



# TAIZÉ

PRAYER THAT QUIETS THE MIND  
OPENS THE HEART  
FEEDS THE SOUL

LABYRINTH SERVICE  
JANUARY 5, 2025 AT FIVE O'CLOCK

# GATHERING IN HARMONY

Welcome..... Will McLeane

## Meditative Song Kingdom of God

The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and  
joy in the Ho - ly Spir - it. Come, Lord, and  
o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom.

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef, 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and meditative, with lyrics printed below the notes.

## Bless the Lord

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

The musical score is written on two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 76. The key signature has one flat (Bb). Chord symbols are provided above the treble staff: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, F, A for the first system, and Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, Dm for the second system. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

## O Word of God

O Word of God, come in - to this space. O Word of  
God, come send us your grace. O - pen our minds;  
show us your truth. Trans-form our lives a - new.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O Word of God'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, the second system covers the next two lines, and the third system covers the final line. The music is in a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

## CONTEMPLATION AND MEDITATION

### Short Silence

### Contemplative Reading

John 1:1-5, 15-19..... Common English Bible

In the beginning was the Word  
and the Word was with God  
and the Word was God.  
The Word was with God in the beginning.  
Everything came into being through the Word,  
and without the Word  
nothing came into being.  
What came into being  
through the Word was life,  
and the life was the light for all people.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.

John testified about him, crying out, "This is the one of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is greater than me because he existed before me.'"

From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace;  
as the Law was given through Moses,  
so grace and truth came into being through Jesus Christ.  
No one has ever seen God.  
God the only Son,  
who is at the Father's side,  
has made God known.

### Short Silence

### Contemplative Reading

Psalms 139 .....Inclusive Bible, First Egalitarian Tr.

Yahweh, you've searched me, and you know me.  
You know if I am standing or sitting,  
you read my thoughts from far away.  
Whether I walk or lie down, you are watching;  
you are intimate with all my ways.  
A word is not even on my tongue, Yahweh,  
before you know what it is;  
you hem me in, before and behind,  
shielding me with your hand.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
a height my mind cannot reach!

Where could I run from your Spirit?  
Where could I flee from your presence?  
If I go up to the heavens, you're there.  
If I make my bed in Death, you're already there.  
I could fly away with wings made of dawn,  
or make my home on the far side of the sea,  
but even there your hand will guide me,  
your mighty hand holding me fast.  
If I say, "The darkness will hide me,  
and night will be my only light,"  
even darkness won't be dark to you;  
the night will shine like the day—  
darkness and light are the same to you.



Sung Response to Reading  
It Is Good to Trust

♩ = 58

Dm ASUS A Dm C F

Bo - num est con - fi - de - re in Do - mi - no,  
It is good to trust in the Lord our God,

Gm C F Dm Gm7 Am Dm

bo - num spe - ra - re in Do - mi - no.  
trust and hope in the Lord our God.

Short Silence

Guided Meditation

Extended Silence

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

Our Common Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

Short Silence

Invitation for Healing Prayer .....James 5:14

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.

Songs for Healing  
Stay with Us

♩ = 72

Gm Cm D Gm Dm mf

Stay with us, O Lord Je - sus Christ, night will soon fall. Then  
Bleib mit dei - ner Gna - de bei uns, Herr Je - su Christ. Ach,

Gm Eb Cm F Bb Cm Bb F Gm D

stay with us, O Lord Je - sus Christ, light in our dark - ness.  
bleib mit dei - ner Gna - de bei uns, du treu - er Gott.

*f* *p subito*

Lord Jesus Christ

Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.

3  
Let not my doubts nor my dark-ness speak to me.

5  
Lord Je - sus Christ, your light shines with - in us.

7  
Let my heart al-ways wel - come your love.

### Our Darkness

♩ = 66      F#      Bm      Am      D      G      F#

Our dark - ness is nev - er dark - ness in your sight: the  
La té - nè - bre n'est point té - nè - bre de - vant toi: la

Bm      A      D      Em<sup>6</sup>      F#<sup>SUS</sup>      *fine* F#

deep - est night is clear as the day light. Our  
nuit com - me le jour est lu - miè - re. La té -

### Holy Spirit, Come to Us

*P*

Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus, tu - i a - mo - ris i - gnem ac - cen - de.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, kin - dle in us the fire of your love.

*p*

Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus, ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us, Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

### Your Word, O Lord

♩ = 76      Gm      C      F      Dm      Bb<sup>6</sup>      A

Your word, O Lord, is a light. My God, en - light - en my  
C'est toi ma lam - pe, Sei - gneur. Mon Dieu é - clai - re ma té -

Dm      A      Dm      Gm      C      F      Bb      A      D

dark - ness. O Lord, my God, en - light - en my dark - ness. O  
nè - bre. Sei - gneur, mon Dieu, é - clai - re ma té - nè - bre. Sei -

Gm      C      F      Gm      A      Dm *Last time*

Lord, my God, en - light - en my dark - ness. Your  
gneur, mon Dieu, é - clai - re ma té - nè - bre. C'est

Silence

## BLESSING GOD'S PRESENCE

Blessing Prayer

Song of Blessing

Grant Us Your Peace, O Lord

Da pa - cem, Do - mi - ne, da pa - cem,  
Grant us your peace, O Lord, grant us your

O Chri - ste, in di - e - bus no - stris.  
peace, O Lord, may it fill all our days.

Coda  
A - men. A - men. A - men.

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## THE TAIZÉ PILGRIMAGE COMMUNITY

Taizé [teh-ZAY] is a tiny village hidden away in the hills of Burgundy in the eastern part of France. Since 1940, it has been the home of an ecumenical community of brothers and sisters whose prayer, three times daily, is at the center of their life. Today, Taizé is a place to which visitors of all ages and backgrounds travel as pilgrims to participate in international meetings of prayer, Bible study, and reflection.

The music of the Taizé community is designed as short responses which are sung over and over again by the congregation. This repetition of a short phrase or two quiets the busy, everyday chatter of the mind so worshipers can access the deeper realms of heart and soul. As the congregation repeats this response (ostinato), the cantor and instrumentalists overlay this melody with their own, either composed or improvised.

Some of the texts are in Latin. The sound of the Latin vowels is especially clear and simple, helping to create the beauty and calm of the music. If you prefer, however, you may sing all the chants in English.

Healing is a journey toward spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental wholeness. Healing happens in relationship with Self, Others, and God. Healing brings peace.

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## THE ICON

In our service this evening, we are featuring an icon painted by local artist Suzan Sommers, entitled “The Black Madonna.” The history of figures of women with dark skin which appeared in Europe during the Middle Ages is not clear. Some feel these figures represented the Earth Mother, as a complement to Mary, the mother of Jesus, who was the “Queen of Heaven.”

Some say these figures are the result of the way the materials used to create them aged. Others say the inspiration for these figures is from the “Song of Songs,” chapter 1, verse 5: “I am black but beautiful.” Since no one knows for sure, you may select your favorite among these interpretations or come up with your own. Closer inspection of the painting reveals small figures of the infant Jesus and an angel. You are welcome to approach the painting after the service to view it at closer range.



WEST END  
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