



PRAYER SERVICE

in the manner of the Taizé Community

Tuesday, July 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)

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!

MY SOUL IS AT REST

My soul is at rest in God a - lone,
my sal - va - tion comes from God. My

Fine

Fine

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 begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. The lyrics are "My soul is at rest in God a - lone,". The piano accompaniment starts with a bass clef and a common time signature. The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "my sal - va - tion comes from God. My". The piano accompaniment continues. Both systems end with a fermata over the final note and the word "Fine" written above the staff.

Cantor's text: In God is my safety and glory the rock of my strength. Take refuge in God, all you people—Trust him at all times. Pour out your hearts before him for God is our refuge.

BLESS THE LORD

p Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.
p Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

p

p

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 begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. The lyrics are "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.". The piano accompaniment starts with a bass clef and a common time signature. The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.". The piano accompaniment continues. Both systems end with a fermata over the final note. The first system has a piano dynamic marking (*p*) at the beginning. The second system has a piano dynamic marking (*p*) at the beginning and another (*p*) at the end.

Cantor's text: It is God who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. God does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. As a Father has compassion on his children, the Lord has pity on those who fear him; for God knows of what we are made, God remembers that we are dust.

OPENING SENTENCES

One: *Jesus says, "Ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened."*

All: **Amen.**

One: *Jesus says, "Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden. I will give you rest."*

All: **Amen.**

One: *Jesus says, "Heal the sick." "Feed the hungry." "Free the oppressed." "Watch and pray."*

All: **Amen.**

STAY WITH ME

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch _____ and". The piano accompaniment starts with a bass clef and a common time signature, providing harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics: "pray, _____ watch _____ and pray." The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic support, including a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The score concludes with a double bar line.

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.

READING FROM JOHN 9:1-3, 6-7

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. . . . When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

One: *Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.*

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER

PSALM 23

(Left side of Sanctuary)

You, God, are my shepherd;
I need nothing more.

You let me lie down in green pastures,
You lead me beside still waters;
there you revive my spirit.

(Right side of Sanctuary)

You guide me in the right paths
for you are true to your name.

(Left side)

Were I to walk through the darkest valley
I should not be afraid;

(Right side)

for you are at my side,
your staff and crook support me.

(Left side)

You spread a table before me
In clear view of my enemies.

(Right side)

You anoint my head with oil,
my cup is overflowing.

(All)

Unfailing goodness and kindness
will follow me all my days.
My home shall be in God's house
As long as my life shall last.

A READING FROM JAMES 5:13-16A

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.

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.

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
p *mf*

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

CHRIST JESUS

O Chri - ste Do - mi - ne Je - su, O Chri - ste Do - mi - ne Je - su! O
 Christ Je - sus, Lord and Sav - ior! Christ Je - sus, Lord and Sav - ior! Christ
 3 3

Cantors' text: The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where you give me repose. Near restful waters you lead me to revive my drooping spirit. You guide me a long the right path; you are true to your name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil I fear. You are there with your rod and staff; with these you give me comfort. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

CLOSING BLESSING

God to enfold us,
God to surround us.
God in our sleeping.
God in our waking.
God in our watching.
God in our hoping.
God on our lips,
God in our lives.

HOLY SPIRIT, COME TO US

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy Spirit, Come to Us". It is written in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The score consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. Both staves begin with a piano (*pp*) dynamic marking. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes: "Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. / Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus." The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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

Musicians: Imani Mchunu, Abby Peterson, Tyrese Byrd, Brent Ivey, David Hufford, pianist; Yuki Harding, oboe; Linda Speck, Viola; Benjamin Francisco, Cello; Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music and Fine Arts

Readers: Diane Knibbs, Sandra McDonald, Randall Nicholls, Linda Speck

Our next Taizé Prayer Service will be on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in person, on YouTube, and on 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