



## PRAYER SERVICE

in the manner of the Taizé Community

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Monteith Hall

Wholeness and Healing

### 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)

### *BLESS THE LORD, MY SOUL*

*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.

Cantor's text: It is God who forgives all your guilt, who heals ev'ry 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.

## CHRIST JESUS - Instrumental

Christ Jesus, Lord and Savior! Christ Jesus, Lord and Savior!

### COME AND FILL OUR HEARTS

Musical score for 'Come and Fill Our Hearts' in G major, 3/4 time. The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy. Com - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.'

Musical score for the continuation of 'Come and Fill Our Hearts'. The lyrics are: 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al - le - lu - - - ia! Com - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - - - ia!'

### OPENING SENTENCES

*One:* Come Lord Jesus, and empower our worship:

**All:** So our community can be a sign, among other signs,  
of God's gracious love.

*One:* Come Lord Jesus, and guide our worship:

**All:** So we can be a symbol of hope and compassion for the world.

*One:* Come Lord Jesus, and move our worship:

**All:** So we can be a vision of wholeness and partners in healing.

*One:* Great Physician, healer of body, mind, and spirit:

**All:** Make us a sign, a symbol, and an embodiment of the vision.  
Refresh us with the healing balm of your presence.

*One:* We come to worship, seeking hope, gratitude, and thanksgiving.

**All:** In this time together we offer our prayers and songs to God and words for  
each other, but especially friends, family, care partners, and persons that have  
been touched by health issues.

## STAY WITH ME

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The piano accompaniment consists of chords: G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, and G2-Bb2. The second system continues the vocal line with a half note C5, followed by quarter notes Bb4, A4, and G4. The piano accompaniment continues with chords: G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, G2-Bb2, and G2-Bb2. The lyrics are: "Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch \_\_\_\_\_ and pray, \_\_\_\_\_ watch \_\_\_\_\_ and pray. \_\_\_\_\_".

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.

## 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.**

PSALTER

PSALM 23

(Left side of Monteith Hall)

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 Monteith Hall)

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 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.**

SILENCE

## A LITANY OF HEALING

*One: God, our creator, your will for us and for all your people is health and salvation:*

**All: Have mercy on us.**

*One: Jesus Christ, Son of God, you came that we might have life and have it in abundance:*

**All: Have mercy on us.**

*One: Holy Spirit, dwelling within us, you make us temples of your presence:*

**All: Have mercy on us.**

*One: To the triune God, the source of all love and all life, let us offer our prayers.*

*For all who are in need of healing, and for all who give you thanks and praise for healing now received...*

*(There will be a period of silence after this petition and each of the following petitions.)*

*One: Lord, in your mercy,*

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*One: For all who mourn broken relationships with family, friends, or colleagues...*

*One: Lord, in your mercy,*

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*One: For all whose increasing years bring weariness, frustration, or loneliness...*

*One: Lord, in your mercy,*

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*One: For all who are injured or ill, and all who anticipate or are recovering from surgery...*

*One: Lord, in your mercy,*

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*One: For all who suffer from cancer or, by your grace and the gift of modern medicine, have survived its danger and live today to sing your praise...*

*One: Lord, in your mercy,*

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*One: For all who grieve the death of loved ones and friends...*

*One: Lord, in your mercy,*

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*One: For all who mourn the loss of meaningful work, financial stability, and unfulfilled dreams...*

*One: Lord, in your mercy,*

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*One: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**All: Amen.**

## BLESSING AND ANOINTING WITH OIL

*(You are invited to one of the stations for a blessing and/or anointing.)*

*MY SOUL IS AT REST*

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

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in common time (C). The melody is in the treble clef and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The piece ends with a fermata and the word 'fine' written above the final note.

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

*NOTHING CAN TROUBLE* - Instrumental

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. God alone fills us.

*BY NIGHT WE HASTEN*

By night we has - ten, in dark - ness, to search for liv - ing wa - ter;

on - ly our thirst leads us on - wards, on - ly our thirst leads us on - wards. By

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system is in 4/4 time. The second system is in 3/4 time and ends with a fermata and the words 'Last time' written above the final note.

## 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 consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. Both staves are in the key of A major (indicated by three sharps: F#, C#, G#) and 6/8 time. The tempo/mood is marked *pp* (pianissimo). The melody is simple and consists of eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ve - ni sanc - te spi - ri - tus." The score ends with a double bar line.

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 Sancte Spiritus.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please extend the peace of Christ with one another saying:*

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

## PARTICIPANT IN THE SERVICE

Cantors: Heidi Hess-Willis and David VanderMeer

Instrumentalists: Yuki Harding, Oboe; Brandon Cota, Cello; David Hufford, Piano

Our next Taizé Prayer Service will be on Wednesday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for our Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service. There will be no service on Tuesday, March 4.

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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 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.

