JOHN 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So, the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

One: *Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.*

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Hear our cries, O Lord; come quickly to our aid.*

*Most gracious God,
you have gathered us from east and west, north and south, and made us into your people.
You shower us with blessings and give us songs of joy.
When trouble comes, you hear our cries and lead us to safety.
Hear our prayers for those in trouble, Lord.*

*For your blessed and broken church...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*For those who are entrusted with power...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*For all those who have lost their way...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*For those who suffer at the hands of others...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*For those who languish in hunger or thirst...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*For all who teach, and those who would learn...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*For those who are sick or dying and those who care for them...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*For those whose needs are known only to you...
hear our cries, O Lord: **come quickly to our aid.***

*We give you thanks and praise, O God, for you know our needs even before we ask,
and your Spirit intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.
With faith in your merciful kindness we pray; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (New Zealand)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, pain-bearer, life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, loving God, in whom is heaven:**

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptations and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

COME AND FILL OUR HEARTS

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, 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!

NOTHING CAN TROUBLE

p Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can frigh - ten. Those who seek God shall
 Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te. Quien a Dios tie - ne

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

CLOSING PRAYER

All: Eternal God, neither death nor life can separate us from your love.
Grant that we may serve you faithfully here on earth,
and in heaven rejoice with all your saints
who ceaselessly proclaim your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY SPIRIT, COME TO US

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy Spirit, Come to Us". It is written for voice and piano. The key signature is two sharps (D major), and the time signature is 6/8. The score consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the voice and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The piano part begins with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. / Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence.

Cantors' text: Come, Holy Spirit, from heaven shine forth with your glorious light. Veni Sancte Spiritus. Come, Father of the poor, come, generous Spirit, come, light of our hearts. Veni Sancte Spiritus. Come from the four winds, O Spirit, come breath of God; disperse the shadows over us, renew and strengthen your people. Veni Sancte Spiritus. Father of the poor, come to our poverty. Shower upon us the seven gifts of your grace. Be the light of our lives. O come. Veni Sancte Spiritus. You are our only comforter, Peace of the soul. In the heat you shade us; in our labor you refresh us, and in trouble you are our strength. Veni Sancte Spiritus. Kindle in our hearts the flame of your love that in the darkness of the world it may glow and reach to all forever. Veni...

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please extend the peace of Christ with one another saying:

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Singers: Imani Mchunu, Heidi Hess-Willis, Tyrese Byrd, Benton DeGroot

Yuki Harding, oboe

Stefan Koch, cello

Paul Haebig, piano

Nicole Jolliet, scripture reader in French

Linda Robinson, scripture reader in Spanish

Sandra McDonald, liturgist

Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music and Fine Arts

Rol Kibler, sound system technician

Jim Campbell, videographer

Our next Taizé Prayer Service will be on Tuesday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. on YouTube and Facebook.
All are welcome!

Songs from Taizé, © 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé (France), administered by GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted from *Songs and Prayers from Taizé*, OneLicense.net #A-720542

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 beginnings, 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 of humanity, since it makes the Church a place of communion for all.

Song is one of the most essential elements of Taizé worship. Short songs, 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. And these simple songs then enable us to keep on praying when we are alone, by day, by night, and sometimes in the silence of our hearts when we are at work.

Icons contribute to the beauty of worship. They are like windows open on the realities of the kingdom of God, making them present in our prayer on earth. Although icons are images, they are not simply illustrations or decorations. They are symbols of the incarnation, a presence which offers to the eyes the spiritual message that the Word addresses to the ears. By the faith it expresses, by its beauty and its depth, an icon can create a space of peace and sustain an expectant waiting. It invites us to welcome salvation even in the flesh and in creation.

Soli Deo Gloria: To God alone be the Glory.



1432 Washtenaw Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734 • 662 • 4466
www.firstpresbyterian.org