



PRAYER SERVICE

in the manner of the Taizé Community

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

7:00 p.m.

Monteith Hall

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)

SING PRAISES

p Sing prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord. Sing
Lau - da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num. Lau -

prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord! Sing
da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num! Lau

fine

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

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!

OPENING SENTENCES

One: Sing to our God a new song.

All: God has done marvelous things!

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

All: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

One: Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

All: Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

SING, PRAISE, AND BLESS THE LORD

Musical score for the first part of the hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The lyrics are: 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!

Musical score for the second part of the hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The time signature is 3/4. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The lyrics are: 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 MATTHEW 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Left side of the sanctuary facing the chancel)

O sing to the Lord a new song,
 for God has done marvelous things.
 God's right hand and God's holy arm
 have gained God victory.

(Right side of the sanctuary facing the chancel)

The Lord has made known God's victory;
 God has revealed God's vindication in the sight of the nations.
 God has remembered God's steadfast love and faithfulness
 to the house of Israel.
 All the ends of the earth have seen
 the victory of our God.

(Left side)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
 break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
 Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
 with the lyre and the sound of melody.
 With trumpets and the sound of the horn
 make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

(Right side)

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.
 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy
 at the presence of the LORD for God is coming to judge the earth.
 God will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

A READING FROM JOHN 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

SILENCE

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*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 (Ecumenical)

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

Being baptized today is Paul Bellefleur.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

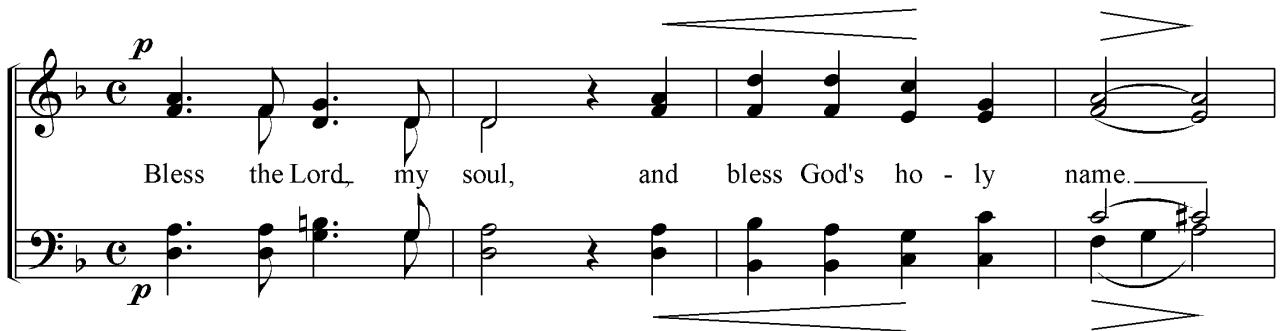
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BAPTISM

WELCOME

BLESS THE LORD



Musical score for the first part of the hymn. It consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence.



Musical score for the second part of the hymn. It consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life." The melody continues from the first part, ending with a final cadence.

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.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

May the God of peace inspire us,
may the God of justice empower us,
may the God of hope encourage us to live the Good News.

Go, in the power of the Spirit.
Go, and do not try to separate politics and prayer.
Go, not to escape, but to engage with God's world.
Go, to live hopefully, as people of resurrection.
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 D major (two sharps) 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.

Cantor's 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

Cantors: Abby Kasenow and Tyrese Byrd

Instrumentalists: Tim Michling, Flute, Oboe, Recorder; Sarah Cleveland, Cello; David Hufford, Piano
David VanderMeer, Minister of Music and Fine Arts

Join us for our next Taizé Prayer Service on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Montieth Hall.

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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.



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