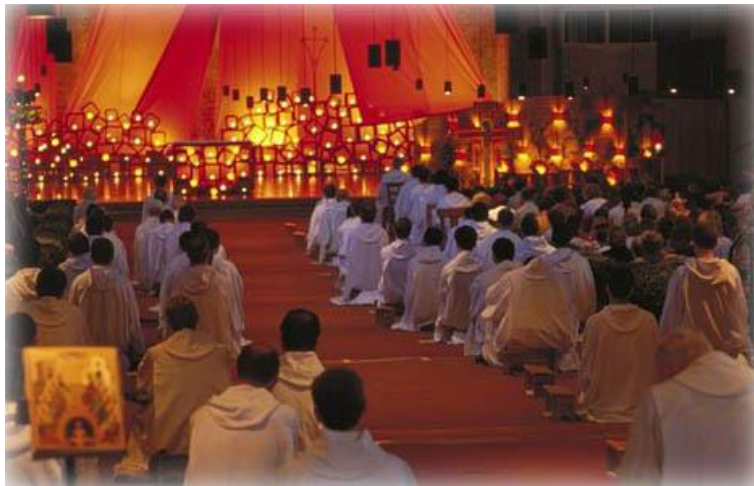


EVENING PRAYER WITH TAIZE MEDITATION FOR HOLY WEEK

Taizé is the name of a tiny village near Cluny in eastern France. Since 1940 it has become known for an ecumenical community of brothers whose prayer, three times a day, forms the centre of their lives. Not only this but people of all ages go there on pilgrimage for prayer and meditation.

The form of the worship is simple and draws from the early traditions of the Church. Taizé Music Singing is one of the most essential elements of 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. Please let the rhythm of the songs carry your prayers and thoughts to God.

As the words are sung over many times, this reality gradually penetrates the whole being. Meditative singing thus becomes a way of listening to God. It allows everyone to take part in a time of prayer together and to remain together in attentive waiting on God.



All O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

All Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,
according to your judgement give us life.

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
In the darkness of our sin you have shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.

Open our eyes to acknowledge your presence,
that freed from the misery of sin and shame
we may grow into your likeness from glory to glory.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

HYMN Monday: Amazing Grace
 Tuesday: My Song is love unknown
 Wednesday: We sing the praise of him who died

OPENING PRAYER

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
Our hearts find joy in the Lord.
We trust in God's holy name.
May your love be upon us,
O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Brief period of silence

PSALM 33

Say the Psalm quietly and reflectively

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
for it is good for the just to sing praises.

Praise the Lord with the lyre;
on the ten-stringed harp sing his praise.
Sing for him a new song;
play skilfully, with shouts of praise.

For the word of the Lord is true
and all his works are sure.

He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the loving-kindness of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

He gathers up the waters of the sea as in a waterskin
and lays up the deep in his treasury.

Let all the earth fear the Lord;
stand in awe of him, all who dwell in the world.

For he spoke, and it was done;
he commanded, and it stood fast.

The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to naught;
he frustrates the designs of the peoples.

But the counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever
and the designs of his heart from generation to generation.

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning is now
 and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Brief period of silence

MONDAY John 19: 23-25

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says,

'They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.'

And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

TUESDAY Mark 9.30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Who Is the Greatest?

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

WEDNESDAY Mark 12. 1-12

Then he began to speak to them in parables. 'A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watch-tower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But those tenants said to one another, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours." So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture:

"The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?"

When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

Brief period of silence

SONG: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAx8gjQrsOY>

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful in the Lord I will rejoice

Look to God do not be afraid;

Lift up your voices the Lord is near,

Lift up your voices the Lord is near

(or Hymn: Lord Jesus Think on Me)

PRAYER

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God.

During the following chant you are invited to light a candle.

SONG: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJUIqheBLzI>

When night becomes dark
Your Love O Lord is a fire
Your Love O Lord is a fire

(or Hymn: Lead us Heavenly Father Lead us)

PERIOD OF MEDITATION & SILENCE

SONG: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f51n-yb11dY>

O Lord hear my Prayer, O Lord hear my Prayer
When I call answer me.
O Lord hear my Prayer, O Lord hear my Prayer
Come and listen to me

(or Hymn: Father hear the prayer we offer)

MAGNIFICAT

All **Come, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;

he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed;

the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.
He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,

The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Refrain:

All **Come, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.**

INTERCESSIONS <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdn1R692C9E>

If the Kyrie Eleison played through the link then biddings are given in various languages just pray and listen or slowly say the prayers below pausing and praying silently at each one biddings:

- * Lord, make our lives a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- * Grant each of us the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness.
- * May the Holy Spirit speak through the lips of your servants who proclaim your Word.
- * Send your comforting Spirit to all who are in trouble and distress.
- * Send your comforting Spirit to all who are victims of injustice.
- * Keep all nations from hatred and war.
- * Gather together all the nations by the breath of your Spirit.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father.....

Closing Responses

Watch now, dear Lord, with those who wake or watch or weep to night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep.

**ALL Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ,
Rest your weary ones,
Bless your dying ones,
Soothe your suffering ones,
Pity your afflicted ones,
Shield your joyous ones,
And all for your love's sake.**

Now may the God of hope fill us
with all joy and peace in believing,
that we may abound in hope
in the power of the Holy Spirit

**All: Bless us, Christ; you liberate us from isolation by the mystery of communion in
your Body, the Church.**

Taizé songs for further prayer and reflection:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYLKrFOLS-E>

Bless the Lord My Soul, and bless God's holy name,
Bless the Lord my soul who leads us into life

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w5VxXp3CKww>

Wait for the Lord whose day is near;
Wait for the Lord Keep watch take heart

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqQsZK57OX8>

Within our darkest night, you kindle a fire that never dies away, never dies away

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6tVReXsioM>

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r64gcGMNhDE>

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation, in God I trust, In God I trust

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCr2tn4yYKY>

Stay with me; remain here with me, watch and pray, watching and pray